

Minutes Of The

November 24, 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  
 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  
 Mr. Gene Chiarulli, City Bookkeeper  
 Jerry Grooms, City Engineer  
 Martin Poirier, City Engineer  
 Brent Broussard, City Engineer  
 Chief Brannon Decou, Police Chief  
 Chief Bryan Champagne, Fire Department  
 Larry Champagne, City Supervisor  
 Mel Bertrand, City Foreman  
 Elmer Girouard, City Supervisor  
 Kenneth Wainwright, City Foreman  
 Quinn Ducharme, Developer

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

**Adopt minutes of the November 10, 2009 Regular Meeting** = Moved by Councilman Rousseau and second by Councilman Guilbeau to adopt the minutes of the Nov. 10, 2009 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. Quinn Ducharme....re: Variance Request to Sign Ordinance #09-352 =**

Mr. Ducharme addressed the council. He has several billboards already up. He built some sign structures. When he came to get some sign permits, Sarah informed him that they had a new sign ordinance. The new sign ordinance deals with the spacing between billboards. He already has clients for these signs. He is asking for a variance on the spacing for 4 locations. There is some that will put them within 100 feet. The old spacing was a 100 feet and now it is 700 feet. Internally 700 feet is pretty broad. The billboards are 6 foot X 12 foot, which are junior billboards. Councilman Foco asked if he could furnish them with the locations that he had previously to this ordinance being adopted. Don stated this new ordinance is something Mr. Boese put together in conjunction with the Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Ducharme stated that he would abide in the future, but these existing locations are different. He stated that people need to be able to advertise for offsite locations. The locations are on Albertson Parkway by Frozen Sun and then near the railroads tracks on Albertson Parkway and then on Highway 89 by Vieux Chene. Don stated we have a meeting in December and he recommended we get a rough sketch of where they billboards are. Mr. Ducharme stated that is the only locations he needs the variances at right now. Mr. Ducharme stated he can get that to Don for Monday and the variance will be voted on at the first meeting in December 2009. Councilman Foco thanked Mr. Ducharme for the new shopping center on North Morgan. Mr. Ducharme stated that they are about 50% occupancy.

**Adopt Resolution #264-09/Purchase of Guilbeau Property =**Moved by Councilwoman Batiste and second by Councilman Bonin to adopt Resolution #264-09, authorizing the Mayor of the City of Broussard, LA to purchase certain property located in the fifth ward of Lafayette Parish, Louisiana, containing four arpents and designated as lot 4-B on a plat of survey attached to act. No 83386 recorded in Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court's Office belonging to Mildred Guilbeau Trahan, Janet Guilbeau Latour, Joyce Guilbeau Vernon, Hazel Romero Guilbeau, Adam Guilbeau and Leroy Guilbeau. Roll call:

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

Councilman Guilbeau abstained, due to the relationship to the family.

**South Bernard Extension Project =** Brent addressed the council and gave the council each a map regarding this project. Mayor Langlinais stated we started discussing the widening of Morgan Street first. Then we discussed the routing of South Bernard road which is parallel to Morgan Street and the sighting of the right of way which is directed to donation. The intent is to build the south half, because of South Broussard developing quickly. Since the route has been changed there are some interested parties that have addressed the issue of donation. They felt because we are taking more property they wanted compensation. The northern portions of Albertson Parkway are still willing to donate. Mrs. Sonnier's request is to straighten it out so that it would dissect her property in half. He did speak to Comeaux Planting to move that section of the road to the east. He and Councilman Foco talked about the jars. The saving of having the road bed on a higher soil would be less cost to construction. Brent stated the yellow

line was the suggestion from council members and residents along the route. After the suggestions, they came up with the new route. The proposed right of way is 100 feet wide. It will go from Albertson's south and tie into Fairfield. The initial design was for a 2 lane road and now it's designed for a 4 lane for growth and that is why it is 100 feet wide. It will also cross 2 coulees. Along Ambassador Caffery there are some issues with curve cuts. The median cut is what is in place now. It will line up with South Bernard Road. Councilman Foco asked Mrs. Sonnier if she saw what they did with the alignment. She did look at the map. Also did Mr. Kirk Mosing and Mr. Adam Mouton and Sue Ann Mouton. Councilman Foco stated they will pass near two houses; Kirk Mosing and Mr. Paul Davis. With the other line it would be almost to his house. Councilman Foco stated this road will only be going thru un-inhabited land. Mayor Langlinais stated he needs to start acquiring right of way with Ambassador coming. Mr. Mouton questioned how many acres are involved? The yellow route nothing will involve Sue Ann's property. Brent stated it will only be adjusted slightly. The council likes the yellow route. Councilman Higginbotham stated this will minimize the people that are living there. Councilman Bonin stated this will save the houses on Morgan Street and with the yellow route this won't even hurt the houses along the yellow route. Mayor Langlinais stated the only problem is we will have to get with the highway department for the crossover. Dean Tekell stated when they go see the highway department they will bring both crossovers. Councilman Foco stated he will get with Mr. Davis when he comes back in town and see what he says about moving it a little. Brent stated that the road could be off set a little bit. Mayor Langlinais stated for the property owners that are impacted it is whether the council will fund the acquisition of the right of ways. Mayor Langlinais stated he is very concerned if we have to pay fair market value because of Ambassador Caffery the property might be scratched. For Caffery the value was \$15,000 an acre. Mayor Langlinais stated he feels we should go from Albertson Parkway south. Adam Mouton questioned if it affects the property that is not useable, will they talk about that? Oscar stated if we don't go to expropriation in the yellow route, we could have serious severance damages. Mayor Langlinais thanked everyone for their input. This will be decided further at the next meeting.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

### **Brent's Report:**

Brent stated he had nothing else to discuss.

### **Martin's Report:**

Martin stated that he had nothing else to discuss.

### **Jerry's Report:**

**DEQ Loan** = In reference to the sewage pond and the revolving loan they were told by DEQ that we could be given a waiver. All the information has been sent to DEQ. He will keep them advised. Jerry stated we would be very fortunate if we do not have to do the EID.

**ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:**

**Monthly Report** = Gene stated on the third page in reference to the Sales Tax we are \$21,000 below anticipated for Sales Tax Revenues. Wish we could be above it, but we are still within budget. Nothing is out of line 4 months into the year.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Don stated he didn't have anything to report on.

**Albertson Parkway Railroad** = Councilman Bonin asked Attorney Landry to shake the railroad again about the Albertson railroad tracks. Attorney Landry will contact them.

**Arbor Trace** = Mayor Langlinais asked Don if he had any response from Mr. McClain regarding that street. Mel stated the culverts were undersized and the pond is still there. Don stated they sent them a certified letter, but he hasn't heard anything back. Our next step would be to file suit against them. The concern of the neighbors is that there would be water problems. Mayor Langlinais stated after he explained the drainage to them they understood. We haven't accepted the neighborhood yet. Don stated if it is a flooding problem he would be concerned on the city, but if there is a flooding problem and they didn't do what they were suppose to do that would also be there liability. Don stated he will try and get with him and report back at the next meeting.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

**Safe Holiday** = Chief Decou wished everyone a safe holiday and safe traveling.

**Radar trailer on Diamond Creek** = Chief Decou stated they put the radar trailer on Diamond Creek. The residents would like the speed limit changed. There results were the average vehicles travels 14.9 miles per hour down that road. Chief Decou informed them in case they are approached about this.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

**Fire Station Damages** = Chief Champagne stated that the station on First Street has been damaged. Someone left a compartment door opened on the truck and backed up and hit the station. Right now they are in the process of doing the repairs.

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

**St. Etienne Road** = Councilman Guilbeau asked Larry if he heard from H& S? Larry stated he met with Tommy Collins and he was waiting on a registered letter from Lafayette to

assure that they will pay him. Councilman Guilbeau stated it would be better for us to pay them. Gene stated it is the parish's contract, so we have to pay the parish. Councilman Guilbeau questioned about the bids on the overlay? Mayor Langlinais stated the intent was for us to wait till the first of the year to see how the economy is shaping up. Councilman Guilbeau stated that he still would like to see St. Etienne done as soon as possible.

**District II/Councilman Bonin:**

**Gondron Lane** = Councilman Bonin stated that he would like to go into executive session to discuss Gondron Lane. This will be done at the end of the meeting.

**District II/Councilman Rousseau:**

**Holiday** = Councilman Rousseau stated that he would like to reiterate for everyone to please be careful during this deadly holiday of the year. Thanks to all the employees for what they do for us.

**District IV/Councilwoman Batiste:**

**Duke Street House** = Councilwoman Batiste stated that she is meeting with Ms. Celestine regarding the fire on Duke St. Ms. Celestin is waiting for the insurance company.

**At Large/Councilman Foco:**

**Clean up on Morgan Street** = Councilman Foco stated he would like to thank the two city workers that cleaned up the fence on Morgan Street. It was full of Cherokee trees that they were cleaning up. They did a good job.

**School Board at Chamber** = Councilman Foco stated at the chamber meeting they had the people from the school board come give a report of what they do with the money. They stated it would cost about 480 million to fix the schools. Councilman Guilbeau stated if they would take the money and put it for the schools instead of just putting it in the general fund that would be better.

**Parish Property Taxes** = Councilman Foco stated he wanted to comment how he was mailed a city property tax and that money is to be mailed to Lafayette Consolidated Gov't and the parish is mailed to New Orleans, LA and he doesn't know why. The only thing he can see is that it is going to a lock box there. This is the parish property taxes; whereas the sheriff is suppose to collect them. Chief Decou stated he heard they were doing a lockbox this year.

**Mayor Langlinais:**

**Ditch off of Hardware and St. Etienne Road** = Mayor Langlinais stated he spoke with Teddy Babin with the state regarding the St. Etienne ditch crossing. He said it was the project engineer that dropped the ball on this. Bottom line is the council will have to get ready to spend

some money to this project. We have also talked to Gilchrist and they have given us a price according to the items on the contract to do the project.

**Executive Session:**

Moved by Councilman Bonin and second by Councilman Rousseau to discuss pending litigation regarding Gondron Lane. Roll call:

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

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

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

**ADJOURN:**

**Adjourn the meeting** = Moved by Councilman Romero and second by Councilman Higginbotham 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. Langlinois, MAYOR**

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