

Minutes Of The

September 12, 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
Mr. Don Landry, City Attorney
Gene Chiarulli, City Bookkeeper
Mark Savoie, City Engineer
Al Reaux, City Engineer
Larry Champagne, City Supervisor
Mel Bertrand, City Foreman
Mr. Don Bertrand, candidate for Parish Councilman District 7
Mr. William Theriot, candidate for Parish Councilman District 9

Councilman Foco called the meeting to order and Adam Mouton lead with the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer was done for our troops that are still in Iraq and Ms. Nettie Broussard who recently passed away.

Adopt minutes of the August 22, 2007 Regular Meeting = Moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Romero to adopt the minutes of the August 22, 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. Don Bertrand.....candidate for Parish Councilman District 7 =

Mr. Bertrand introduced himself and his wife, Gaylnn. He is a candidate for Parish Councilman District 7. He would like the council to know that he has taken on an active roll in his community in the last 10 years. In the last 5 years he has been on the MPO Committee representing Broussard, which is the traffic committee. There has not been any election in District 7 in 12 years. The council stated the city has not received anything in from the parish in 12 years. Mr. Bertrand stated he believes in equal representation. The city deserves as much representation as much as anyone else. He can tell the council that this new council will change the dysfunctional family in Lafayette Parish. He has gotten to know all of the new candidates, which could be nine new faces. He intends to do the best he can do get solutions. He is proposing that we have town hall meetings, but he knows it is difficult. A lot people don't know what's going on. He doesn't have all the answers, and he knows he can't do this alone. We need to all support our legislative delegation. He believes his record as a volunteer proves that he wants to do the job. He is asking for the council and the citizens' support. He thanked the council for their time and consideration. He believes that you serve from the bottom up; he is looking for an opportunity to advance the work he has already done. All he has to offer is his ability and work effort and he asked the council and the citizens to give him a chance. Councilman Rousseau stated that the city moved their meetings from Tuesday to Wednesday so that they could attend the Parish meetings and he invited him in the future to attend the city meetings. Councilman Guilbeau stated since 1994 we have sent the parish over 2 million in property taxes to the parish and we haven't gotten anything in return. Mr. Bertrand stated he is here to offer a difference to the city. Mayor Langlinais stated a year ago our attorney told us to wait and in time we would have a councilman to represent us. Also Larry Larriviere was very strong in passing the MPO traffic laws and Mr. Bertrand took Mr. Larriviere's place after he passed away and he knows he can help us. Mayor Langlinais stated he will definitely support Mr. Bertrand and Mr. Theriot in this upcoming election. Mayor Langlinais stated we need to undo the MPO. Mr. Bertrand stated in 2010 we will have another census. The metropolitan map now extends to Duson, Acadia and Vermillion. The face of the MPO will change and the MPO will not be in the jurisdiction, because of the growth. Mr. Bertrand stated he is looking forward to helping us in January, if elected. He thanked the council for their time and urged them to support him in this upcoming election.

Mr. William Theriot.....candidate for Parish Councilman District 9 = Mr. Theriot addressed the council. He is a lifelong resident of south Lafayette and this district. He has been in the private sector for the last 20 years. He is from the old school. He has been a BYYA coach for the past 4 years. He has never run for a public office. He has no special interest behind him. It is said we have the richest city, but we have no money to do anything. With his business background he wants to see where all the money is being allocated. There are a lot drainage, roads and traffic problems in this area. He doesn't have all the answers to the problems. Broussard has a lot issues being addressed by this council and he is more than willing to listen to these issues. He has an extensive business background that he feels will help him if he is elected to District 9. Mayor Langlinais questioned after he looks at the books, he would like him to look at the roads in this area. Mayor Langlinais stated we are tired of talking, without results. Councilman Foco stated he touched on something dear to our heart; too many meetings

and no results. He also feels too many meetings and no decisions is a waste of time. Councilman Foco stated we just want what is fair for our citizens. Councilman Rousseau explained how the parish refused to put up 5 million dollars for Ambassador Caffery Extension. Councilman Rousseau stated this is why they are frustrated with the Parish Government. Mayor Langlinais stated Conrad Comeaux did a spreadsheet on the Ambassador Caffery and he was able to make them understand that their property tax receipts would increase by \$5 million, but they still refused to put their share up for the Ambassador Caffery Extension. Mr. Theriot stated a lot of people ask him why things can't be done in there area of the district as it is done in Broussard. Eyes are on Broussard and people like what they see. Mr. Theriot thanked the council for their time and asked for their support in the upcoming election.

Adopt Resolution #219-07/Entering into an agreement with Dept. of Public Safety for funding for construction of Code Enforcement Office = Moved by Councilman Higginbotham and second by Councilman Guilbeau to adopt Resolution #219-07, authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services of the State of Louisiana, to accept funding to set-up a construction code enforcement office. Roll call:

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

Introduce Ordinance #07-321/Improper Drainage Structures = Moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Guilbeau to introduce Ordinance #07-321, which provides for the penalties for improper drainage structures, removal or alteration of improper drainage structure and other matters relating to improper drainage. Roll call:

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

Councilman Higginbotham questioned if there is a fine in there? Attorney Landry stated yes. Councilman Bonin questioned if there is current obstructions in a drainage ditch will it be grandfathered in? Attorney Landry stated any current obstructions will not be grandfathered in.

Introduce Ordinance #07-322/Junk Motor Vehicle Ordinance = Moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilwoman Batiste to introduce Ordinance #07-322, ordaining the procedures for removal of junked motor vehicles. Roll call:

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

Attorney Landry stated the Chief and his people went around town to see what we had and he was amazed that we have a real problem here. Councilman Guilbeau questioned

what area are we talking about, because he has not received any complaints in his district? Attorney Landry stated this city wide he took pictures of all of the problems. Chief Decou stated this is dismantled vehicles that are not part of current restoration project. The ordinance specifies what is covered. Attorney Landry stated this ordinance will help the council if anyone complains in your district. Chief Decou stated this goes toward making this a safer and cleaner community. Councilman Bonin questioned, what about campers? Attorney Landry stated that it is not covered in this ordinance. A deputy from the parish addressed the council in reference to this. The deputy stated he has been doing the removal of junk vehicles for the last 3 years. If there is a complaint he goes to check on the vehicle. Deputy Shannon stated as long they are a legitimate business they are exempted. Councilman Guilbeau questioned if a mechanic is using a junk car for extra spare parts? Deputy Shannon stated if it is a legitimate business there is no problem. They go tag the vehicle and give the owner 15 days to get rid of the vehicles that are junks. After the car is tagged they leave a tag on the door. We then have to send a certified letter. The letter states how much the fines and fees could cost the owner if the problem is not cleared up. Councilman Higginbotham questioned what if the property owner doesn't have the resources to get rid of the vehicle? Mayor Langlinais stated we have someone who goes to your home and picks up the vehicle if the title is signed over to them. They have to put the car under a carport, not just under a car cover. If the citizens don't move the vehicle, the tow company will come and pick up the vehicle for a cost. Deputy Shannon stated 90% of the people do comply. Deputy Shannon stated that it has been working in the parish.

Introduce Ordinance #07-323/The Pond At Deer Meadow Annexation =
Moved by Councilman Higginbotham and second by Councilman Rousseau to introduce Ordinance #07-323, which provides for the annexation of certain property located in section 9, township 11 south, range 5 east, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana, being known as The Pond At Deer Meadow Annexation. Roll call:

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

Councilman Bonin stated they had stipulations on how they will go to the construction site. Mr. Vidrine stated they will have a tie in at Highway 92 and an access road off of Moulin Road. Their property will tie into Fawn Lane. They will develop 171 lots and it will be \$225,000 for their sewage plant. The sewage plant will be private. Mayor Langlinais stated he has no problem with a used plant if they can meet the discharge limits. Al stated the long range plan is to force main it to the school, then to Deer Meadow and then to the sewer pond. Councilman Foco recommended they put the plan closer to Deer Meadow. The engineer questioned if they can bring some lots to the lift station at Deer Meadow and some to their private plant. Mayor Langlinais stated the intent is to set-up sewer districts in the future. Councilman Rousseau questioned where they will pass? Mr. Vidrine stated they will barricade the access toe Deer Meadow subdivision until the construction is completed. Councilman Rousseau stated he had the same thing in his subdivision and now they have problems with people with four wheelers. Larry stated our sewage goes to Dustin Circle with no plant right now at

It was moved by Councilman Romero and second by Councilwoman Batiste to award the Ida/LaFlamme Road Drainage bid to the low bidder Justice Contractors for \$89,087.00.
Roll call:

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

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

Mayor Langlinais stated we did get \$50,000 will from LA Rural Development for this project and we only have to pay the balance. This was originally for Fairfield and the state allowed us to move the project. Councilman Rousseau questioned about the erosion in that area? Larry stated this project will solve this problem. Councilman Foco complimented Teche Construction because they are a local company that has been giving us good prices and does very good work.

AI's Report:

St. Nazaire Project = AI stated that the St. Nazaire Project to should be completed in January 2008. With the good weather we have been having we shouldn't have a problem in completing it by that date.

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:

Gene stated he had nothing to report on except the good news that Tina gave him about the sales tax receipts we received this month was \$920,000.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

White Goods/Branches = Attorney Landry stated he complied a new ordinance in reference to the tree trunks and white goods in the right of way. Councilman Bonin stated he feels we need to throw this away and start over. Councilman Guilbeau suggested that in reference to picking up tree limbs, we could send out a letter stating that we will pick them up twice a month on Thursdays. Councilman Bonin stated according to ordinance if the citizens place white goods on the street they get fined, but we have someone picking it up for us that picks' them up on right of way. Councilman Bonin stated we have the white goods handled for us. Councilman Bonin stated he has a lot of problems with ordinance. Mayor Langlinais stated he agreed to support a twice a month pickup for limbs for a fee if it is a truck load. Councilman Guilbeau stated we need to add to the ordinance that if they get someone to cut the tree, that person must haul the tree off too. Councilman Bonin stated at one time we told them to use the loaner cans as long as it fits in the cans. Larry stated what kills us the most is not knowing where to go and if someone sees us then next day the neighbor puts out branches and then we have to go out again and pick them up again. Councilman Foco stated this should be for normal branches. Attorney Landry stated there shouldn't be a difference in what we charge and what the tree surgeon charges them and who is going to regulate that. Gene stated we can't discriminate we have to do it for all. Mayor Langlinais stated let's go consider and

charge small fee and see about getting someone to do that. Councilman Guilbeau stated he feels we need to do this on a trial basis. Councilman Rousseau what about on a needed basis? Adam Mouton suggested perhaps do as a hazardous waste day, like the parish. Councilman Guilbeau stated we need to send the citizens a letter and let them know when they will be picked up. Councilman Rousseau questioned if this was tried before? Larry stated we either have to do it or not, because now we are forced to pick up branches that are in the ditch. Mayor Langlinais stated he feels we need to be codified by an ordinance. Councilman Higginbotham stated he feels we need to form a committee. Larry stated we have always just picked up a day, we never sent out a letter. Mel stated we need to look at that permit good. Attorney Landry stated we have looked at this permit and the dirt pit cannot be used for a burn pit. Attorney Landry what about a bid from Waste Management for disposal of tree limbs? Attorney Landry stated that the contract we have now says if it fits into a trash can it will be picked up. He feels the people are doing what needs to be done. Attorney Landry stated he has no problem with what they do as long as it is within the law. Mayor Langlinais asked Tina, to draw up a proposal for picking up tree limbs. Mayor Langlinais stated it could be a cane farmer. It might be only an extra \$1.00, depending on the incentive. Mayor Langlinais recommended we make sure all tree surgeons know about it.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Red-Flex Cameras = Attorney Landry stated that the contract is almost ready to be done.

Councilman Bonin questioned if UPS, FED-EX are exempt from getting these ticket? Chief Decou stated no they are not. Councilman Bonin questioned what about the yellow light situation? Chief Decou the front end of the car would have to be in the light. Chief Decou stated we need to also do the media promotion and we need to see about the signage. Councilman Higginbotham questioned what is the estimated amount of revenues for a town our size? Chief Decou stated they wouldn't comment on that.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Tropical Storm = Chief Decou stated he sent out an e-mail about the tropical storm, just to prepare everyone and give everyone a head's up. We are expected to receive 5 – 10 inches of rain over the next couple of days.

Katherine Drexel Parking Problem = Chief Decou stated he met with Councilman Guilbeau and Councilwoman Batiste about the Katherine Drexel problem. They did some research on the abandon alleyway, which makes a great proposal to utilize Leon Street, behind the school and the playground and do the pickups inside the gates and move the bus pickup. The school board will fund the limestone and the clean up effort. Chief Decou stated it is getting worked on and things are progressing. Councilwoman Batiste stated that Mark Cochrane contacted her with a different solution. Councilman Guilbeau stated he received the map this afternoon about the plan. They will keep on working on this.

Bank Robbery = Chief Decou stated they are working closely with the Sheriff's Office and Lafayette City Police in reference to the Community First Bank robbery that occurred this week. They observed some similarities with the River Ranch Robbery. They are sharing evidence. No one was injured in the robbery

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

No one was present for the meeting. Chief Decou stated they are attending a parish meeting.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

District V/Councilman Higginbotham:

Dumpster = Councilman Higginbotham questioned what are the hours of the dumpster behind city hall and how do you get in? Tina stated it is opened 7 – 7, seven days a week and you must access it from Polk Street and then call the number on the sign to get a code to enter and dump.

District III/Councilman Rousseau:

Sidewalk from Moulin Road to Fairfield Road = Councilman Rousseau questioned if we had anything in the budget specified for a sidewalk on Morgan Street from Moulin Road to Fairfield Road? Gene stated no we don't. Larry stated the estimate he went by for bids was from last year, around \$13,000. Councilman Rousseau requested that Larry get an estimate for the next meeting and he requested it be put on the agenda to discuss.

District II/Councilman Bonin:

Railroad Crossings = Councilman Bonin stated we must have shook the tree of the railroad, because they are starting to work on the crossings. They are moving east and they should be town tomorrow.

District I/Councilman Guilbeau:

Hydrant Diffusers = Councilman Guilbeau questioned if Elmer ordered the hydrant diffusers? Mel stated yes he did. We ordered the standard type and Elmo modified it.

Tree Limb Pickup = Councilman Guilbeau requested that the council agree to tree/limb pick up on a trial basis. We can send a letter to all the citizens explaining how it works and if it is abused then we will stop it.

La Gazette = Councilman Guilbeau stated he was miss-quoted in the La Gazette stating that about people cutting trees; he was quoted that he would rather bid it out and

charge the citizens on their bill. That was an error on the La Gazette and they will print a retraction.

At Large/Councilman Foco:

Entergy Franchise Agreement = Councilman Foco stated that they did meet with Liz Duhon with Entergy about this. We receive the highest legal franchise rate from Entergy for the contract. Councilman Foco stated that he feels in the future we shouldn't have a contract like 60 years as we currently have. Attorney Landry stated the fuel rates are what are causing the problem. Councilman Higginbotham stated he feels we shouldn't be held for a contract for that long. Councilman Foco stated he feels it is not fair. The council is comfortable with Don's response and they thanked Don for their help.

Mayor Langlinais:

Planning and Zoning = Mayor Langlinais stated he has talked to some council members to see about setting up a zoning and land use committee. The committee will consist of Councilman Higginbotham, Councilman Rousseau and Councilman Foco.

Storm Water Retention = Mayor Langlinais asked the council if they saw the photos taken by Mel of the storm water retention off of Bernard Road? The council commended Mel on the storm water retention photos that Mel gave the council prior to the meeting.

ADJOURN:

Adjourn the meeting = Moved by Councilman Romero and second by Councilman Higginbotham 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