

Minutes Of The

May 23, 2007

Broussard City Council Meeting

Present:

Tina G. Denais, City Clerk  
 Councilman Terry Guilbeau, District I  
 Councilman David Bonin, District II  
 Councilman Keith Rousseau, District III  
 Councilwoman Gertrude Batiste, District IV  
 Councilman Kenny Higginbotham, District V  
 Councilman Albert Romero, District VI  
 Councilman Johnnie Foco, At Large  
 Chief Brannon Decou, Chief of Police  
 Chief Blair Rivette, Fire Chief  
 Don Landry, Attorney At Law  
 Gene Chiarulli, City Accountant  
 Mark Savoie, City Engineer  
 Larry Champagne, City Supervisor  
 Mel Bertrand, City Foremen  
 Elmer Girouard, City Supervisor  
 Adam Mouton/Citizen  
 Roy Brown/Citizen  
 Carlos Girouard/Citizen  
 Rachel Girouard/Citizen  
 Several Citizens from District I  
 Mr. Pearson, District Manager of Rotocraft Incorporated

Absent: Mayor Charles Langlinais

Councilman Foco called the meeting to order and Adam Mouton lead with the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer was done for our boys that are still overseas.

**Adopt minutes of the May 9, 2007 Regular Meeting** = Moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Romero to adopt the minutes of the May 9, 2007 City Council Meeting. Roll call:

District I = Yea	District IV = Yea
District II= Yea	District V = Yea
District III= Yea	District VI = Yea
At Large = Yea	

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Introduce Ordinance #07-316/Budget Ordinance** =Moved by Councilman Guilbeau and second by Councilman Bonin to introduce Ordinance #07-316, which amends the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007 and adopting the Operating the Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008. Roll call:

District I = Yea	District IV = Yea
District II= Yea	District V = Yea
District III= Yea	District VI = Yea
At Large = Yea	

Gene asked the council if they want to have a special meeting to discuss the budget. The council agreed it would be better; therefore there will be a special meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the budget at 6:00 p.m.

**Introduce Ordinance #07-317/Cypress Bayou Drainage Improvements =**  
Councilman Guilbeau questioned that it was previously stated we got everyone in our district except one person, so why do we need to adopt it. Attorney Landry stated that is correct, but this project is being done with the parish and this is only an introductory ordinance right now. Moved by Councilman Guilbeau and second by Councilman Bonin to introduce Ordinance #07-317, declaring the Cypress Bayou Coulee Drainage improvements project a public necessity and authorizing the acquisition of the necessary rights of way, servitudes, easements and other property rights requisite to the completion of said project either on an amicable basis or through the use of the expropriation process if necessary. Roll call:

District I = Yea	District IV = Yea
District II= Yea	District V = Yea
District III= Yea	District VI = Yea
At Large = Yea	

**Mr. Roy Brown/re: Dr. Martin Luther King Memorial Parkway** = Mr. Brown addressed the council. He gave the council a brief background of what has transpired in the past couple of months regarding the request to rename Eola Road renamed Dr. Martin Luther King. Mr. Brown stated The Gazette stated he had a private meeting with Attorney Landry. Brown stated he was never involved in a private meeting with Mr. Landry. He stated what was discussed in the meeting with Mr. Bill Vincent, with 911- Chief Decou, Attorney Landry, Councilwoman Batiste and Councilman Guilbeau was absent. Mr. Brown stated in regards to memorializing a street to Dr. Martin Luther King, he requested the council does not follow in the foot steps of the City of Lafayette. It doesn't justify in the beliefs of the Dr. King. With regard to another option he is requesting that we rename Eola Road to Thurgood Marshall, after the first black man who was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. He gave background information on Mr. Marshall. He went on to say that a lot of individuals have been honored, but he hopes Mr. Marshall would also be honored. He hopes that memorializing a street in the honor of Dr. Martin Luther King can also be done in the future. He can understand the frustration and the anger of citizens living on Eola Road; because he also went thru a similar situation. Mr. Brown

asked that we consider this and that we leave this community in a better condition than what we found it. Councilman Guilbeau questioned how many committee meetings were held? Mr. Brown stated he met with Councilwoman Batiste twice and with Mr. Vincent. Councilman Guilbeau stated he was never contacted of any meetings; he was not absent; because he was never contacted. Councilman Guilbeau read a memo he gave to the council regarding citizens being polled. On March 13, 2007 thru March 14, 2007 a traffic count was done from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. from Eola Road to Highway 90 and 1,582 vehicles were counted whereas on the same date and time at St. Des Porres from Hwy 182 and Albertson Parkway 5,011 vehicles were counted. Attorney Landry stated that this is the first step we have to do to start the process with 911 if he wants to change a street to Thurgood Marshall also. He feels that would be the next logical step. He is not suggesting any name changes, that is a council decision. Councilman Guilbeau asked Mr. Brown if he still wants to change the name of Eola Road. Councilman Guilbeau asked Mr. Pearson with Rotocraft to address the council with the cost of changing their address. Mr. Pearson stated they are a worldwide company and it would cost them a quarter of a million dollars. Councilman Foco asked Councilwoman Batiste if they would like to look at another street or go with this street? Councilwoman Batiste stated at this point she doesn't know.

Councilman Foco stated he would have to support the Girouard's because they donated property for Eola Road and Eola Road was their grand-parents name. Mr. Brown stated Mr. Guilbeau mentioned the count of traffic. He was talking about the diversity of people traveling on Eola Road not the amount of vehilces. He was talking about people from coming outside into the city. Mr. Brown stated the administration had mentioned about maybe naming street that is currently being developed or a building. That was the options that were mentioned. Councilman Guilbeau requested that Mr. Brown to stay till after the Girouard's make their presentation. Mr. Brown stated he did talk to them. Councilman Foco stated it is about compromise.

**Mr. Carlos Girouard/Ms. Susie Girouard/Ms. Rachel Girouard/ re: Renaming of Eola Road** = Mr. Carlos Girouard and Rachel Girouard addressed the council. They stated that they highly respect Mr. Brown's request. But he would like us to respect his grandmother Eola Girouard. His great grandfather was a founding father of Broussard. His grandfather had the first pump station in Broussard, which was later sold it to the city. They also had the property where the old dump was and leased that property to the city for years. Mr. Girouard stated that he just recently sold property to the city for the new sewage road. The road was first named Albert Girouard Road after his grand-father and then changed to Eola Road, after his grand-mother when the parish had to change the name of the road. Ms. Girouard stated she walked the entire street and no one was in favor of changing the name or memorializing it. Ms. Girouard stated she was very surprised to find their road was nominated to change the name. The council requested that Councilman Guilbeau be contacted for any future committee meetings. Attorney Landry stated we don't want to be in situation where we duplicate a name, because of the liability. Councilman Guilbeau stated he just wants to the record to reflect he was never notified for any meeting. The council thanked the Girouard's for their presentation.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

**Mark's Report:**

**Eola Road** = Mark stated that they just had the pre-construction meeting for the Eola Road pump station. The contractor is still waiting for the pumps.

**Al's Report:**

**St. Nazairre Road Project** = Al stated they have moved the pipes and catch basins on the site. We are waiting for Bell South. The only thing they have left is condo pipe.

**Fairfield Roundabout** = Councilman Guilbeau questioned about the roundabout at Fairfield and Morgan Street? Can we wait till school is finish to start the project instead of this week? Mel stated the project won't start for another 3 weeks.

**ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:**

**Monthly Report** = Gene stated they have their report. We did increase the sales tax projections. We received about \$800,000 in May. We are in great shape. Occupational license revenues are up. We are looking really good. As usual he is available for everyone to discuss the upcoming budget.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Attorney Landry stated he had nothing to discuss.

**Sidewalks to Arceneaux Park** = Councilman Guilbeau questioned Attorney Landry about the sidewalks to Arceneaux Park? Mr. Landry stated that Oscar Reed is in contact with the property owners and hopefully he will have something for the next meeting.

**Railroad Crossings** = Councilman Bonin questioned if Attorney Landry has heard anything from the railroad? Attorney Landry stated no, but he will contact an attorney that he previously worked with on a railroad case to see if he can help him.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Chief Rivette stated he had nothing to discuss.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

**Trains Blocking Crossings** = Chief Decou stated he contacted the railroad about them stopping the trains in the middle of the city. Chief Decou stated they basically don't care. Councilman Foco requested that Attorney Landry check to see the amount of time they can stop at crossings. Attorney Landry stated he will check into this. Al Reaux questioned Mr. Bonin's concern about the track? He stated the crossing on Moulin Road is floating and he feels it is a crossing waiting for a derailment. He feels it is a dangerous situation for the trains.

## **COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

### **Councilman Higginbotham/District V:**

**Illegal Dumping of Cement** = Councilman Higginbotham stated that in Magnolia Ridge the cement trucks are dumping their sludge into the ditches. He was wondering what could be done about this. Mark stated that would be covered under the new storm-water ordinance. Councilman Rousseau stated if the house is being built the contractor would know who the cement trucks are for. Mark stated under the new storm-water ordinance, they will have a designated site to dump their trucks. Councilman Rousseau stated maybe we can make the inspector inspect the ditches prior to the final inspection. Al stated they will go down the road on a state highway and dump on the side of the road. Councilman Bonin stated maybe we can contact these local cement companies and ask them to tighten up. Councilman Rousseau stated maybe we can designate the inspector to inspect at the final inspection. Larry stated this has been going on forever. Attorney Landry stated he will try to put something together. Councilman Guilbeau stated maybe we can add this to the permit also. Attorney Landry stated we have to penalize them by ordinance. During construction the cement is dumped, but after construction it is finalized it is cleaned up.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks display** = Councilman Higginbotham questioned if we found some property for the annual firework display? Councilman Foco stated yes on his property.

### **Councilman Rousseau/District III:**

**Martin Luther King Road** = Councilman Rousseau stated that he respects everything Mr. King and Mr. Marshall did; but we live in a small town where the Billeauds' and the Girouards' built it and it is about the core values. He can understand the Girouards' feelings. He also understands Mr. Brown's feelings; but he feels we need to find another street. It is a balance of where we come from; but also what town we come from. Mr. Brown stated he understands what Mr. Rousseau says; but there are a lot of black individuals who didn't give land, but they did do tremendously other things. Mr. Brown stated we will concentrate on Thurgood Marshall, because Dr. King can't be used.

### **District II/Councilman Bonin:**

**Hydrant Flusher** = Councilman Bonin stated a few weeks ago lines were being flushed. He asked Larry about a resignator for the hydrant so that the roadway is not washed out. If it is done every time they flush the lines, the road will get washed out. Elmer stated they were looking at building some, but they haven't ordered them yet. Larry stated they haven't ordered them yet, because they have been busy doing other things.

### **District I/Councilman Guilbeau:**

**Renaming of Eola Road** = Councilman Guilbeau stated he understands the Girouard's

and Mr. Brown concern about the re-naming of Eola Road. He also understands the people of District I concerns and he thanked them for coming. If they wouldn't have a problem with re-naming the road, then he would have a problem with it also.

**At Large/Councilman Foco:**

**Thanks** = Councilman Foco thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He also invited everyone to the budget meeting next month, because this is their money that we will be talking about.

**Other Comments from the audience:**

**Resident re/Sally Walker water** = A resident stated she was at the last meeting and she was wondering what was the outcome of the situation of lady who was getting her water cut off because she was not in the city limits? Attorney Landry stated we will bring it up at the next meeting. We are waiting on a resolution from her attorney. We are trying to adjust those problems. We will try to solve this problem.

**Councilman Bonin re/Cameras Progress** = Councilman Bonin questioned the status on the camera that are to be installed at the intersections? Attorney Landry stated we will probably have a model ordinance at the second meeting in June. Council Bonin questioned what is the timeline of when it will be on line? Attorney Landry after it is adopted it won't take long.

**Resident re//Speed Limit in subdivisions** = A resident questioned about the speed limit regulations in subdivisions? Chief Decou stated we put up signs for the speed limits. Mel stated the engineer that develops the subdivisions gives the speed limit; they will check with them. Chief Decou stated their traffic division has been taking notes of the subdivisions without signs.

**ADJOURN:**

**Adjourn the meeting** = Moved by Councilman Romero and second by Councilman Rousseau to adjourn the meeting. Roll call:

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| District I = Yea  | District IV = Yea |
| District II= Yea  | District V = Yea  |
| District III= Yea | District VI = Yea |
| At Large = Yea    |                   |

---

**S/Charles E. Langlinais, MAYOR**

---

**S/Tina G. Denais, CITY CLERK**