

Hammond City Council Members

Councilman Kip Andrews- President
Councilman Sam DiVittorio- Vice President
Councilman Devon Wells
Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales
Councilman Steve Leon

City Council Clerk, Tonia Banks
City Attorney, Andre Coudrain



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
February 23, 2021
5:30pm

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President, Kip Andrews called Public Hearing to order at 5:30pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (P), Councilwoman Gonzales (P), Councilman Leon (P), Councilman Wells (A), Councilman DiVittorio (P).

III. PUBLIC HEARING:

1. An Ordinance to rezone a lot being 50' x 150' in the South 1/3 of the SW 1/4 of Blk 7 of the Iowa Addition from RM-2 to RM-3 requested by Tracy Washington located at 211 S. Elm St.; Iowa Addition Overlay (Z-2021-01-00088) Recommendation to deny by the Zoning Commission. Tracie Schillace, stated this is a rezoning request from RM-2 to RM-3 it is on the corner of Elm and S. Hansen in the Iowa Addition Overlay.

Tommy Franklin, 810 Hanson, he's been there for 5 yrs. and does not feel the need for rezoning. The neighborhood is good - it's not the best, there have been recent incidents. He is not in support of rezoning.

Councilman Wells Entered meeting

Louise Bostic, 112 Elm Drive, neighborhood has worked hard to purge the area of blight and encourage owners to live there. A single family home on the property is welcomed but multifamily property is absurd. Asks to deny request to rezone.

Lee Collins, 300 N. Holly, owns the house next door to this property and would like to keep it a home neighborhood.

Karen Ralston, 404 S. Cherry, this property is in an overlay district- the purpose is to secure, preserve, and improve the district's historic single family residential character and protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents. Progress in this area has been made, property value has increased, and new families have moved into the area.

Asking to deny this request

Shuana Seals, 610 S. Range Road, asking the council to please deny this request to rezone 211 S. Elm from RM-3 to RM-2. Approving such a request will potentially open the door for future requests of this type which will eventually alter the character of the neighborhood. Mrs. Seals stated she grew up in Gray's Quarters which is part of the Iowa district and years ago that neighborhood had a distinct character that was defined and maintained by property owners who cared about living in an environment that was healthy, and safe now her old neighborhood has lost its character. Asked to vote against this request.

Lauren Fanally, 608 S. Orange St, enjoys living in the area and it is great to see the blight removed and houses restored. Re-zoning would not be a fit for the neighborhood.

Tracy Washington, 610 Mooney Avenue, property owner of 211 S. Elm, Informed the Council she went to the Planning & Zoning Board for a variance and indicated she planned on building a duplex at 211 S. Elm for herself and her adult children. The intent of requesting the rezoning from a RM-2 to RM-3 was to allow for a variance of

the square footage that would be allowed to build a duplex. She stated this is her own personal residence and prefer a duplex for herself and her adult children. She is moving from Mooney Ave. because of the issues in District #3. Stated she was transparent in the beginning and went through the process and did not ask for any special treatment. The intent is to build a duplex for herself and her children.

2. An Ordinance to rezone a lot being 0.162 acres from RS-3 to RM-3 in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 5/26/2020 requested by Adrien Wells located at 905 S. Mooney Ave. (Z-2021-01-00089) Recommendation to approve by the Zoning Commission. Tracie Schillace, stated the property is currently zoned RS-3 the owner is asking to rezone to RM-3.

Tracy Washington, was available to answer questions on behalf of the owner.

There were no public comments



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
February 23, 2021
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President, Kip Andrews called Regular Session to order at 5:45pm

II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (P), Councilwoman Gonzales (P), Councilman Leon (P), Councilman Wells (P), Councilman DiVittorio (P).

III. PRAYER: Rev. Bobby Showers Sr.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All veterans and active military, please render the proper salute.
Zira Lewis, Hammond Westside Montessori 6th Grade

V. REPORTS:

1. Audit: Michelle Treschwig, CPA

Kushner Lagraize, LLC – Presenting the Audit Report for the year ending June 30, 2020. The City is required to submit the audit report to the Legislative Auditor before December 31 and the deadline was met and is on the Legislative Auditor's website and is a public document. The City received an unmodified opinion and this is the best opinion that could be received. She informed the Council to review the financial statements to read the MDNA that provides a summary of the current year activity and compares to the prior year. The total revenue exceeded the expenses by approximately \$2.4 million resulting in an increase of the total net position from 48.4 to 50.8 very good. Revenue was up from the prior year and the main fund is the general fund (Operating Fund) and increased about \$450,000. Recommends to increase the general fund balance. Compliance with uniform guidance - this is over your grant programs - complied with no findings and is a clean opinion. There were no findings on internal controls and there were no findings on City Court & Marshall's audit. Mrs. Treschwig states the City is doing well financially and she thanked the Mayor, Lacy, and staff for their assistance. She also thanked the Council for the opportunity to present the audit.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked within the departments- do you report transfers between departments

Michelle Treschwig- not between departments – they look at the total transfers not by the department

Councilman Wells, suggests that the next time a slide presentation be presented for the audience.

2. Mayor: stated next Tuesday is the Charter Committee review at Council Chambers at 5:30pm and the public is invited.

3. Council:

Councilman Wells, asked for an update on sewer issues in District #3

Mayor, stated everything that has been brought to his attention has been addressed and when it comes to next year's capital outlay if there are some issues that need to be addressed as far as using camera for the lines that are having consistent problems with backing up lets gets some funds toward the next fiscal year which is July 1st and get it corrected.

Councilman Wells, stated he would like to be a part of the meetings dealing with District #3 sewer. Councilman Wells asked has the City started collecting the \$350 from the rail car fees.

Lacy Landrum, stated the rail car fee goes into effect this month so the first collection will be next month. It's collected after the number of cars that are passing thru.

Councilman Wells, asked for an update on the Building Official position

Lacy Landrum, stated as of Friday there are 10 applicants

Councilman Wells, stated there are issues in this area and we need help from everyone and this month we're celebrating Black History month. In our area it seems like every 2wks a young black male is dying in Hammond. He's been asking for patrol in our area and we need assistance and it won't get better if we don't work together. Councilman Wells asked for updated information on the booking room incident from Councilman Andrews.

Councilman Andrews, last update is they conducted depositions and Seth was completing a case he was working on and hopefully this will wrapped up on within the next 2 weeks.

Minutes of February 9, 2021: There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve the minutes of February 9, 2021.

Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y). Minutes Approved 5-0

VII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to appoint Regina Delaune to the Hammond Historic District Commission to serve the remainder of a four-year term until December 31, 2023. Pete Panepinto, stated she is an owner of Red, White& Brew and additional buildings. She lives downtown and has businesses downtown and will be a good candidate.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked whose term is she filling?

Lacy Landrum, stated Susan Seal's unexpired term

Regina Delaune, 206 E. Thomas, stated she loves Hammond and been here for 9 years and she has invested a lot in the Hammond area and will take the position seriously.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to appoint Regina Delaune to the Hammond Historic District Commission to serve the remainder of a four-year term until December 31, 2023.

Vote: Councilman Andrews (N), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (N), Councilman DiVittorio (Y). Motion Approved 3-2

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance to rezone a lot being 50' x 150' in the South 1/3 of the SW 1/4 of Blk 7 of the Iowa Addition from RM-2 to RM-3 requested by Tracy Washington located at 211 S. Elm St.; Iowa Addition Overlay (Z-2021-01-00088) Recommendation to deny by the Zoning Commission.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked for clarification about the overlay district- does it allow duplexes

Tracie Schillace, these are different requests. The overlay district is similar to subdivision regulations it is extra on top of zoning and the Iowa district regulations that states only single family homes.

Tracy Washington, stated it would have to have a variance from the board of adjustments and in the staff report it says the property size is 50 x 150 which 7500 sq. ft. is. Under RM-3 it would only have to be 5000 sq. ft. for single family and 8000 sq. ft. for attached house. The reason for the request of the rezoning is to reduce the variance size

that in which she would need. Stated the petition she presented states for a duplex not apartments. She stated the planning & zoning commission meetings should be recorded so citizens could watch.

Tracie Schillace, stated the meetings are verbally recorded but not on video

Tracie Washington she recommends to allow planning and zoning meetings be on you tube

Councilman Wells, stated he walked the neighborhood and received 22 signatures. Stated he will go by the books no matter who it is but will follow the correct steps. Everything needs to be done the right way.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to deny an Ordinance to rezone a lot being 50' x 150' in the South 1/3 of the SW 1/4 of Blk 7 of the Iowa Addition from RM-2 to RM-3 requested by Tracy Washington located at 211 S. Elm St.; Iowa Addition Overlay (Z-2021-01-00088) Recommendation to deny by the Zoning Commission.

Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (ABSTAIN), Councilman DiVittorio (Y). Minutes Approved to DENY 4-0

2. Final adoption of an Ordinance to rezone a lot being 0.162 acres from RS-3 to RM-3 in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 5/26/2020 requested by Adrien Wells located at 905 S. Mooney Ave. (Z-2021-01-00089) Recommendation to approve by the Zoning Commission.

Councilman Wells, stated this is in his district and Mr. Adrien Wells is doing good things in the area.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to adopt an ordinance to rezone a lot being 0.162 acres from RS-3 to RM-3 in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 5/26/2020 requested by Adrien Wells located at 905 S. Mooney Ave. (Z-2021-01-00089) Recommendation to approve by the Zoning Commission.

Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y). Minutes Approved 5-0

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

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

****Following Hammond City Council Meeting****

XI. Wilbert Dangerfield Award of Excellence Ceremony

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 **February 23, 2021** BEING 4 PAGES IN LENGTH

TONIA BANKS

HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS

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.