

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA
on Tuesday, July 8, 2025
AT 6:00 P.M. AT 416 EAST MAIN STREET, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

- Present:** Mayor Ray Bourque, Councilman David Bonin (District 2), Councilman Jesse Regan (District 3), Councilwoman Heather Girouard (District 4), Councilman David Forbes (District 5), Councilman Kody Allen (District 6), Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large)
- Staff:** Tina Emert (City Clerk/Director of Administrative Services), Cristen Thibodeaux (Finance Manager), Kelli Miguez (Deputy City Clerk/Administrator of Utility Operations), Graham Beduze (Director of Economic Development), Mark Rigsby (Communications Coordinator), Millicent Norbert (Director of Tourism), Mel Bertrand (City Manager/Director of Public Works), Jamison Abshire (Director of Parks and Recreation), Gerald Delaunay (City Attorney), Randy Lasseigne (City Attorney), Walter Comeaux (Engineer), Daniel Hutchinson (Engineer), Chief Vance Olivier (Police Chief), Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief), Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief), Ben Theriot (Code Enforcement Officer)
- Absent:** Councilwoman Angel Racca (District 1), April Aguilar (Manager to the Mayor's office)

1. OPENING

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance lead by Broussard Scout Troup 55
- 1.2 Invocation done by Deacon Kyle Faber of Sacred Heart Catholic Church

2. MINUTES

- 2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of June 9th Public Hearing and the June 9th Regular Meeting
Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye
Second by Councilwoman Girouard
Discussion: No public comments.
Final Resolution: Motion Approved
- | | | |
|---------|--------------|-------------------|
| YEAS: | District 2 - | David Bonin |
| | District 3 - | Jesse Regan |
| | District 4 - | Heather Girouard |
| | District 5 - | David Forbes |
| | District 6 - | Kody Allen |
| | At Large - | Jeff Delahoussaye |
| Absent: | District 1 - | Angel Racca |

3. OTHER BUSINESS

3.1 Fire Truck Donation

Mayor Vappie with the Town of Baldwin expressed gratitude to the mayor and council members for approving the donation of a fire truck to Baldwin, noting that it will significantly aid in protecting lives and property within the town. Baldwin Fire Chief Cook also thanked the mayor and the council.

3.2 Mr. Jerrod Arabie

RE: Variance request for 320 Hulin Road

Motion to table by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second to table by Councilman Forbes

Discussion: Mayor Bourque has informed the council that he has been working with Councilman Allen, the city attorney and the city engineer to determine the appropriate process for approving the variance request. Due to the discovery that this is a zoning variance, and with input from Sarah Hebert in the zoning department, we are requesting this item to be tabled tonight with the intent to have the item reviewed at the next zoning commission meeting for a recommendation before returning to the council for final approval.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved to table this item.

YEAS:	District 2 -	David Bonin
	District 3 -	Jesse Regan
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Absent:	District 1 -	Angel Racca

3.3 Councilman David Bonin re: Drainage Discussion

And Ms. Jennifer Dischler@ 304 West Broussard Street

Ms. Jennifer Dischler did not attend the meeting. Council Bonin addressed recent drainage concerns following the last rain event, asking the council members about resident complaints. Councilwoman Girouard reported receiving approximately eight calls regarding areas near Howard Street, Broussard Street and Dutchess Street. She also noted that she met with the mayor, city manager and city engineer to discuss specific addresses. Councilman Bonin highlighted drainage issues near Morgan Street and Madison Street and asked City Engineer Walter for updates. Walter responded that improvements are underway, with survey crews active in the area and further survey work is needed to develop recommendations. He also mentioned that property owners are starting to grant easements for ditch and coulee maintenance. City Manager Mel Bertrand added that efforts are ongoing to clear trees, remove silt plugs, and perform excavation work along Coulee Fortune. He reported that the drainage crew is actively working on the ongoing drainage project, which has now reached a wooded area beyond the railroad tracks. Crews are clearing woods and redefining the coulee path, as the area has become flattened and unclear. Councilman Bonin urged city workers to increase the pace of the project, to which the mayor responded that work has been continuous. Bonin also raised concerns about the frequent approval of variances in the downtown overlay district, stating that these variances hinder proper water rerouting and contribute to flooding. Mayor Bourque noted that the recently approved budget includes funding for the replacement of the bridge on Saint Deporres Street, a key component of the Coulee Fortune drainage project. He also highlighted generic drainage improvements, including downtown areas, and expressed support for Mel's crew to continue their priority drainage work.

4 RESOLUTIONS

4.1 Resolution #844-25

A resolution declaring the following item as salvage: Delco Generator 350 KW
Serial #61819

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: City Manager Mel stated the generator, dating from around 1922 to 1931, was purchased about 25 years ago from a hospital. Although it still runs well, it consumes about 18 gallons of fuel per hour and is no longer needed since the old water plant was discontinued.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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Absent: District 1 - Angel Racca

4.2 Resolution #845-25

Approving the re-designation of the Lafayette Metropolitan Planning Organization as the Acadiana Metropolitan Planning Organization and its Governance

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Forbes

Discussion: Mayor Bourque introduced Ms. Sarah Gary, who attended to support an agenda item and answer questions. He explained that the organization involved has accepted Abbeville as a service area, requiring an updated intergovernmental agreement (IG) due to a redrawn map. This organization has been collaborating with the city for several years on federally funded projects like for example the extending of Saint Nazaire Road to Corne Road and Ambassador Caffery Parkway. The project is being led by this organization, which has handled engineering and compliance tasks, including federally required studies. The city now needs to update its IG to remain compliant.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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Absent: District 1 - Angel Racca

4.3 Resolution #846-25

A resolution amending the 2025/2026 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for Main Street Improvements – Phase 2A, 2B and 2C

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: Joseph Marino from Duplantis Design Group shared that they've been working closely with the City of Broussard on the Main Street project for several years. Construction began earlier this year on Phase 2, and while progress is ongoing, unexpected issues have been discovered during the process. The presentation outlines these unforeseen challenges, provides a budget update, and details necessary change orders to keep the project on track. Key improvements include upgrading sidewalks and lighting along North and South Morgan Avenue, relocating overhead utilities underground, and creating a plaza area designed for community gatherings, such as the annual Christmas tree lighting.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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5 ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

5.1 Ordinance #25-831

An ordinance for the Downtown Historic District

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Millicent stated that she presented a proposal to the city council to approve a historic district as part of the Main Street Louisiana designation process. A study committee reviewed historical properties and created the proposed district, which was also submitted to the planning and zoning commission. Mayor Bourque emphasized that this is the final step toward securing the designation and expressed gratitude to Millicent, Graham and the volunteers who contributed their time out of love for

Broussard, recognizing their hard work and dedication. Graham added that passing the ordinance would help secure grants and support downtown revitalization, and he promised to provide a clearer map outlining the district boundaries.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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Absent: District 1 - Angel Racca

6 ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

6.1 Ordinance #25-830

An ordinance amending the Zoning ordinance of the City by adding Map F-14, zoning property along at 1308 Young Street (LA Highway 92), CC- Community Commercial

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: No public comments.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

Absent: District 1 - Angel Racca

7. ADJOURNMENT


MAYOR RAY BOURQUE


TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK


KELLI MIGUES, DEPUTY CITY CLERK