

Minutes Of The
January 13, 2009
Broussard City Council Meeting

Present: Mayor Charles E. Langlinais
Tina M. Emert, 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
Gene Chiarulli, City Bookkeeper
Mr. Don Landry, City Attorney
Jerry Grooms, City Engineer
Mark Savoie, City Engineer
Al Reaux, City Engineer
Martin Poirrier, City Engineer
Walter Comeaux III, Engineer
Mel Bertrand, City Foreman
Larry Champagne, City Supervisor
Elmer Girouard, City Supervisor
Kenneth Wainwright, City Foreman
Chief Brannon Decou, Police Chief
Chief Bryan Champagne, Fire Chief
Troy Courville, City Auditor
Adam Mouton, Resident
Ms. Clara LeBlanc, Lafayette Council On Aging
Peggy Grooms, wife of Jerry Grooms
Bob Boese, City Attorney

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

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 overseas.

Adopt minutes of the December 23, 2008 = Moved by Councilman Rousseau

and second by Councilwoman Batiste to adopt the minutes of the December 9, 2008 meeting subject the revisions listed above. Roll call:

District I = Absent

District IV = Yea

District II= Yea

District V = Absent

District III= Yea

District VI = Yea

At Large = Yea

Recognition of Jerry Grooms' 25 years of service with the City of Broussard =

Mayor Langlinais told a story about when Mr. Grooms came to work for the City of Broussard; he had to go to all the houses in town and tell them about worms in their faucets. He thanked Jerry for his dedicated service to City of Broussard for 25 years. He thanked Jerry for being here for the last 25 years. Peggy Grooms addressed the council. She thanked the Mayor and present and past council members for their support of Grooms Engineering. She presented Jerry a proclamation for 25 years of dedicated service to the City. She stated this goes to her best friend and husband and the best engineer she knows. Jerry thanked the council and his wife. Jerry stated without Broussard, there wouldn't have been Grooms Engineering. Mayor Langlinais wished him many healthy travels and so did the other council members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Clara LeBlanc w/Lafayette Council on Aging re: Money Allocated to them in Budget = Ms. LeBlanc addressed the council. Mayor Langlinais stated the question Ms. LeBlanc is asking is what did the council put them the money in the budget for. Ms. LeBlanc stated they are running low on funds and they need money in their operating budget. She stated the money was allocated as capital outlay funds; but they really need money for operations. She would like to change what the money is allocated for. Councilman Bonin questioned if that wasn't for air conditioning repairs? She stated they haven't replaced the air conditioning yet. They do generate the money from the rental of the building. Councilman Foco stated he remembers that it was for repairs and maintenance on the building, not for operations. Gene stated his recollection is this was for the purpose of capital improvements. Attorney Landry stated his recollection was the same. Mayor Langlinais stated it is up to council. She stated they do need to change the central air. Councilman Foco stated he has no problem with changing the central air and for the insurance. She stated they get money from the meals program and the rentals. Mayor Langlinais stated he can contact some local a/c dealers for a price. Councilman Foco questioned how did they pay the bills? Ms. LeBlanc stated the state pays for the meals program. They generate from fund raiser and building rental. They spent more money and they are not renting the building as much as they used to. The overhead is high on the building. Ms. LeBlanc stated they did fix the roof at a minimal fee. Mayor Langlinais stated his thought is instead of keeping the upkeep on this house, a plain Jane metal building would be better. Ms. LeBlanc stated the senior citizens just need a place. She stated there was an outcry in community when they talked about selling the house. She would like whatever is allocated for the rest of the year. She is not asking for any additional funds. They are running short in operations. Councilman Foco questioned in years past, where did they get the money for maintenance? Ms. LeBlanc stated that everything has gone up. Councilman Foco stated this council gave them \$15,000 for repairs and maintenance of that building. Councilman Foco

stated operating expenses is too vague. Ms. LeBlanc stated she came to ask for ongoing help. They are providing a lot of meals, transportation and homemaking services. Mayor Langlinais asked Tina what was said at the budget meeting. Tina stated the money was allocated for repairs and maintenance and they have already provided a bill for a building they purchased and were refunded for. Ms. LeBlanc questioned what will happen in the meantime? She stated Carencro they are paying \$10 or \$12 and \$6,000 is for the senior center. Mayor Langlinais stated he is just showing here the comparison of a large building and their current building. Councilman Foco questioned if we can give the Council on Aging a yearly amount? Attorney Landry stated yes. Councilman Foco questioned what about BYYA? Gene stated we can't give any money to a non-governmental agency. Councilman Rousseau stated he thinks the bottom line is we need to set-up a meeting with Ms. Clara and see where they are. Maybe we can get a better understanding of where they are. We can't subsidize everyone that gets cut from the parish and the state. Councilman Foco stated we need to decide if we want to give them the money or not. He wants the money to stay right here in Broussard. He wants the money spent at this house. Councilman Rousseau stated if they put the money up, they want the money to stay at the house here. Mayor Langlinais stated that is why the money was allocated like that. Attorney Landry stated if the council is willing to remove that restriction and allowing the \$7,000 to be used for what they need; but she will have to come back later for more. Councilman Bonin questioned how long will the \$7,000 last? Ms. LeBlanc stated she has no idea. Councilman Foco stated if we give them the \$7,600; how much is she asking to subsidize each year? Ms. LeBlanc stated about \$7,000 or \$8,000. Councilwoman Batiste stated the money was allocated for the portable building and the air conditioner. Therefore it was moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Bonin to reallocate the remaining money as long as it is spent at La Belle Maison this year till June and then we will provide them a yearly amount starting in the next budget year.

Roll call:

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

Ms. LeBlanc thanked the council for their assistance.

Cancellation of Feb. 24, 2009 Regular Meeting due to Mardi Gras =

Moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Bonin to cancel the 2nd meeting in February, which is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2009, which is Mardi Gras. 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:

AI's Report:

Sewage Pond = AI stated there is a meeting scheduled with the contractor for tomorrow. The contractor will probably be moving off the sewage pond project because of the weather.

Martin's Report:

St. Nazaire = Martin stated that the contractor has maintained a clear lien certificate and the final payment due.

Jerry 's Report:

Monthly Report = Jerry stated he had nothing to report on. Jerry also thanked everyone and stated his time with Broussard has been productive.

Bob's Report:

Zoning = Bob stated that he would like to set-up a meeting to make some decisions on what they are designing in reference to zoning in Broussard. He has set-up a grid. He would like to have a committee get together to see what they want. Mayor Langlinais stated the one Councilman Rousseau sent him, requests a land use plan be set-up. Attorney Landry stated this will be more than a learning process. The meeting will be set-up sometimes next week.

Walter's Report:

Monthly Report = Walter had nothing to report on.

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:

Gene's Report = Mr. Chiaurlli had nothing to report on.

2007/2008 Audit Report = Troy Courville addressed the council. The report has been transmitted to the legislative auditor's office. The only finding is the normal segregation of duties; which has been mentioned for the last 25 years in the report. We were under budget and sales tax went up. We had an excess of revenues over expenditures. Mr. Courville gave the council a report of the yearly savings between towns. Broussard has enough savings for the city to work off for one year, even if wouldn't have any revenues come in. Mr. Courville complimented the council on the excellent job they have done. Mayor Langlinais stated he wants to be very conservative.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Zoning = Mr. Landry stated we need to start moving on this zoning being Ambassador Caffery is almost finished. He stated that Bob has some good ideas. He also apologized for being late.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Police Car = Chief Decou stated he had a small incident yesterday. One of his police cars caught on fire. The engine caught on fire. The insurance has been contacted and they will

send out an adjustor. It wasn't a lot of damage.

Fatality = They had a fatal crash last Monday. They ended the year very well.

Radar Trailer = Councilman Foco stated he has been seeing the trailer around. The trailer went on Highway 96 and they did some enforcement. The Mayor needed it on Garber for some data count.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Office Renovations = Chief Champagne stated the office project is moving on.

Surplus Air Packs = Chief Champagne stated they have 5 air packs that he would like to be declared salvage and they can transfer to another governmental entity. It is going for the Sheriff's department for training. It was moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Romero to declare the following air packs salvage: Scott 2.2 Serial #2811J13, Scott 2.2 Serial #49700764, Scott 2.2 Serial #49800002, Scott 2.2 Serial #69201082 and Scott 2.2 Serial #69201099 and allow them to be transferred to the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Department.
Roll call:

District I = Absent

District II = Yea

District III = Yea

At Large = Yea

District IV = Yea

District V = Absent

District VI = Yea

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

At Large/Councilman Foco:

Citizen Complaint = Councilman Foco stated he had a citizen that came to him. The citizen lives near Highway 90 and has a large pecan tree that is on his property. The business owner who has a sign on the state right of way, which is adjacent to his property there, had some branches cut from the tree that were hanging on the state right of way, but the tree belongs to the citizen. Attorney Landry asked Councilman Foco to have that resident contact him.

Mayor's Report:

Ambassador Caffery = The signalization is in the contract; the contractor would have to do the signage. They are telling him that they have 900 linear feet between Youngsville Highway and Morgan Street. DOTD will probably give the blessing to get the eastside open. The rest of the completion should be done in October.

LMA Seminar on Natural Gas Vehicles = Mayor Langlinais stated he is attending a presentation by LMA for natural gas. The state purchasing guy told him that it has been bid out. They would come in and set-up the tank. He is going look at. He like the concept of this idea. It is the right time. These are designed for compressed natural gas.

Citizens:

Adam Mouton– Status on Bernard = Adam Mouton questioned the status on South Bernard? Mayor stated he met with engineers and he is re-giving direction to his engineers. He is getting a traffic count on 90 tomorrow. He said he is two weeks away from giving direction on this project.

Councilman Foco recognized the visitor from LEDA. We don't have much at the meetings, and we don't have much discussion. We want our money spent in Broussard; we send a lot of money to the parish and we get nothing in return. Councilman Foco thanked Jerry and stated Mel missed a big deer this weekend.

ADJOURN:

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

District I = Absent

District II= Yea

District III= Yea

At Large = Yea

District IV = Yea

District V = Absent

District VI = Yea

S/Charles E. Langlinais, MAYOR

S/Tina M. Emert, CITY CLERK