

**Minutes Of The**  
**October 14, 2008**  
**Broussard City Council Meeting**

Present: Mayor Charles E. Langlinais  
 Tina M. Emert, 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  
 Mr. Don Landry, City Attorney  
 Mark Savoie, City Engineer  
 Martin Poirier, City Engineer  
 Al Reaux, City Engineer  
 Walter Comeaux III, City Engineer  
 Gene Chiarulli, City Bookkeeper  
 Mel Bertrand, City Foreman  
 Larry Champagne, City Supervisor  
 Chief Brannon Decou, Police Chief  
 Bryan Champagne, Asst. Fire Chief  
 Mr. Bruce Conque, w/Lafayette Chamber of Commerce  
 Mr. Donnie Cunningham, Bonding Attorney  
 Mr. David Bernard, Architect  
 Mr. Jim Ryan, Bonding Advisor  
 Ms. Geraldine Flugence, Citizen

Councilman Foco called the meeting to order and Attorney Landry lead with the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer was done for our troops that are still overseas and also for Ms. Hilda Johnson who is at home with Hospice.

**Adopt minutes of the September 23, 2008** = Moved by Councilwoman Batiste and second by Councilman Rousseau to adopt the minutes of the September 23, 2008 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. Bruce Conque w/Lafayette Chamber of Commerce** = Mr. Conque addressed the council. He is asking the council to re-affirm their support for the I-49 south project. The state is concerned that the cities are divided about this. He is asking the council to re-affirm their support for this project. He is asking the council to adopt a resolution as identifying this as top priority. Mayor Langlinais stated that I-49 is the top corridor of south Louisiana. Mayor Langlinais stated that we have the 6-lane projects set-up. Conque stated the cost is over a billion dollars for this project. Conque stated if they don't put their foot in the door they won't get this project built. Mayor Langlinais stated he feels we need to incorporate the Texas turn-around instead of the current crossovers. Councilman Higginbotham questioned how does the widening effect this? Mayor Langlinais stated the bottom line is the 6 lanes will help out for short-term. Therefore it was moved by Councilman Higginbotham and second by Councilman Bonin in support of completion of the I-49 South. Roll call:

District I = Yea

District IV = Yea

District II= Yea

District V = Yea

District III= Yea

District VI = Yea

At Large = Yea

Councilman Guilbeau questioned Mr. Conque being he just got off the council if he knows the status on Cypress Bayou? Mr. Conque stated he doesn't; however Mayor Langlinais stated the permit was applied for and it should be about 30 days he thinks. Mark stated now it takes about 6 months.

**Mr. Donnie Cunningham re: 2008 Bonds** = Mr. Cunningham addressed the council Mr. Jim Ryan. Mr. Cunningham stated the city has a one city sales tax. 2 or 3 years we used that penny to do new a bond issue for a new sewer pond. After that the city formed a TIF and captured a couple of acres. Then the deal was that the DOTD would do Ambassador Caffery if the city put up \$10 million, which we did. We borrowed it. We tried to go to the bond commission based on revenues in the district. \$10 million was issued to get a local match and we would get the one penny generated by the city. Then when we went to get the \$10 million and the bond commission agreed to do one series of bond, but if we wanted more we would have to go back to bond commission. The city did authorize the penny generated in that district, but it hasn't been implemented. A couple of months ago the Mayor called them about the 2 roads that they want to do. They didn't want to do a whole new economic study. The reality of it is we are in an election season. We are not able to satisfy the bond commission's mandates, because Caffery is not finished and we don't have a revenue history. We have plenty of coverage on the one cent sales tax. The resolution would basically change the tenure to put the existing under the penny sales tax. We can also expand the uses to perhaps sewer and water. The resolution only talks about road improvements. Councilman Foco questioned if we could use the history of Albertson Parkway? Cunningham stated we can't use the full extent of those taxes. Walmart and Home Depot will be in the TIF in the district though. Mr. Ryan stated the TIF District and under TIF statues you are not legally required to pay for the districts debts. The real difference instead of having the credit stack being first thru the district; the better credit posture is to let the city put

up the money first and then and then lets' use the TIF money to pay back. At the end of the day that doesn't change anything. The city is in a great financial condition. We are in the bond market where small local deals are getting done. The rates will not go back to where they were for another 10 – 15 years. Councilman Foco questioned being the TIF district is first what would the percentage be? Ryan stated about 3 – 4%. Ryan stated there is a possibility we could get bond insurance. Mayor Langlinais stated we hear about AIG and AMBAC? Ryan stated AIG has nothing to do with bonds. Ryan stated a lot of them started insuring these loans. Councilman Foco questioned Gene his recommendation? Gene stated realistically the city will pay the TIF bonds. We are not going to let Ambassador Caffery corridor go bankrupt. He feels those businesses in that area will generate more money than we spend. The TIF district has no record right now. Gene stated we are committing the city to back the TIF district. Mayor Langlinais questioned where are we after the hardware, the dirt work completion at the pond? Al stated we are 400% ahead, and it should be completed in the early spring next year. Mark stated the hardware should be ready for bid in 3 months. Mark stated the cost is coming down. Mayor Langlinais stated he would like to get sewer down Caffery within 3 – 4 years. Walter stated he is estimating South Morgan for ½ million. He can also put deep sewer. Mayor Langlinais stated we will have a meeting about this. Cunningham stated if we adopt the resolution and even if we go to the bond commission, we can always back down. Gene stated we also have in the TIF District to assess another penny to the businesses, but we are not doing that, but we can if we want to. Mark stated he can get the cost of lift stations along Caffery. Mayor Langlinais stated he thinks everyone understands that sewer is something everyone asks for. Cunningham stated the city doesn't owe them anything unless the bonds are issued. Ryan stated if the council isn't sure it doesn't cost to get an approval. Ryan stated he suggested the resolution change not to exceed \$15 million and they would like to include water and sewer in the resolution and not to exceed 30 years at 8%. Therefore it was moved by moved by Councilman Guilbeau and second by Councilman Rousseau to adopt Resolution #241-08, granting preliminary approval to the issuance of not exceeding fifteenth million dollars \$15,000,000 of the City of Broussard Public Improvement Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2008 to finance certain improvements; authorizing Mayor and/or clerk to sign any and all documents necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution; and providing for other matters in connection with the foregoing. Roll call:

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

Tentatively they have set the trip for November 14<sup>th</sup> to meet with the bond commission

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

**Fire Station Bids** = David stated that the bids were opened bids this morning. They had 6 contractors look at the project and they had 3 legitimate bids. There was quite of widespread. The low bid was Monte Ste. Marie Contractors for \$103,300.00 for a total amount of 93 days. Estimated cost of the project is \$125,000.00. Councilman Guilbeau questioned how much is the parish is putting up? They are putting \$80,000. Asst. Chief stated he want to use the rest of the money the 75,000 that the city originally allocated for the completion of the building and also for

desks, chairs and computers. Councilman Foco stated they will put the \$75,000 but he wants to them to make a list for what the remaining will be used for and come back to them with the list. Councilman Guilbeau agreed with that also. Gene stated all they need is the \$23,300 to complete the bid. Councilman Guilbeau moved and Councilman Rousseau second to approve the low bid of \$103,300 from Monte Ste. Marie Contractors and amend the budget for \$23,300 for the Fire Department. Roll call:

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

The council asked Bryan to prepare the list for the furniture and come back to them.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Adopt Ordinance #08-338/Acquisition of right of ways along Ambassador Caffery from Highway 89 to Highway 90** = Don stated we can always change the size of the right of way. Mayor Langlinois stated there is no resistance to provide servitudes to the City of Broussard for water and sewer only. Attorney Landry stated Oscar is researching to keep the 3<sup>rd</sup> party providers out of our easement. We have to let Oscar finish the research for a selling situation. Councilman Rousseau questioned should we pass this before Oscar does the research? Attorney Landry state yes. Moved by Councilman Guilbeau and second by Councilwoman Batiste

to adopt Ordinance #08-338 providing for the acquisition of servitudes and right of ways along that segment of Ambassador Caffery Parkway from the Youngsville Highway to US Highway 90. Roll call:

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

**Mr. Walter Comeaux, III re: Roosevelt Street** = Walter addressed the council. He stated he thinks he spent about a day in the field doing this project. In the maps in 1958 all of those streets were 40 feet except the southern portion of Roosevelt Street which was 20 feet. The intent was to be a 40 foot right of way. When Village South came thru they showed 25 feet for Roosevelt Street, but it was 20 feet. He surveyed Roosevelt Street going back to a 40 foot right of way. Mayor Langlinois stated the center line of this map, was the annex corporate limits. Walter stated a problem is this road was not built in the 20 foot right of way. He is trying to make this right of way right where it is. The 2 existing houses at lots 155 and 156 were built into the right of ways. Walter stated the public records show we have a 20 foot right of way and then a 25 right of way. Walter stated by adjusting the boundaries we are taking up less right of way. The road is in the strip in the road right of way. Walter stated we had a question if the set-back was right. And then we went look into the houses that encroach into the road reservation. Some of the houses encroach into the utility easement. Walter stated we don't know what the right of way is, but we know what the road is. Mayor Langlinois stated that there is perhaps not enough width, except to make it a one way. The asphalt is approximately 20 feet. Attorney

Landry stated the question is why are we kind of caught between the two property owners with this? Walter state generally speaking a set-back violation is considered a misdemeanors issue. Mayor Langlinais questioned what kind of title problems would this cause? Walter stated he feels it wouldn't cause any problems. Walter stated this is a boundary line agreement. Councilman Foco questioned what did he find with Roosevelt? Walter stated in 1958 the old right of ways were abandoned. Mayor Langlinais stated this is very complicated; we need to get this to Don to review first before anything is done. Don will get with Walter on this matter.

**Ms. Geraldine Flugence re: Proposals for Ida Park Improvements** = Ms. Flugence addressed the council. She and Councilwoman Batiste have been working on the project. She gave the prices on the equipment. Mayor Langlinais stated he did get a call from Don Bertrand and he said they would have the money for improvements in the park. Councilman Guilbeau stated we don't know how much equipment and what park it will be put in though. Ms. Flugence stated she didn't go to the parish council. She wants to work on this for the city and then go to Lafayette for a recreation center. Ms. Flugence stated that she met with this company and they work with Lafayette. Councilman Guilbeau stated that is why we asked her to get the sizes of what she wants in the park, he could get with the parish and what they couldn't get we maybe can. Mayor Langlinais asked Tina to get a list of playground equipment on state contract. Mayor Langlinais state we are talking to other parties to buy the additional acreage first. Mayor Langlinais stated we are going to check what we can get on State Purchasing. Mayor Langlinais stated we may be able to buy more. Councilman Foco stated before a decision is made, he wants to see how much Lafayette will put up. Councilman Guilbeau stated we have a new parish council; we have to have faith in them. Attorney Landry stated the quickest way is state contract. Councilman Foco stated he would like to spend the money first on additional acreage. Councilwoman Batiste stated their plan is to put it into the budget in June 09. Ms. Flugence questioned so they are not going to get the equipment? Mayor Langlinais stated we will check on the State Contract prices. We hope to have an answer within 48 hours. Ms. Flugence stated this is the price of it being installed and if the city installs it, it may save money. Larry stated it is a liability issue of us assembling the equipment. Attorney Landry recommended we get someone to put it together that knows what they are doing. Councilman Guilbeau stated he thinks they are looking at little bit of playground equipment right now. Mayor Langlinais we will not purchase anything until we see if this on state contract. Ms. Flugence stated we don't have \$81,000 for playground equipment but we have \$103,000 for fire station renovations and to buy furniture. Mayor Langlinais stated they have \$80,000 from coming from the parish and we are only spending \$23,000. Asst. Chief Champagne stated they had to wait 3 years for this. Mayor Langlinais explained the concept of us buying additional acreage and perhaps putting some equipment this summer. Ms. Flugence stated she understands re-bidding it. She questioned why we can't do it a section at a time. Gene stated we are controlled by state law and we can't do that. Mayor Langlinais stated he will get the girls at city hall to print out the copies of state contract equipment. Councilman Foco stated he feels we need to get the state contract prices. Councilwoman Batiste stated she will get with Tina and then she will get with Ms. Flugence. Councilman Foco stated the addition for the fire station was talked about for 5 years and we have only been talking about this for 2 months, we can't do this right now.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

**Al's Report:**

**Sewer Pond** = Al stated the sewer pond is 50% complete. It should finish in early spring.

**Martin's Report:**

**St. Nazairre Road** = Martin stated that we are just about finished on St. Nazairre. We are currently waiting for SLEMCO. The walk-thru was done last week. The last partial payment will be coming in the next couple of days. Chief Decou questioned if the lights are high enough, but they don't seem high enough. Martin stated he will check onto this.

**Mark's Report:**

**South Eola Road Sewage Pump Station** = Mark stated that that the South Eola Road Sewage Pump Station project has been completed and a final inspection was conducted. He is recommending that the project be considered as substantially completed. It was moved by Councilman Guilbeau and second by Councilman Romero accepting the South Eola Road Sewage Pump Station as substantial complete. Roll call:

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

**Pump station for Stine's** = Mark stated that the bid advertising starts tomorrow for the Stine' Pump Station quotes. The contractor starts will start in 4 weeks and we will have the pumps ordered then. The council questioned why are the retention ponds full there? Mark stated they are still doing some work; they didn't open up the pond for silt protection. Councilman Guilbeau questioned if that is what is going on Eola? Mark stated yes, but the outfall ditch should be dug next week.

**Walter's Report:**

**South Bernard Road Extension** = Walter stated that he will have the preliminary alignments for South Bernard at the next meeting.

**ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:**

Gene stated he had nothing to report on.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Attorney Landry stated he had nothing to report on.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

**Parking at Broussard Middle School** = Chief Decou stated they had a parking issue with Broussard Middle. He and Councilman Guilbeau met with Mark Cochrane and he met with other school board members and they have implemented another driveway. The cars parking on the side of Morgan have been eliminated. It has been resolved. Councilman Guilbeau stated he faxed Mr. Lilly the price for putting concrete on that section and it looks like they will do the concrete instead of the limestone. Mayor Langlinais stated Gilchrist Construction is looking for a community project so they might want to contact them for assistance.

**Radar Trailer** = Chief Decou stated the radar trailer was installed this week. They are putting on the decals and working on the registration.

**Burglary at the City Maintenance Facility** = Chief Decou stated the burglary at the city maintenance facility has been solved. They did make a successful apprehension that caused \$9,000 of damages to equipment. He thanked the city for working together to solve this.

**Thanks** = Chief Decou thanked city for the funding they have given to the police department to make the city a safer place. Traffic count is going up; but traffic fatalities are going down. In 2006 they had 5 fatal crashes with 7 people killed, in 2007 they had 3 fatal crashes with 3 people killed and in 2008 they have had 2 fatal crashes with 2 people killed. He definitely feels the traffic units are helping in keeping the fatalities down.

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

**Thanks** = Asst. Chief thanked the council for supporting the renovations project.

#### **COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

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

**St. Etienne Road** = Councilman Guilbeau stated that the Parish is talking about re-surfacing St. Etienne Road. They will put some of the money in the budget to do St. Etienne. Their cost is \$77,000 and ours would be \$127,000 Mayor Langlinais stated he sees us incorporating that and the potential developer will tell us how much they will pay for the water and sewer. Councilman Guilbeau stated this is St. Etienne to Highway 182. The council will look into this more as it approaches.

**TPA Green** = Councilman Guilbeau stated that Ms. Trahan called him about that TPA Green to make a presentation to the council. The council had no problem with them coming to a presentation. Councilman Guilbeau stated he will contact them to come in and do a presentation.

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

**Branch and tree removal** = Councilman Bonin thanked the Mayor for allowing us to still do the troublesome tree and branch removal that affects the power lines.

**Street Commissioner** = Councilman Bonin questioned if our street commissioner takes care of the street lights? We have a lot of lights that are out. Mayor Langlinais stated he will get the street commissioner to ride the entire town and get him a list of the street lights that are out.

**District III/Councilman Rousseau:**

**Street Lights** = Councilman Rousseau stated that there are several lights in Deer Meadow that are out. Mayor Langlinais stated he will get the street commissioner to drive the entire town and get and an updated list.

**District IV/Councilwoman Batiste:**

**Street lights** = Councilwoman Batiste stated that she called Entergy about lights that were out and they came out in 2 days.

**District V/Councilman Higginbotham:**

**Garbage Pick-up** = Councilman Higginbotham stated that he had neighbor that is complaining because he is not getting twice a week pick-up for garbage. The neighbor is threatening to deduct the service from his bill because he is only getting once a week pick-up.

**At Large/Councilman Foco:**

**Sewer pond** = Councilman Foco stated the sewer pond going really good. The contractor is going to do some additional work for us.

**Mayor Langlinais:**

**Walmart** = Mayor Langlinais stated the scheduled opening for Walmart will open Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURN:**

**Adjourn the meeting** = Moved by Councilman Romero and second by Councilman Bonin 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    |                   |

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

**S/Tina M. Emert, CITY CLERK**