

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BROUSSARD, LA HELD ON
TUESDAY March 10, 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)

Staff: Tina Emert (City Clerk/Director of Administrative Services), Cristen Thibodeaux (Finance Manager), Kelli Migues (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), Millicent Norbert (Tourism and Main Street Director), 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), Bryan Champagne (Fire Chief), Ben Theriot (Code Enforcement Officer)

Absent: Councilman Jeff Delahoussaye (At Large) Tony Ashy (Assistant Police Chief)

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 the Minutes of February 10, 2026 Audit Hearing
Motion by Councilman Regan
Second by Councilman Allen
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
ABSENT: At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

2.2 Acceptance of the Minutes of February 10, 2026 Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilman Forbes

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

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
ABSENT: At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

2.3 Acceptance of the Minutes of February 18, 2026 Special Meeting

Motion by Councilman Allen

Second by Councilman Forbes

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
ABSENT: At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

3.1 Approval of the January 2026 financial report

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Regan

Discussion: Mayor Bourque stated that the most recent deposit came in 1 percent above budget and the city remains 1 percent below budget for this year. These totals also put our year to date budget 2 percent above 2024 and 1 percent below 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
ABSENT: At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Bus Stop located at Village Square Drive

Mr. Robert Singleton asked the council to remove a bus stop cover that sits on property he recently purchased. He said he is not the one who installed it, yet he has been the one maintaining it, and he believes there aren't any kids using it. Ben Theriot responded with information from the Lafayette Parish School System confirming that this is an official bus stop. He also spoke with the bus driver, who confirmed that children do use the cover when it rains. Councilwoman Girouard added that she personally went door-to-door on Village Square Drive and parents told her their children do use the bus stop in bad weather. The city attorney, Gerald, explained that the city believes there is an easement for the bus stop, meaning the city is responsible for maintaining it. He asked whether Mr. Singleton was requesting that the easement be abandoned, but noted that unless that happens, the city has an obligation to maintain the stop. He also asked if anyone had an alternative location that would still serve the children without costing the city money, but no alternatives were offered. Mr. Singleton then said that in the six months he owned the property, the city did not maintain the bus stop cover. He said it needs cleaning, lacks a proper surface like limestone or concrete, and suggested the city add a bench and a cement slab connecting to the existing sidewalk. Mayor Bourque stated he supports the city maintaining and improving the bus stop cover because he does not want children standing in the rain without shelter. Councilwoman Girouard asked Mr. Singleton, if the city begins maintaining and improving the stop, would he still want it removed. He said he would like to discuss it with his wife before deciding.

4.2 Drainage System Master Plan

Mayor Bourque explained that Broussard has published its drainage system improvement master plan on the city website. The plan details how the city is moving forward with drainage projects and using a systematic, long-term approach to keep water moving out of the city during heavy rain events. He noted that Broussard has made major improvements since the 2016 flood and credited teamwork with the council for approving the funding that allowed the plan to begin. Walter emphasized that the plan will only succeed if it is consistently maintained, and Mel added that crews have been actively clearing Coulee Fortune and removing silt in areas that require ongoing attention. Walter stated that the maintenance work is ongoing and is part of the overall plan.

4.3 Attorney General Opinion #25-0139 discussion update

Gerald explained that this item is an update from last month's agenda and that, after receiving the Attorney General's opinion, he met with the contractor to discuss the next steps. They agreed that the contractor's engineer will meet with the city's engineer to move forward with a plan based on the Attorney General's opinion.

4.4 Acadiana Ambulance Regional Station

Taylor Richard, Regional Vice President of Acadian Ambulance, and Rebekah Cummings, Operations Manager, addressed the council to provide an overview of Acadian Ambulance services. Ms. Cummings shared details on response times, daily patient transport, and noted that 40 Acadian Ambulance employees live in Broussard. She also highlighted a new partnership with the Broussard Police Department to recertify officers in CPR training. Mr. Richard discussed plans to strengthen the partnership by proposing a lease for the old fire station location on Main Street to serve as a regional hub. The facility would allow parking for five to six

ambulances, improve response times, and include interior and exterior renovations. Acadian Ambulance agreed to update the building's exterior to match the Downtown Main Street theme. Mayor Bourque expressed appreciation for Acadian Ambulance as a strong city partner and emphasized the benefits of the investment, including building maintenance and enhanced emergency response. He invited the council's input before moving forward with a lease agreement. Councilman Regan thanked Acadian Ambulance for their commitment and supported the proposal as a benefit to public safety.

4.5 Condemnation update of 107 Loul Street

Emma Lee Washington & Kirk James Washington (Estate)

Ben Theriot provided the council with an update on a condemnation discussed at the previous council meeting. He explained that Ms. Naomi Washington had requested additional time, allowing the city to complete a full inspection of the property, including the interior. According to the building code inspector's report, the home is structurally sound and only requires cosmetic repairs. Mr. Theriot stated that Rodney Richard is prepared to conduct a planning review based on inspection reports and photographs. The proposed next step is to inform the property owners to proceed with obtaining permits and hiring a contractor to begin repairs to bring the home up to code. Minor electrical work is required, which will need to be completed by a licensed electrician. Mayor Bourque asked if granting the property owners an additional 30 days to obtain permits, hire a contractor, and begin repairs would be reasonable, with a follow-up report to the council afterward. Mr. Theriot agreed, noting that this approach would allow the city to track progress effectively.

4.6 Condemnation update of 205 Saint De Porres Street

Lewis Jacqueline Marie Smith (Estate)

Ben Theriot provided the council with a 30-day update on a condemnation case previously discussed for the property located at 205 Saint De Porres Street. He reported that he believes that proper notification had been sent to the property owners, but the city has received no communication in response. Mr. Theriot noted that the city attorney requested additional time to ensure all legal notification requirements have been fully met before proceeding with condemnation. Mr. Gerald recommended allowing more time to confirm compliance with notice requirements prior to moving forward, and this approach was supported as the next step.

4.7 Condemnation update of 219 Loul Street

Lorena Washington, Patricia and Lafair Hebert

Ben Theriot informed the council that the condition of the home, which had previously been in very poor shape, has significantly improved. He has been communicating with the property owner, who over the past 30 days has cleaned both the interior and exterior of the home, removed trash, cut the grass, and restored running water and electricity. The home is currently vacant, has no water leaks, and the owner has begun renovations, including flooring updates, in preparation for making the property habitable for a future tenant. Mr. Theriot stated that the property has been brought into compliance. Mayor Bourque requested that Ben continue to monitor the progress and provide the council with another update in 30 days once the renovations are completed.

4.8 Condemnation update of 313 Gustave Street

Dorothy Flugeance

Ben Theriot reported that the property owner obtained a demolition permit and has fully removed the mobile home from the property. The owner also cleaned up the lot by removing an antique vehicle and plans to place a new mobile home on the property in compliance with zoning guidelines and setback requirements, with proper permits to be obtained.

Councilwoman Girouard asked whether the owner would secure the necessary surveys to ensure setback compliance and Ben confirmed they would be required to do so. Mayor Bourque suggested considering the matter complete, thanked Ben, and expressed appreciation for the positive outcome.

5. RESOLUTION

5.1 **Resolution #883-26**

A resolution to amend the 2025/2026 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures to increase the expenditures for the East Madison Street District 2 Drainage Project

Motion by Councilman Bonin

Second by Councilman Forbes

Discussion: Councilman Bonin addressed the council regarding ongoing drainage concerns on East Madison Street near the intersection of Morgan Avenue. He thanked Councilwoman Girouard and Councilman Forbes for meeting with him on site to walk the area. Councilman Bonin explained that his concern stems from what he believes is lack of drainage infrastructure, noting that one side of Madison Street lacks a ditch entirely while the existing ditch on the opposite side is clogged and not functioning properly. Based on these conditions, he stated that there is currently no effective drainage system in place along this section of Madison Street. Councilman Bonin requested council support for a budget amendment to fund a drainage project he believes would address these issues. He explained that he developed this plan that he believes will resolve the problem and expressed concern that potential future development in the area could worsen flooding if action is delayed. City Engineer Walter and City Manager Mel both advised against moving forward with Councilman Bonin's proposed project. They explained that the plan could potentially route stormwater into a completely separate drainage system west of Morgan Avenue, which could negatively impact residents in that area. Walter stated that the project was not engineered, could not be certified to properly route water, and would create unnecessary risk by diverting water into a separate drainage system. Mel agreed with this assessment and stated that he could not support the proposal due to the potential harm it could cause to other neighborhoods. Councilman Forbes shared that after discussing the issue with the city engineer and city manager, he did not feel comfortable supporting the project due to the risks involved. He noted that the council had already approved a larger drainage project that is part of the city's broader drainage strategy and that he did not want to jeopardize other areas. Walter further explained that the previously funded drainage project, which is expected to begin within the next month or two, will alleviate many of the drainage issues in the area that Councilman Bonin is referring to. Councilwoman Girouard stated that while she observed the drainage problems during the site visit, she supports allowing the already funded and engineered project to move forward first. She recommended completing

that project and then reassessing the situation afterward to determine if additional work is necessary. Councilman Bonin disagreed with this approach, reiterating his belief that potential upcoming construction in the area would worsen the drainage problem and stating that the issue will eventually need to be addressed regardless. Walter responded that while he agrees drainage improvements are needed on Madison Street, the city is already laying the foundation to address these issues through the funded drainage initiative project. He explained that the project went through a required legal bidding process, which caused delays but ensured proper engineering, compliance, and long-term effectiveness. He emphasized that this project serves as the backbone for addressing drainage issues throughout the historic downtown area and questioned the need to fund a separate, smaller project limited only to Madison Street. Councilman Bonin asked City Manager Mel about the potential timeline on the project he is asking for which is the Madison Street specific project. Mel responded that, due to its small scale, it could potentially move forward within a couple of weeks if materials were ordered but reiterated that he does not support the project because of the risks involved. Councilwoman Racca stated that while she agrees drainage improvements are necessary, she prefers to wait and see how the already funded drainage initiative performs before pursuing additional projects that lack engineering approval. Mayor Bourque provided clarification for the audience, explaining that the city's drainage master plan identifies four separate drainage systems in the Old Town area, with Morgan Avenue dividing two of those systems. He explained that Councilman Bonin's proposal would reroute water from one drainage system into another by installing a pipe beneath Morgan Avenue. The Mayor emphasized that this approach is not part of the master plan and lacks engineering support. He then stated that the funded project aligns with the master plan and has been certified by engineers, which is why other council members support proceeding with that project first. Councilman Regan added that the Madison Street proposal is not included in the master plan. He then explained that the already funded master plan prioritizes opening outfalls and addressing major drainage infrastructure before tackling smaller problem areas. He stated that funding should focus on the main projects that will ultimately support long-term solutions for smaller drainage issues. Councilwoman Girouard also noted that there are nine homes on the west side of Morgan Avenue, where the water would be redirected under Councilman Bonin's proposal, that already experience flooding, and she expressed concern that rerouting additional water into that area would worsen existing conditions.

Final Resolution: Motion Failed

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

5.2 **Resolution #884-26**

A resolution pertaining to the Municipal Water Pollution Prevention (MWPP) Environmental Audit Report

Motion by Councilman Allen

Second by Councilman Regan

Discussion: Mel explained that the resolution is a routine requirement of the annual LDEQ audit for the city's sewer pond. It must be included in the standard reporting package submitted to LDEQ each year, and its approval is considered part of the city's regular annual compliance process.

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
ABSENT:	At Large -	Jeff Delahoussaye

5.3 **Resolution #885-26**

A resolution declaring the contract for Main Street Phase 3B Part II be substantially complete
Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Joseph Marino informed the council that the Main Street Phase 3B Part 2 portion of the project, focused specifically on the lighting components, is ready to be declared substantially complete. He explained that the overall project had been divided into two parts because of long lead times for lighting materials and supplies, and this portion covers the lighting work. Joseph recommended approval of substantial completion. During discussion, Councilman Bonin asked about a different section of the Main Street project, not related to this agenda item, and Marino clarified that the area Councilman Bonin referenced is still in progress. He provided a brief update on the asphalt crews and the expected time frames for completing that remaining work.

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
ABSENT:	At Large -	Jeff Delahoussaye

5.4 **Resolution #886-26**

A resolution accepting the lowest responsive bid for a new racket center & observation deck at St. Julien Park

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Mr. Russell Trahan informed the council that Triad Construction was the responsive low bidder for this St. Julien Park project, submitting a bid of \$6,002,000, which came in approximately \$67,000 under budget which includes all architect and engineering fees associated with the project. He recommended that the council approve and accept this bid.

Mayor Bourque added that several contractors submitted bids, making it a healthy and competitive process.

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
ABSENT:	At Large -	Jeff Delahoussaye

5.5 **Resolution #887-26**

A resolution approving and authorizing execution of Act of Abandonment and Acceptance of Donation along Ambassador Caffery Road

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilman Allen

Discussion: Mayor Bourque explained that the city is essentially exchanging a piece of property needed for an upcoming sewer project. Gerald confirmed this and clarified that a portion of unused city right-of-way will be abandoned, and in return, an additional right-of-way area will be donated to the city in the location required for the project.

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
ABSENT:	At Large -	Jeff Delahoussaye

5.6 **Resolution #888-26**

A resolution declaring the contract for the Reserve Lift Station and Force Main relocation project be substantially complete

Motion by Councilman Regan

Second by Councilwoman Girouard

Discussion: Daniel Hutchinson reported that the project involved relocating the sewer force main serving The Reserve Subdivision located off Moulin Road. He explained that the subdivision was originally intended to connect to the St. Etienne Road lift station, but because that lift station had not yet been built at the time, the subdivision was temporarily tied into the Broussard Middle sewer force main. This project disconnected The Reserve subdivision from the Broussard Middle sewer force main system to reduce pressure on that lift station and rerouted the flow to its originally planned destination. Daniel noted that all testing, walkthroughs, and punch list items were completed successfully and recommended the project be declared substantially complete. Mayor Bourque added that this change will help relieve ongoing issues previously reported at the Broussard Middle lift station. Councilman Regan asked Daniel whether the project would also serve the new build-to-rent development located next to The Reserve Subdivision. Daniel confirmed that it would not, explaining that the new development has its own separate system.

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
ABSENT:	At Large -	Jeff Delahoussaye

6. ORDINANCES FOR ADOPTION

6.1 **Ordinance #26-838**

An ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances regulating and governing the subdivision of land in the City of Broussard

Motion by Councilman Bonin to amend the amendment

Second by Councilman Forbes to amend the amendment

Discussion: Councilman Forbes requested an amendment to the ordinance by removing the items on page 45, sections E and F, which relate to lot-size restrictions. Mayor Bourque noted that a motion to amend was on the floor and announced that a public comment card had been

remaining items in place. Walter clarified that the original language on the other changes will remain in the ordinance amendment.

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

ABSENT: At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

Motion by Councilman Forbes to adopt as amended

Second by Councilwoman Girouard to adopt as amended

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

ABSENT: At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

6.2 **Ordinance #26-839**

An ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance of the City of Broussard by adding Map E-5, E-6, property along Garber Rd to be zoned NC-Neighborhood Commercial; Map E-9 property along S. Bernard Rd and Albertson Pkwy to be rezoned from CC-Community Commercial to RA-Residential Accessory & R1-Single Family Residential; Map E-13, E-14, F-13 property along N. Larriviere Rd to be rezoned from NC-Neighborhood Commercial to RA Residential Accessory & R1-Single Family Residential; Map G-8, G-9 property along S. Girouard Rd and U.S. Hwy 90 to be zoned CC-Community Commercial

Motion by Councilman Allen

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

ABSENT: At Large - Jeff Delahoussaye

6.3 **Ordinance #26-840**

An ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance on gas station restrictions in residential areas

Motion by Councilman Forbes

Second by Councilman Regan

Discussion: No public comment

Final Resolution: Motion approved

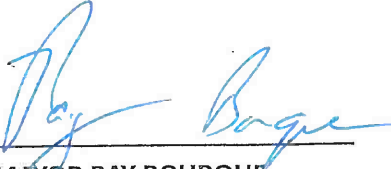
YEAS:	District 1 -	Angel Racca
	District 2 -	David Bonin
	District 3 -	Jesse Regan
	District 4 -	Heather Girouard
	District 5 -	David Forbes
	District 6 -	Kody Allen
ABSENT:	At Large -	Jeff Delahoussaye

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

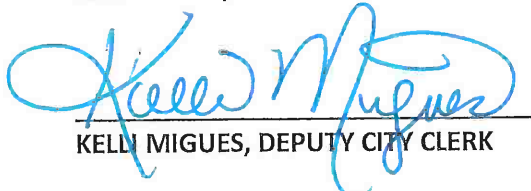
7.1 Coffee with the Mayor and Chief's event

Mayor Bourque announced that Coffee in Broussard with the mayor and chief's will be located at Prejean's in Broussard on Friday, March 20th from 7:00 am til 8:30 am and invited everyone to join them.

8. ADJOURNMENT


MAYOR RAY BOURQUE


TINA EMERT, CITY CLERK


KELLI MIGUES, DEPUTY CITY CLERK