

**Minutes Of The**  
**December 8, 2009**  
**Broussard City Council Meeting**

## Present:

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 Johnnie Foco, At Large  
 Mr. Don Landry, City Attorney  
 Mr. Gene Chiarulli, City Bookkeeper  
 Jerry Grooms, City Engineer  
 Martin Poirier, City Engineer  
 Al Reaux, City Engineer  
 Chief Brannon Decou, Police Chief  
 Chief Bryan Champagne, Fire Department  
 Elmer Girouard, City Supervisor  
 Larry Champagne, City Supervisor  
 Mel Bertrand, City Foreman  
 Kenneth Wainwright, City Foreman  
 Adam Mouton

## Absent:

Mayor Charles Langlinais  
 Councilman Albert Romero, District VI

Councilman Foco called the meeting to order and Chief Decou lead with the Pledge of Allegiance and a silent prayer was done our troops that are still overseas and for Mrs. Earline Comeaux, mother of Walter Comeaux, III and wife of Walter Comeaux, Jr, who passed away on Saturday.

**Adopt minutes of the November 24, 2009 Regular Meeting = Moved by**  
 Councilman Bonin and second by Councilman Guilbeau to adopt the minutes of the Nov. 24,  
 2009 Regular Meeting. Roll call:

District I = Yea  
 District II = Yea  
 District III = Yea

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

At Large = Yea

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

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

Jerry stated that he had nothing to report on.

#### **Martin and Al's Report:**

Martin and Al had nothing to report on.

### **ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:**

Gene stated that he had nothing to report on.

### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

**Gondron Suite** = Attorney Landry stated that briefs were submitted on our side. We should hear something by the end of the year.

**Railroad Tracks** = Councilman Bonin questioned Attorney Landry if heard anything from the Railroad. Attorney Landry stated that he has had no response from them.

**Resolution for Sign Variance for Quinn Ducharme** = Attorney Landry stated that Mr. Ducharme could not be here tonight, but basically this was approved and now just the resolution has to be formally approved. Moved by Councilman Guilbeau and second by Councilwoman Batiste to adopt Resolution #265-09, providing a waiver to Quinn Ducharme for the placement of signs within the corporate limits of the City of Broussard. Roll call:

District I = Yea

District IV = Yea

District II = Yea

District V = Yea

District III = Yea

District VI = Absent

At Large = Yea

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

**Wellness Program** = Chief Decou stated he has already spoke to some council members, Don and Gene in reference to putting together a wellness program for our employees and for the city employees to attend a fitness center. It will be a taxable benefit. The fitness center will charge \$20 a month. The employee will pay the taxes only on this. They are trying to make a healthy employee. This is a voluntary program. He doesn't feel \$20 is much to ask. Don and Gene spoke about this. Councilman Higginbotham questioned if we have to open it to all employees? Don stated yes. Councilman Higginbotham questioned Larry how many of his

employees will use this? Larry stated probably none. Councilman Rousseau stated some insurance companies will come in and do free checks like blood pressure, cholesterol each year. Some insurance companies will cover \$100 percent. It will affect the employees that attend. Councilman Higginbotham stated the budgetary money is there, isn't it? Chief Decou stated it depends how many people will participate. And this company does not have a contract. The council has no problems with this. The city will try this for 6 months to see if it is successful.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

**Wellness Program** = Chief Champagne stated he is working on the same thing. He has some employees on the payroll and some employees are not on the payroll. He stated maybe 10 or 12 will do it. Councilman Foco stated for him to talk to him after the meeting and he will discuss the options with him regarding the people who are no on the payroll.

**Fire Truck Bid** = Chief Champagne stated the low for the fire truck was from Bonaventure for \$332,453.00. The truck body is \$157,120.00 and the chassis is \$167,709.00. The interest payment for the chassis is \$7,624.00. We do have the option of paying for the chassis up front and saving the \$7,624.00. Ferrara doesn't have an interest payment option like this because they have an in house cab being built. If we decide to pay for the chassis up front the total bid will be \$324,829.00. We don't have any additional liability. They take care of the chassis. The chassis will not be in till July 1<sup>st</sup>. Gene stated it will have to be a change order. The budget will not have to be amended this budget year. It will be in the next budget year. Councilman Guilbeau suggested we look at it in July and pay for the chassis. Councilman Foco thanked the Chief and the department for coming up with a fire truck and not a Rolls Royce. Moved by Councilman Guilbeau and second by Councilwoman Batiste to approve the bid from Bonaventure for \$332,453.00 for the new fire truck. Roll call:

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

### **COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

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

**Thanks** = Councilman Guilbeau thanked Larry and Chene and his crew and Bobby Broussard. There were a couple of cul de sacs by Bismark Drive that have been flooding and they found the problem today.

#### **District III/Councilman Rousseau:**

**Christmas Parade** = Councilman Rousseau stated the parade is Sunday at 4 and there will fireworks after the parade.

#### **District V/Councilman Higginbotham:**

**Celebrity Theatre Handi-cap Parking** = Councilwoman Higginbotham stated that he received complaints about the handicap parking at the cinema. The handicap parking there is near the coffee house, which is very far way. That is the way the plans were designed and approved by our planning commission. Don stated someone needs to approach the owner of the theatre and ask them if they can put 4 in the front. The council asked Chief Champagne if he could find out from the State Fire Marshal about the ramps.

**At Large/Councilman Foco:**

**Thanks** = Councilman Foco stated Larry’s people did help him with 2 drainage projects on Larriviere Road and Hulin Road. He tried to explain to someone that dollar grass only grows in a ditch with sewer, which is part of the problem there.

**Others:**

**Adam Mouton** = Mr. Mouton questioned when will the council will bring up the Bernard Road right of way? Councilman Foco stated we still want to talk some of the landowners and besides Walter and the Mayor are not here and he is not prepared to discuss this tonight.

**ADJOURN:**

**Adjourn the meeting** = Moved by Councilman Higginbotham 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 = Absent |
| At Large = Yea    |                      |

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

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