



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
July 23, 2019
5:30pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President, Carlee White Gonzales called public hearing to order @5:30pm

II. ROLL CALL: Kip Andrews (P), Carlee White Gonzales (P), Devon Wells (A), Sam DiVittorio (P), Steve Leon (P)

III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
July 23, 2019
6:00pm or at Conclusion of Public Hearing**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President, Carlee White Gonzales called Regular Session to order @ 5:31pm

II. ROLL CALL: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (A), Sam DiVittorio (P), Steve Leon (Y).

III. PRAYER: Councilman Kip Andrews

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All veterans and active military, please render the proper salute.
Councilwoman Gonzales

V. REPORTS:

1. Council: Councilman Kip Andrews thanked everyone who came out for District #1 Family Day. He stated everything went well and he enjoyed the day. Councilman Andrews, also thanked Chuck Spangler for his donation to the event.

2. Mayor: Informed everyone about the Back to School Bash Friday, July 26, 2019 at Hammond Westside School from 9am to 1pm. Mayor Panepinto, also thanked Judge Gasaway for her involvement.

3. Recognition of New Businesses: NONE

VI. Minutes of July 9, 2019: There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Steve Leon to approve the minutes of July 9, 2019.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Absent), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0

VII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to approve Friday, November 1, 2019, All Saints Day: and Monday February 18, 2020, President's Day for Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Employees for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. Loretta Severan, presented this item informing the Council that the estimated cost was sent out on last week with the amount being between \$10,500-\$11,000 and the departments will absorb it in their budget. The City wants to be consistent with City Court and the Parish.

Councilman Devon Wells entered the meeting.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to approve Friday, November 1, 2019, All Saints Day: and Monday February 18, 2020, President's Day for Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Employees for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0

2. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Children's Discovery Center for \$110,000 from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Lacy Landrum, stated the revised contract was provided to each Council member with the schedule added.

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: thanked Lacy for the revised contract and the schedule. She stated everyone seemed happy with the contract.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Children's Discovery Center for \$110,000 from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to approve Streetside Market located at 201 W. Thomas Suite B, Hammond, La. 70403 to obtain a permit to sell High/Low alcohol and possess High/Low alcohol on premise. Owned by Downtown Market LLC. Jinnie Wilson, state this is a new business that's on W. Thomas. It will consist of several restaurants located on premises. They have met all qualifications and inspections are in place.

Owner Representative was present: Glenn Alack , 17420 Hwy., 190 Hammond: This is a blended concept with a retail market plus restaurants with variety of food. Hoping to open August 6, 2019. They are still hiring and taking applications.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to approve Streetside Market located at 201 W. Thomas Suite B, Hammond, La. 70403 to obtain a permit to sell High/Low alcohol and possess High/Low alcohol on premise. Owned by Downtown Market LLC.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0

2. A resolution supporting the submission of an Apache Foundation Tree Grant Program application for 100 native trees for the City's annual Louisiana Arbor Day tree giveaway. Charles W. Borchers IV stated this a grant applied for the annual tree giveaway and this year the City is targeting 100 trees that are free from the Apache Foundation. No match from the City is required

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Sam DiVittorio supporting the submission of an Apache Foundation Tree Grant Program application for 100 native trees for the City's annual Louisiana Arbor Day tree giveaway.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0

3. A resolution in support of the 2020 Census. Qiana Wiggins, Partnership Specialist with the United States Census Bureau (PowerPoint Available). She stated Louisiana is part of the Atlanta Regional Census Center. The Census is important because this is how you determine money and power and she informed everyone that you do not have to be a Citizen of the United States to be counted in the Census. She wants Louisiana to have its full fair share and thrive and the Census will determine the Political and Monetary power. The goal of the Census is to count everyone once and only once and in the right place. Census data is used to determine Federal dollars. The Census Bureau is hiring applicants for the Tangipahoa Parish area.

Councilwoman Gonzales: asked Qiana Wiggins to reiterate that kids should be counted

Qiana Wiggins: stated children should be counted all the time. This is to assist in head starts, food nutrition, La Chip, & SNAP Programs.

Councilwoman Gonzales: The Resolution also creates a 2020 Census complete Count Committee consisting of 6 members, with each Councilmember to nominate 1 person and the Mayor to nominate 1 person.

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Devon Wells to support a resolution of the 2020 Census.

**Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0**

4. A resolution to approve Change Order No. 1 for Canal Improvements [FY'2019], adding \$30,770.26 for pedestrian bridge extension (Project# 420-11910). Chuck Spangler, stated due to high water washing out JW Davis Bridge it sunk about 2 feet. The change order added 2 spans to the existing bridge- it is a 7 span and now will be a 9 span and the cost will be \$ 30,000. It's now out of flood area it's 60 feet away from the sinking and also work on the east bank of Hazel Street and sod on Scarle side of canal is added.

Councilman Devon Wells: wants more time to review to be sure we're not just putting a band aid on the problem.

There was a motion by Councilman Devon Wells and second by Councilman Sam DiVittorio to **Table a resolution to approve Change Order No. 1 for Canal Improvements [FY'2019], adding \$30,770.26 for pedestrian bridge extension (Project# 420-11910).**

**Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved To Table 5-0**

5. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign the G Suite Ordering Document to purchase the G Suite Business products for the City of Hammond. The contract allows for the City's Microsoft email to be migrated to Google mail with a free first year of service and with a cost of \$37,800 for each year following. Marcus McMillian stated currently the City owns our own posted exchange server and the purpose of Google G Suite gives extra software that's usable throughout the City and the opportunity to join with other neighboring agencies and government. This will assist in our disaster recovery plan due to the amount of storage and will assist with being a mobile City.

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Sam DiVittorio to authorize the Mayor to sign the G Suite Ordering Document to purchase the G Suite Business products for the City of Hammond. The contract allows for the City's Microsoft email to be migrated to Google mail with a free first year of service and with a cost of \$37,800 for each year following.

**Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0**

6. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs for \$1,872 from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Lacy Landrum stated the amount is determined by the Office of Veterans Affairs based on population. The City contributes 8% of the Parish contribution and the budgeted amount was \$2000. The City also provides an office to them over at the United Way Social Services building on Coleman and telephone and internet services are provided.

Councilman Devon Wells: where is building located?

Lacy Landrum: in the United Way building

Councilman Devon Wells: stated he has been receiving calls that the building needs to be pressure washed

Mayor: it's on schedule to be pressure washed

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Devon Wells to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs for \$1,872 from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

**Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0**

7. A resolution to accept the Engineering & Economic Feasibility Report for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade. Webb Anderson, stated the City is under a compliance order by DEQ and this process is to obtain funding.

Lacy Landrum: this is the report that is required by the City Charter to be published 60 days in advance of the election to authorize the City to incur the debt.

Terrance Lee: is there anything on the website that is informing the community about the improvements

Lacy Landrum: Yes, this is what the Council is accepting- it's the Engineering & Economic Feasibility Report and it describes the project in detail. This will allow a new Lagoon at the Current Sewer Treatment Plant that will increase capacity & retention time.

Terrence Lee: asked about the funds in the bond for the treatment plant and will the Charter be amended.

Lacy Landrum: stated we are not amending the Charter the Charter calls for an Election for the City to incur a debt.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Sam DiVittorio to accept the Engineering & Economic Feasibility Report for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade.

**Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0**

8. A resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the City of Hammond, State of Louisiana, to authorize the incurring of debt and issuance of not exceeding \$2,100,000 of Sewer Revenue Bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. David Wolf, Attorney with Adams & Reese Law Firm New Orleans, Louisiana; Informed the Council that he has been working with the administration for a while on this proposed loan from DEQ and he's been working on obtaining the authorizations necessary to receive the loan for the project.

The Hammond City Charter requires election to incur bonded debt and requires an Engineering Report. The election would be held November 16, 2019. The Resolution authorizes a loan up to \$2,200,000 at an interest rate up to 1% the current **rate is .95%** this is a Federal Program administered by DEQ. This is not requesting amendment to the Charter- this is required by the Charter. The DEQ program guidelines allow you to borrow money for 2 years of construction to pay interest only and once the project is complete advertise the principle over a period of 20 years so this is where the 22 years term comes from and if the construction its less than 2 years the bonds may be liquidated in 20 or 21 years. If approved, the next step is to apply to State Bond Commission for approval.

Councilman Sam DiVittorio: what is the life span of the improvements?

Webb Anderson: would estimate 15-20 years

Mayor: last upgrade was in 2010 which was great

Lacy Landrum: this project will increase the capacity and ensure compliance with DEQ requirements The Project is necessary and a critical improvement to Hammond.

Councilman DiVittorio: wants to be sure the project is sufficient for the term of the loan

Councilman Devon Wells: what is Plan B if people do not vote in favor?

Lacy Landrum: The Council would need to change Capital Improvements in the City to pull money from those projects to this project.

Terrence Lee: is this project for the entire City?

Lacy Landrum: this will benefit everyone in Hammond

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Sam DiVittorio ordering and calling a special election to be held in the City of Hammond, State of Louisiana, to authorize the incurring of debt and issuance of not exceeding \$2,100,000 of Sewer Revenue Bonds; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 5-0

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: NONE

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING: NONE

X. ADJOURN: There was a motion by Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales and second by Councilman Steve Leon to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

CERTIFICATION OF CLERK

I TONIA BANKS, CLERK OF COUNCIL, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD **July 23, 2019**
BEING **5 PAGES** IN LENGTH

**TONIA BANKS
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK**

**PRESIDENT, CARLEE WHITE GONZALES
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL**

Persons needing accommodations or assistance should contact City Council Clerk Tonia Banks at 985-277-5610. Request should be made at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.