

Minutes Of The
May 26, 2009
Broussard City Council Meeting

Present: Mayor Charles Langlinais
Tina M. Emert, City Clerk
Councilman Terry Guilbeau, District I
Councilman David Bonin, District II
Councilman Keith Rousseau, District III
Councilman Kenny Higginbotham, District V
Councilman Albert Romero, District VI
Councilman Johnnie Foco, At Large
Mr. Don Landry, City Attorney
Mr. Gene Chiarulli, City Bookkeeper
Mark Savoie, City Engineer
Al Reaux, City Engineer
Walter Comeaux III, City Engineer
Larry Champagne, City Supervisor
Mel Bertrand, City Foreman
Elmer Girouard, City Supervisor
Kenneth Wainwright, City Foreman
Chief Brannon Decou, Police Chief
Chief Bryan Champagne, Fire Chief
Mr. Paul Landry, resident and property owner
Mr. Adam Mouton, resident

Absent: Ms. Gertrude Batiste, District IV

Councilman Foco called the meeting to order and Councilman Bonin lead with the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer was done our troops that are still overseas.

Adopt minutes of the May 12, 2009 = Councilman Higginbotham moved and second by Councilman Romero to adopt the minutes of the May 12, 2009 meeting. Roll call:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Paul Landry re: Variance request for 103 Abaco = Mr. Landry addressed the council. Councilman Foco stated the two widths are okay and they are outside of the utility easement. Before he can pour he has to provide a survey of the formwork. Mr. Landry stated he did talk to the developer of the subdivision. Don stated if we approve this, he could be in violation of the subdivision regulations; and he would prefer if we don't get involved in the subdivision regulations. He is supposed to have a 20 foot set-back in the front and he is asking for a 12 foot set-back. Don stated that the subdivision states he needs to get with the architectural control committee about this variance to see if they have problem with this. His proposed house is in a cul-de-sac. The actual architectural committee is Nancy Castette, stated Mr. Landry. Mayor Langlinais stated even if Nancy states it is fine with her, he still needs to go thru the Architectural Control Committee according to the subdivision regulations. Mayor Langlinais requested that he find out who the architectural control committee is prior to spending any more money on this property. Therefore it was moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Romero approved the variance for the front set-back at 103 Abaco for Mr. Paul Landry from 20 feet to 12 feet. Roll call

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

Introduce Ordinance #09-349/Budget Ordinance = Gene stated there are no capital outlay and no raises in the budget with the exception of the police department. It was moved by Councilman Higginbotham and second by Councilman Romero to introduce Ordinance #09-349, which amends the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009 and adopting the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010. Roll call:

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

Councilman Guilbeau questioned about the amendments that were done for the sewer department if that is in here? Gene stated that was done and it was brought back to where it was.

Councilman Higginbotham questioned if we will approach the retirement issue, about contributing more? Mayor Langlinais stated we talked about it last year and it is the right timing of the annual CPI increase for the employees to be at where they need to be. He has told his employees not to expect a substantial increase and the money would be put into there retirement. Each person directs their own account. Mayor Langlinais stated it is up to them what there money was vested in. Mayor Langlinais stated he is asking the council to consider upping their amount versus COL increase.

Revise Employee Policy Guide/Changing pay period to every other Friday =

Councilman Foco stated he believes we are going to scratch this issue from the agenda. Mayor Langlinais stated that he feels we should get paid every other week. Gene stated it would cut down on doing 2 days payroll period. The council didn't like the idea of buying the new software or system for automatic time clocks that would be incorporated into the payroll, which would automatically track the time of all employees. Chief Decou asked if each division head can migrate it in slowly to send the time in electronically, then gradually the system can work. Chief Decou stated he is totally for it. Councilman Rousseau stated if we keep it exactly the same for awhile, then do it electronically then gradually can work it in for other week pay period. We will do a little research on the software issue, before a decision is made on this.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mark's Report:

Bids for Bar Screen and Grit Removal at the new pond = Mark stated at the last meeting had put the bids on the side for the bar screen and grit removal equipment for the new sewer pond, awaiting the approval of BEESD. Moved by Councilman Higginbotham and second by Councilman Rousseau to ratify and accept the bid that was accepted from Johnson Equipment Company for \$295,000. Roll call:

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

Sewer Re-Hab = Mark stated the new sewer job will start this week. We had a couple of fire calls, because of the smoke test. We found 25 leaks the first day. Once we finish the smoke test we will flood the ditches to see where the leaks are. Mark stated they are finding problems. The contractor that is doing the testing will do the repairs. Councilman Higginbotham questioned if we will monitor the repairs? Mark stated that the state will monitor the repairs and if we need to have someone there, we will. Mark stated we have a few smoke tests that were coming out of the culverts.

Al's Report:

New Pond = Al stated the sewer pond contractor is back at the pond. He is anticipating that they will finish this fall which will be a year ahead of schedule.

Cypress Bayou Project = Councilman Bonin questioned about the bids for Cypress Bayou if they were supposed to be let out in May? Mayor Langlinais stated that there is a piece of property that a succession has to be done on that is involved in the Cypress Bayou project. The parish stated that a succession has to be done, because there are 31 property owners. The government can pay for it, because it is a title problem. Don stated if it is someone and they missed them, he understands that they do this. This is the property owner that is holding up the project. All of the permits are in place.

Walter's Report:

Walter stated that he had nothing to report on.

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:

Gene gave the council the monthly report. He didn't change any projections. Basically we are in pretty good shape. Our projections of the sales tax are steadily coming down, however.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

He asked the council to save his report at the agenda to allow us to go into executive session.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Decou stated that he had nothing to report on.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Fires = Chief Champagne stated that they had a couple of fires the last two weeks. One house that was abandoned off of Knight Street burned. It is arson. They will monitor it to see if they clean up the property. Mayor Langlais instructed Tina within 30 days to send the inspector out and to proceed with letter of condemnation if the property is not cleaned up. Chief Champagne stated that they also had a fire a week later; a kitchen fire, not a major though.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:**District I/Councilman Guilbeau:**

Councilman Guilbeau stated that he didn't have anything to report on.

District II/Councilman Bonin:

Trash Pick-up = Councilman Bonin asked if we can contact someone with Waste Management and ask them to please dump all of the trash out of the trash cans and not on the road or ditch. Tina will get with Kelli get in touch with waste management about this.

District III/Councilman Rousseau:

Councilman Rousseau thanked all the veterans that are still alive.

District V/Councilman Higginbotham:

Drainage Issue near Dutile and Delahoussaye Property = Councilman Higginbotham stated that someone is having a drainage issue by the Dutile and the Delahoussaye property. He will send Andre' to Tina tomorrow to get a map to bring to the parish to show them that the area in question is for the parish and not the city. The water doesn't make it to Bayou Tortue. Perhaps Andre' can show the parish that he is indeed in the parish. The outfall is in St. Martin Parish. The area around Mr. Delahoussaye is in Lafayette Parish. Mr. Delahoussaye's house never flooded but his pasture did. The parish should at least come out and look at this. This is on the east side. The erosion thru the sugar cane in Broussard is going towards Mr. Delahoussaye's property which is causing him problems. Councilman Higginbotham will contact Mr. Delahoussaye tonight and have him meet with Tina tomorrow about getting a map and bringing it to the parish to show them the area in question is for the parish.

District VI/Councilman Romero:

Mr. Romero did not have anything to bring up.

At Large/Councilman Foco:

Councilman Foco didn't have anything to bring up.

Mayor Langlinais:

Sewer Districts = Mayor Langlinais stated that he did meet with Gerard Labat with Rural Development about financing for sewer districts. He gave instructions to the engineers to come up with the plans. If we do it by sewer districts, a lot will be done in grant format. There is subsidy financing for sewer. We will merge the sewer board into the sewer district. Once the BESED board had done what it has done to do, then that's it.

Storm Water Plan = Walter stated that he was hired by someone to help someone out that was fined by EPA because he didn't file his notice of intent and his storm water plan. It is here and it is serious. He just wanted the council to be made aware of this.

Executive Session:

Moved by Councilman Bonin and second by Councilman Rousseau to go into executive session to discuss a matter pending litigation. Roll call:

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

Moved by Councilman Bonin and second by Councilman Rousseau to come out of executive session. Roll call:

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

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

John Wainwright = Mr. Wainwright stated that he was sent a letter that stated he could use the dumpsters behind city hall; however he was denied twice. He was told last week that he couldn't use the dumpster because he called DEQ about the city burning on the community center property. If he has to follow the rules, everyone has to follow the rules. Councilman Foco stated the dumpsters are for the citizens of Broussard to use for extra refuge at their house. He is not talking about remodeling at their house. It is not for you to go take someone else's trash and bring it here. Mayor Langlinais questioned Mr. Wainwright if he does contract work? There is always a question in his mind if he is doing for someone else and charging these people for that. Councilman Foco stated it is there for our citizens. Mr. Wainwright stated he has a piece of furniture to throw. Councilman Foco stated call him and he will come here with him and take care of this. It is not to be used to clean up his rent houses. Councilman Guilbeau stated if he can't get in touch with Councilman Foco, he can also call him.

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 = Absent
 District V = Yea
 District VI = Yea

S/Charles E. Langlinais, MAYOR

S/Tina M. Emert, CITY CLERK