

Minutes Of The

April 23, 2008

Broussard City Council Meeting

Present: Mayor Charles Langlinais  
 Tina G. Denais, City Clerk  
 Councilman David Bonin, District II  
 Councilman Keith Rousseau, District III  
 Councilwoman Gertrude Batiste, District IV  
 Councilman Albert Romero, District VI  
 Councilman Johnnie Foco, At Large  
 Mr. Don Landry, City Attorney  
 Jerry Grooms, City Engineer  
 Al Reaux, City Engineer  
 Walter Comeaux III, City Engineer  
 Gene Chiarulli, City Bookkeeper  
 Mel Bertrand, City Foreman  
 Larry Champagne, City Supervisor  
 Elmer Girouard, City Supervisor  
 Chief Brannon Decou, Police Chief  
 Chief Blair Rivette, Fire Chief  
 Roy Brown, Citizen

Absent: Councilman Terry Guilbeau, District I  
 Councilman Kenny Higginbotham, District V

Councilman Foco called the meeting to order and Chief Rivette lead with the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer was done for boys still overseas.

**Adopt minutes of the April 9, 2008 Meeting** = Moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Romero to adopt the minutes of the April 9, 2008 meeting. Roll call:

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Adopt Ordinance #08-330/SLEMCO Franchise and Street Lighting Agreement =**  
 Gene stated he hadn't got with Don on this. Gene stated they are going away from a kilowatt charge to a flat 5%. In the old contract if we had an increase they would go up to 5%. In this contract the manufacturer businesses' are exempt. Gene stated he doesn't see any problems with

the contract. Attorney Landry stated Mr. Bordelon called him and was unable to be here. Gene stated his only concerns were for instance Amabassador Caffery; this addresses improvements, he feels we should add some language under paragraph 6 for improvements and construction of new streets. Other than that he has no downside. Also he has a question about the definition of revenues? Are we including the fuel adjustment charge also. He would like to get some clarification on this. The council would like to wait till Mr. Bordelon answers the questions before they approve the contract. Therefore it was moved by Councilman Bonin and second by Councilman Rousseau to table adopting Ordinance #08-330, which authorizes the Mayor of the City of Broussard, Louisiana to enter into a Franchise Agreement and Street Lighting Agreement, with Southwest Louisiana Electric Membership Corporation (SLEMCO) for a term of 10 years ending on April 30, 2018.

Roll call:

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

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:**

**Jerry’s Report:**

Jerry stated he had nothing to report on.

**Al’s Report:**

**New Sewage Pond** = Al stated the first sewage pond construction estimate will become due and then we will know how much is complete. The project is moving very quickly. We will have to see if the rain we had today will hamper the project.

**St. Nazairre Road** = The contractor has all the storm base done. Last meeting the council considered overlaying the remaining portion of St. Nazairre. The cost estimates were as follows:

Existing typical section with Stone base	
24’ wide roadway.....	\$368,249
22’ wide roadway.....	\$341,730
20’ wide roadway.....	\$315,212
Soil cement base	
24’ wide roadway.....	\$255,823
22’ wide roadway.....	\$237,953
20’ wide roadway.....	\$220,082

Councilman Foco questioned if this is in the parish or the city? Mayor Langlinois stated yes it is in the parish. Councilman Guilbeau was supposed to talk with our parish councilman about assisting us with this, but he isn’t present to report on this. Al stated he is anticipating H & S to be finished in 3 to 4 weeks in that area. Councilman Foco stated he feels we need to get the property owners their incorporated first. Councilman Foco stated he has not problem if it’s in

the city limits, but not if the property is in the parish. Al will contact Tommy Billeaud, one of the property owners to see if he is interested in being annexed. Attorney Landry stated that Jerry and John can start the annexation process.

**New Engineer** = Al introduced Martin Poirier, he is a new hire with PENSICO. He previously worked with them and Lafayette Consolidated Government.

**Walter's Report:**

**South Bernard/Fairfield Ext.** = Walter stated they have began the survey on the road. We will probably start getting some phone calls after people see it being surveyed. He is still putting together some cost data. He went to see the culverts they are putting in for Ambassador Caffery and he is taking that into consideration. Mayor Langlinais stated one of the property owners is here and he stated the current alignment is not set in stone.

**ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:**

**Monthly Report** = Gene stated he had month of March report. Thru 9 months we are only \$800,000 short of what we anticipated in sales tax. This is very good. Our spending is not out of control. The March sales tax collections were \$812,000. Mayor Langlinais stated the report he got the report last week from the sales tax office and we finally went over \$1,000,000.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Attorney Landry stated he had nothing to report on.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

Chief Decou stated he had nothing to report on.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

**Fire Station Renovations** = Chief Rivette questioned if they had heard anything on the plans? Councilman Foco stated he didn't get with the Mayor yet, but he will get with the Mayor on this. He has cost estimates on the inside and outside construction. Outside construction is more. Chief Rivette stated they are putting office in the inside of the station. No outside construction will be done.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

**Councilman Bonin/District II:**

**Mr. Duhon re: Variance request for Clara Street** = Councilman Bonin stated that Mr. Duhon is requesting a variance to add on to his house. He needs a 6 foot variance because it will be encroaching onto Clara Street. Councilman Bonin stated Clara is a one-way street and he

doesn't foresee a problem with that. This item is not on the agenda; therefore Attorney Landry suggested we put on the next meeting's agenda. It will be set for the next meeting.

**Councilman Foco/At Large:**

**March Million Dollar Month** = Councilman Foco took it upon himself to declare March Million Dollar Month, being we received one million dollars in sales tax for the month of March 2008, the first ever. Attorney Landry read the proclamation declaring March Million Dollar Month and Councilman Foco presented Mayor Langlinais with a plaque also. Mayor Langlinais was in shock. Mayor Langlinais stated 25 years ago he made an offer to Walmart and at that time they weren't interested and now they here. Ambassador Caffery was another one of his goals. Mayor Langlinais stated the next 7 years will be the strongest. He thanked everyone with sincere appreciation. He also thanked Attorney Landry and all of the engineers and the city employees.

Councilman Foco stated he moved here in 1969. In the late 70's and early 80's he had a conversation with the Mayor and they talked about the sales tax. In the late 90's he decided to start his business in Broussard. He came to the council back then, not being on the council, and he brought businesses to Broussard, because of the administration and the employees. Councilman Foco complimented on how we have the resources to do great things. Councilman Foco thanked everyone.

Chief Decou congratulated the Mayor and the council. He is to be proud part of the city and to attain everything that he has done. He also congratulated everyone. Chief Decou stated with great leadership it makes it easier.

Councilman Rousseau stated it is an honor to get up here and work with these people. It is always what is best for the city. It has been some good roads. We do what is best for the citizens. It is also a team effort. There is no one person that makes this happen, we all make it happen.

**Mr. Roy Brown** = Mr. Roy Brown addressed the council. He noticed that some hurricane wire has fell on Monroe Street and he feels if we have a big rain there will be a problem. Mr. Brown added to say that from Monroe to Polk street he gets a paper trail there.. On Broussard Street there is also a house that caught fire and at one time the guy started breaking the house down. And now they stopped. It is at East Broussard near the lift station. Mr. Brown stated that it really needs to be torn down. Councilwoman Batiste stated she spoke to the son and the nephew and they started but then stopped. She will get back with them.

**Councilwoman Batiste/District IV :**

**St. Julian Demolition** = Councilwoman Batiste stated that the demolition is almost complete. She thanked the Mayor for the help given to Peggy St. Julian to aid her in getting this done in a timely manner.

**Mr. Brown.....continued:**

**Coulee near the park** = Mr. Brown stated that the coulee that goes near the park also has a large branch in it. Larry Champagne instructed Mr. Brown that all he had to do is contact him with all of these concerns instead of coming to the council. Mr. Brown stated it is not that he doesn't want to call Mr. Champagne. The last time he came to the council. He cut branches down and he couldn't dump it in the dumpster, so he had put it at the road and it wasn't picked up. So he put them in the trash cans. Then someone put branches put in front of his yard and he had to contact the police. He is just asking for those things to be taken care. Councilwoman Batiste stated she did contact Larry about Mr. Brown's problem.

**Red-Flex** = Al questioned the update on the Red-Flex? Attorney Landry stated that Red-Flex is dealing with the State to get the permit.

**Mayor Langlinais:**

**Stine Sewage** = Mayor Langlinais stated that Stine is willing to pay the difference for the sewage. The council requested that this item be put on the next month's agenda.

**Legislation in Baton Rouge regarding AT & T** = Mayor Langlinais stated he went to Baton Rouge today and AT & T was successful in getting passed to allow them to use our servitudes. It got approved even over our rejection. They will pay us a 5% fee. He hopes that this gets amended. Councilman Bonin questioned how did our legislatures vote on this? Mayor Langlinais stated they still have to get a permit even though they are a Franchisee. In the permit they agree to move the utilities when we need them moved. Mayor Langlinais asked Don to get with Oscar to see if there is anything else that can be done to regulate this. Al stated he had experiences with AT & T that they go in and snake in the easement. He would be cautious with them with this concern. Mayor Langlinais stated we can still dictate good management and when they sign the permit they agree to stay within the area.

**ADJOURN:**

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

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

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

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