

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA
on Tuesday, January 13, 2026
AT 6:00 P.M. AT 416 EAST MAIN STREET, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

- Present:** Mayor Ray Bourque, Councilwoman Angel Racca (District 1), 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), April Aguilar (Manager to the Mayor's office), Graham Beduze (Director of Economic Development), Mark Rigsby (Communications Coordinator), 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:** Millicent Norbert (Director of Tourism)

1. OPENING

- 1.1 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2 Invocation done by Deacon David Tilley with First Baptist Church

2. MINUTES

- 2.1 Acceptance of Minutes of the December 9, 2025 Regular Meeting
 - Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye
 - Second by Councilman Regan
 - Discussion: No public comment
 - Final Resolution: Motion Approved.
- YEAS:
- District 1 - Angel Racca
 - District 2 - David Bonin
 - District 3 - Jesse Regan
 - District 4 - Heather Girouard
 - District 5 - David Forbes
 - District 6 - Kody Allen
 - At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

3.1 Approval of the November 2025 Financial Report

Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Mayor Bourque stated that the council members received the November 2025 financial report, noting several positive trends. Our latest deposit came in 4% over budget, putting us 1% above budget for the year and the year-to-date totals are now 8% higher than 2024 and 12% higher than 2023.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 2 - David Bonin
 District 3 - Jesse Regan
 District 4 - Heather Girouard
 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Lafayette Parish School System update by Superintendent Francis Touchet

Mr. Francis Touchet provided an update on the Lafayette Parish School System, outlining ongoing projects totaling \$173.7 million over the next two years. He emphasized plans to ensure all schools receive necessary upgrades and remodels, including the construction of what will be the largest football stadium in the state. Touchet also announced that he has signed a contract with the city to help fund new sidewalks near Martial Billeaud Elementary. He explained that LPSS is able to support these projects because it is a bonding district with recurring revenue from bonding capacity. One major goal is that within two years, no schools in Lafayette Parish will have portable buildings. Touchet noted that LPSS is the largest school system in Louisiana, serving more than 29,000 students. He also shared the 2025 SPS scores for Broussard schools, which received A and B ratings, and expressed his commitment to maintaining a strong relationship with the Broussard community. Mayor Bourque thanked Mr. Touchet for cooperating with the contract and contributing to the shared costs of the Martial Billeaud sidewalk project.

- 4.2 Attorney General opinion #25-0139
City attorney Gerald deLaunay explained that the city had an agreement with a contractor allowing development to move forward without all administrative reviews being completed, with an agreement by the contractor to be responsible for the unresolved issue of who was responsible for funding the required turning lane. The council later authorized an amendment to the agreement conditioned upon receipt of an Attorney General's opinion that the amendment would not violate constitutional provisions prohibiting gratuitous transfer of public property. The AG opinion (25-0139), received in November 2026, did not satisfy that condition. Based on this, Gerald recommended that the city meet with the contractor to determine how they will fulfill their obligation and reach a resolution. There was no council discussion on this.

5. RESOLUTIONS

- 5.1 Resolution #874-26
A resolution to amend the 2025/2026 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures to purchase a vehicle for the streets department
Motion by Councilman Delahoussaye
Second by Councilman Forbes
Discussion: Mayor Bourque explained that a city vehicle was totaled in an accident and must be replaced to accommodate the grass crew. Melvin added that the damaged vehicle is for the public works department and that a suitable replacement is available through a state contract. Councilman Regan asked whether the vehicle must be purchased upfront and wanted to make sure that insurance reimbursement is being handled. Melvin confirmed the city was not at fault and that the insurance companies are currently processing the claim.
Final Resolution: Motion Approved
YEAS: District 1 - Angel Racca
 District 2 - David Bonin
 District 3 - Jesse Regan
 District 4 - Heather Girouard
 District 5 - David Forbes
 District 6 - Kody Allen
 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

5.2 Resolution #875-26

A resolution to amend the 2025/2026 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for a sidewalk project along W Fairfield Dr and S Bernard Rd

Motion to amend the amendment as it stands by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second to amend the amendment as it stands by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: Daniel Hutchinson outlined the sidewalk project using a map that traced the full proposed route. The map showed the new sidewalk beginning on W. Fairfield, connecting to the Sabal Palms Phase 2 subdivision, then crossing at the roundabout. From there, the path would continue along the east side of South Bernard Road, extending all the way down to Albertson Parkway. He also explained that the city is repurposing old railcars to create a pedestrian crossing along this route, and these structures will feature the newly designed metal-fabricated city "gears" logo shown in the presentation. The planned sidewalks will provide a 6-foot-wide walking path. Walter explained that the railcar footage and angles would ensure the project is safe for pedestrians. He also noted that the design would connect to existing sidewalks along Albertson Parkway to S. Morgan Avenue, allowing for a complete walking loop. Mayor Bourque noted that a state permit will be required for the pedestrian crossing at Ambassador Caffery, and Daniel confirmed that obtaining that permit is already included in the plan. Councilman Bonin raised safety concerns on S. Bernard Road and asked for barricades due to accidents occurring. Councilman Delahoussaye emphasized staying focused on the current sidewalk project. Chief Vance Olivier said he wasn't aware of any other accidents on S. Bernard besides the one that led to the current barricades being installed. He added that he's willing to gather more details and share them with Councilman Bonin if there are safety concerns or interest in adding more barricades. Melvin stated that the radar signs the city has installed have helped reduce speeding in the curved section of S. Bernard. Councilman Delahoussaye asked whether the city had budgeted funds for this project, and Mayor Bourque explained that 3 million dollars are available from a bond that could be used towards infrastructure.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS:	District 1 -	Angel Racca
	District 2 -	David Bonin
	District 3 -	Jesse Regan
	District 4 -	Heather Girouard
	District 5 -	David Forbes
	District 6 -	Kody Allen
	At Large -	Jeff Delahoussaye

Motion to adopt as amended by Councilman Delahoussaye

Second to adopt as amended by Councilman Bonin

Discussion: Mayor Bourque said he is proposing a new addition to the amendment, extending the existing sidewalk on the north side of Albertson Parkway to reach the Southfield subdivision. Residents in this subdivision have requested that the existing sidewalks near the Grab N Go gas station be extended so they connect directly to their neighborhood. This change would raise the project cost by \$32,000. Councilman

Delahoussaye supported revising the amendment so the additional cost would be included in this project.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

YEAS: District 1 - Angel Racca
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6. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

6.1 Ordinance #25-837

An ordinance annexing property along Fabre Road in section 9, township 11 south range 5 east Lafayette Parish, Louisiana

Motion by Councilman Forbes

Second by Councilman Delahoussaye

Discussion: No public comment

Final Resolution: Motion Approved


YEAS: District 1 - Angel Racca
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 At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

The mayor announced that Coffee with the Mayor and Chiefs will take place on Friday, January 23, 2026, at PJ's Coffee from 7:30–8:00 a.m., encouraged everyone to attend, thanked everyone for coming to the meeting, and reminded everyone to drive safely.

7. ADJOURNMENT



MAYOR RAY BOURQUE



TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK



KELLI MIGUES, DEPUTY CITY CLERK