

Minutes Of The

July 25, 2007

Broussard City Council Meeting

Present: Mayor Charles Langlinais
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
Don Landry, Attorney At Law
Jerry Grooms, City Engineer
Larry Champagne, City Supervisor
Elmer Girouard, City Supervisor
Mr. Ken Vidrine, Developer
Mr. Tom Flemming, Contractor of expansion of Evans Rentals

Councilman Foco called the meeting to order and Councilwoman Batiste lead with the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer was done for our troops that are still in Iraq.

Adopt minutes of the July 11th Regular Meeting = Moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Romero to adopt the minutes of the July 11, 2007 Regular 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:

Mr. Ken Vidrine re: Annexation of The Pond @ Deer Meadow =
Mr. Vidrine addressed the council. Jerry stated Mark received a preliminary drainage impact analysis in reference to this subdivision. Mark stated in his letter that everything

is accepted, but there was also a list of additional things that would be needed for formal acceptance. Mr. Vidrine's engineer stated they submitted a drainage analysis. The pond itself will reduce the impact of the ditch by at least 20%. Mayor Langlinais questioned if that is from the property they are planning on developing. The engineer stated yes it is. They will be reducing the peak. The subdivision will be curb and gutter. Also the pipes they will put in will give them more store and volume. Councilman Foco stated they had some subdivisions in the past that were taken in and then some problems occurred after they were accepted that we are still fighting with. Attorney Landry stated he will be contacted by Grooms Engineering after the annexation is ready to get started. Councilman Foco stated the parish came up with a new resolution last night to build 1 foot over the base flood elevation. The engineer stated they do have all the properties in Zone X except the pond that is in Zone A. Councilman Foco stated we have water available but not sewer in that area. They were looking a package plant for the subdivision. The engineer questioned if the pumps needed to be changed out on the existing pump station in that area? Mel stated id put bigger pumps in, but we would still have to check with Walter about the force main. If we have the capacity we it would not be a problem. Mayor Langlinais stated this council has turned down a dozen annexations in the past couple of years, because we don't have the capacity. Councilman Higginbotham stated he doesn't have a problem with them connecting if we have the capacity. Councilman Foco stated we are talking about doing another force main. Mel stated he doesn't feel we could handle more, until the new lift station is built near Broussard Middle School. Mayor Langlinais stated we don't want to put it out there, if the new pond cannot handle this. Councilman Foco stated he feels with the sewer issue settled, he feels we could move forward. Councilman Bonin questioned about the access road to Highway 92? Mr. Vidrine stated they can block it off for the construction vehicles to not go thru Deer Meadow, only using the access road to Highway 92. Mayor Langlinais stated he will submit the annexation petition and then it will be forwarded to Attorney Landry for adoption. The council has no resistance to the annexation. Councilman Guilbeau questioned if the water line is large enough to handle this? Elmer stated he will have to look into this. The developer stated they are looking at putting 171 homes. Councilman Guilbeau requested that Elmer check into this. Mayor Langlinais stated he doesn't see a problem with the pressure. Elmer stated if we have to we can loop to Highway 92. Councilman Higginbotham stated he would like to see how much will cost us first. Attorney Landry stated all of these questions will be answered prior to the annexation adoption.

Mr. Tom Flemming re: Variance Request for Evans Rentals @ 328 Hardware Rd. = Mr. Flemming addressed the council. He stated they want to add on to one of their existing buildings off of Hardware Road. The tract is about 2 or 3 acres. Mayor Langlinais stated that is a storm water retention problem. Mr. Flemming stated that all they are doing is adding on to an existing building. They will be moving the building 1.5 feet closer to the property line. The reason is the carriage crane they bought needs more room in the building. If they move the building they would have to move the support columns. Mayor Langlinais stated in the drainage regulations he just reviewed, there is nothing about existing building regulations. The property is 2.683. The building is being built only on one lot. Attorney Landry stated they are looking at a bigger picture

to make sure this will not create a flood problem. Mayor Langlinais stated he is not aware of any drainage problems in that area. Mr. Flemming stated he also has a letter from the adjacent property owner stating he has no problem with the variance. Mr. Flemming stated if in the future there is a drainage problem with Mr. Girouard's property, he will take care of it.

Therefore it was moved by Councilman Higginbotham and second by second by Councilman Bonin to grant Mr. Flemming the variance of 1.5 feet to the development of Evans Rentals at 328 Hardware Road. Roll call:

District I = Yea

District IV = Yea

District II = Yea

District V = Yea

District III = Yea

District VI = Yea

At Large = Yea

Mr. John Wainwright re: Ditch near his home off of Heart D. Farm Road =
Mr. Wainwright addressed the council along with picture of the ditch and pictures of the water coming out of the discharge pipe. Mr. Wainwright stated that the ditch in question is owned by TESI. He has been fighting this problem in the last couple of years. There is raw sewage that runs in the ditch. Mr. Wainwright stated that TESI came in and dug a small trench and we dug a full blown ditch. He got with DEQ and EPA and they said they would re-do it. He doesn't feel he needs to live by this. His son was in a major accident in Broussard and he has nothing to help him fight the bacteria. He would like the ditch that was hooked to his property, be undone. The last rain he had septic water at the foot of his steps of his mobile home. DEQ told him to hire attorney and sue them. He is asking the city to put the ditch back to where it originally was. Councilman Foco asked if anything is wrong with the sewer plant. Wainwright stated no, it's the ditch. The entire back ditch was never back there before. He is only trying to keep this ditch off his ditch. His wife had 2 miscarriages and his previous wife also had a miscarriage and he feels this ditch has caused this. He feels something needs to be done. He damned the ditch last week and the city came undo it. Councilman Higginbotham questioned how can DEQ accept this? Wainwright stated he doesn't know. The ditch splits his 2 acres up. Attorney Landry stated Bob Boese stated that DEQ tells him that the tests are all good. Councilman Foco questioned if there isn't an independent agency that come in and check this? Jerry stated there are agencies. Mayor Langlinais questioned what if we only allowed municipal water in there and no sewage, how long before the water turns neutral? Jerry stated it would take some time. Wainwright stated it only smells when the black water comes out. Councilman Foco stated what if we get an independent lab to take samples, can we do that? Councilman Foco stated he would like us to check this over a period of time with an independent lab and get some results. Attorney Landry stated he doesn't see a problem with that. Attorney Landry stated after we do all that, Mr. Wainwright will probably say the plant is not big enough. Mayor Langlinais asked Elmer to have Hoh Pak do the samples randomly. Attorney Landry stated if is not up to code, and then we will have to report it to DEQ. Attorney Landry stated we first need to see if there is a problem. We need to see what is coming out of the pipe. Elmer stated the samples will be taken at their discharge. Councilman Foco stated it needs to taken from TESI, John's discharge and the neighbor's discharge. Attorney Landry stated then we will have to give the results to DEQ. Mr. Wainwright questioned what does he do

with the sludge in ditch? Councilman Foco stated we are trying to help him right now; he will have to give us time to see what is coming out of the pipes. Councilman Guilbeau questioned if we have easements for the ditch in the back? Larry stated we had it from the previous property owner and it was not recorded. Now he won't give us an easement. Mayor Langlinais stated that ditch was taken in with the annexation of the subdivision. We did clean that ditch and now he owns the property he won't let us clean the ditch. Attorney Landry stated he feels Councilman Foco's reasoning is the best solution. The council agreed to get the ditch tested.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Jerry's Report:

Jerry stated he had nothing to bring up.

Al's Report:

Al stated that he also had nothing to bring up.

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:

Gene was also not present, but he did have the monthly report for June delivered.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Attorney Landry stated he had nothing to bring up.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

National Night Out on August 7th = Chief Decou present a proclamation to the city council requesting that National Night Out be sanctioned as a city event. It will be held on Tuesday, August 7, 2007 at Albertsons'. It was moved by Councilman Rousseau and seconded by Councilman Guilbeau that National Night Out which will be on August 7, 2007 at Albertsons' is declared a City of Broussard Event. Roll call:

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

Trucks on Albertson Parkway = Chief Decou stated that after working Albertson Parkway his officers are recommending signing be put on cross streets like on Highway 89 and Morgan and Highway 182 stating that trucks with 3 or more axels are prohibited on Albertson Parkway. It appears all but 2 trucks were delivering to businesses' on Albertson Parkway. Those 2 trucks were given warning. They did it the surveillance for 3 days. They stated about 6 hours total for the 3 days. It gives us a feel

for this. Mayor Langlinois asked Larry to contact the Highway Department to install the signs, stating truck traffic is prohibited.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Rivette was not present.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

District V/Councilman Higginbotham:

Cypress Bayou = Councilman Higginbotham stated he talked to President Guy Cormier with St. Martin Parish. They will clean Cypress Bayou behind Louis Records Road to Highway 90. Mayor Langlinois stated in reference to Cypress Bayou he spoke to Larry Blanchet today and he is going to request the parish to pay him for that easement.

Neighborhood Watch Program = Councilman Higginbotham stated he spoke to Chief Decou about bringing back the neighborhood watch program. Chief Decou stated they will try starting it off either subdivision wise or district wise. Chief Decou they will start with Magnolia Ridge. Chief Decou stated they want to reach back to the people.

District IV/Councilwoman Batiste:

No Name Road = Councilwoman Batiste stated that she only has one person that hasn't given the easement for the no name road. She is still working on that.

District III/Councilman Rousseau:

Morgan Street Sidewalk Extension = Councilman Rousseau stated he talked to most of the council about the sidewalk extension to Sugar Trace south. Larry is still coming up with the figures and he will get back with them on it.

District II/Councilman Bonin:

Garbage Service = Councilman Bonin stated at the last meeting we talked about going up on the garbage rate. Right now the service is now poorer. The council agreed that even though the service did improve some and it is still poor, re-bidding the contract would be very expensive for our citizens.

Grass Cutting = Councilman Bonin stated that since we discussed about citizens cutting there grass, it has improved all over town.

District I/Councilman Guilbeau:

Loud Music = Councilman Guilbeau stated he has received some calls about loud music coming from homes. The problem is with parents letting their kids turn there

stereos real loud and disturbing the neighbors. Chief Decou stated we have to be able to show a pattern. The citizen needs to call the police department and it starts the process of them issuing a citation. Chief Decou stated that he needs to tell the complainant also that they need to make sure he tells them he wants to talk to the officer, whenever the officer goes out on the call, because sometimes the officer will pass by and the person will turn their music down and when the officer leaves, they will turn it back up again.

Police Department Clerk = Councilman Guilbeau questioned Chief Decou if he replaced the clerk that quit? Chief Decou stated he replaced her with a fulltime person, which he is allowed for. Councilman Guilbeau stated he thought he was hiring a part-time clerk. Chief Decou stated he did hire a part-time clerk and train her; but he did replace the full-time position with another full-time clerk. Chief Decou that he does have the funds in his budget for the part-time clerk, which he will use whenever someone is out of work for sickness or vacation or whenever an emergency arises. Councilman Guilbeau stated he did request another full-time clerk at budget time, but that wasn't approved. Chief Decou stated he hired the part-time girl and he also trained her to get him thru till he found a full-time clerk. He found the full-time clerk and he will utilize the training that was given to the part-time clerk whenever she is needed. Chief Decou stated he feels he is within the budget, and he will not be over his budget. He doesn't understand what the big concern is if he has the money in his budget. Councilman Higginbotham also stated that the Chief is never over budget and he doesn't understand what the problem is if the money is in his budget. Mayor Langlinais stated that he thinks Councilman Guilbeau is only trying to make sure that he understands that he needs to stay within his budget. Chief Decou stated he understands that and he definitely will not be out of budget.

At Large/Councilman Foco:

Railroad Crossing Problems = Councilman Foco stated that he and Councilman Bonin met with a representative with the Railroad a couple of weeks ago and he was suppose to come back and correct the problems at the crossings; however we still haven't seen him come back. Larry stated they will try calling him.

Mayor Langlinais:

Roundabout at Fairfield and Morgan Street = Mayor Langlinais stated that Cox Communications will pull the pole out tomorrow at Fairfield and Morgan. The road will close at 8:00 Monday morning for two weeks. Chief Decou stated he hopes they get it done before school starts.

Cox Communication Broken Water Lines = Councilman Foco questioned about the lines that were broken five times by Cox Communications. Larry stated he did have a meeting with Cox and the president of the company. Two of the bills are our fault, because our people marked those lines in the wrong place. Larry stated we shut them down for 6 days and they sent us a new crew.

Ambassador Caffery Groundbreaking = Mayor Langlinais stated the Ambassador Caffery Groundbreaking will be held on Monday August 6th around 9:00 a.m. at the Zoo of Acadiana. The council will be receiving invitations.

ADJOURN:

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

District I = Yea
District II = Yea
District III = Yea
At Large = Yea

District IV = Yea
District V = Yea
District VI = Yea

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

S/Tina G. Denais, CITY