

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC HEARING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA HELD ON
TUESDAY, June 23, 2020 AT 5:15 P.M.**

Present: Mayor Ray Bourque, Councilwoman Angel Racca (District 1), Councilman David Bonin (District 2), Councilman Jesse Regan (District 3), Councilman Michael Rabon (District 4), Councilman Kenny Higginbotham (District 5), Councilman Ray Gary (District 6) and Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large)

Staff: Tina Emert (City Clerk), Karen Fontenot (CFO), Don Landry (City Attorney), Mel Bertrand (City Manager), Callie Laviolette (Executive Assistant), Holly Cope-Lynn (Director of Tourism and Communications), Walter Comeaux (City Engineer), Brannon Decou (Chief of Police), Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief), and Jeremy Hidalgo (COO)

1. OPENING

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

2. BURTON KOLDER

2.1 2019/2020 Amended Budget & 2020/2021 Proposed Budget

Burton Kolder read aloud some of the highlights of the proposed budget as follows:

Page 1 – There are no provisions for merit raises or for the police pay scale increased for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

Page 2 - Water and sewer rates were increased by 5% and 10%, respectively for the FY# 6/30/21, effective 7/1/20 and again on 1/1/2021. Garbage rates will increase 3.5% from the prior year, contingent upon a rate increase from our garbage collection service provider (increased from \$23 to \$23.81/month for twice a week pickup).

It is not specified in the report but there is an estimated projection of 15% reduction in Sales Tax due to COVID.

Page 4 and 5 are the Capital Outlay Budget Request funded:

Total General Government =	\$ 83,688
Total Police Department =	\$ 268,250
Total Streets & Drainage =	\$ 251,990
TOTAL GENERAL FUND =	\$ 603,928
Total Capital Projects Fund =	\$3,152,604
Total Sports Complex Fund =	\$ 34, 500

GRAND TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY = \$3,791,032

Brad Kolder explained the Sports Complex Fund on pages 27 and 28.

The revenues in the Sports Complex Fund have dipped down due to COVID.

The biggest expense is the depreciation. The expenses are holding steady and hopefully, the revenues will begin to rise in 2021.

Brad went on to explain the Utility Fund on pages 24, 25 and 26.

Garbage expenses now includes branch removal and public dumpsters. That was originally in the streets and maintenance budget, but it has been moved to this fund.

Sewer revenues and expenses still come out with a loss; so that is a reason the rates need to be increased.

Water lease has gone up due to the usage. We do have a good amount of depreciation, but we are still at a loss, which is not bad, because it is almost cut in half.

Burton Kolder explained in the past the rates were low, so we had to have a system in place to move the rates to at least a break-even point in the Utility Fund.

Burton went over the recap in the General fund and the Debt Service Fund.

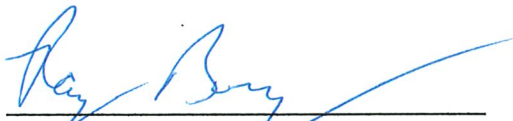
He stated we should have a net surplus after you take out the grants and us not spending any surplus money on operations is the right move.

Mayor Bourque stated this budget was prepared not to cut out any services and not to fund any operations from savings. We felt a budget reduction of 15% in income would be easier to deal with. He and the council are very comfortable with this conservative budget. Burton stated it is very conservative and he feels we will do better like this.

Mayor Bourque complimented Karen on the hours of work she spent preparing this budget and he thanked Burton and Brad.

Burton stated it is always a pleasure working with the Mayor, Council, and the staff.

No comments from the public. The hearing was closed.


RAY BOURQUE, MAYOR


TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK