

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, Lisa Cockerham  
City Attorney, Andre Coudrain



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING  
Minutes  
312 EAST CHARLES STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA  
May 25, 2021  
5:30pm**

**I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews**

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

**III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**1. An ordinance to adopt and establish a tax on all taxable property within the corporate limits of Hammond for the Year 2021.**

**Public Works: 2.00 Mills  
General Alimony: 9.04 Mills  
Police & Fire: 10.00 Mills  
Total: 21.04 Mills**

**Lacy Landrum, stated this is an annual adoption, same taxes/rate from last year that was approved by the voters.**

**No Public comment**

**2. An ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Betty L. Brown (owner) to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 7 Block 7 Greenville Park Addition located at 108 W. Green St. Zoned RS-3 (Z-2021-04-00090) the Zoning Commission Recommended approval with conditions 1) this approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Betty L. Brown, and 2.) the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards.**

**Lacy Landrum, stated the staff report is attached, this was originally listed in council district one, but it is in council district 3 there are existing mobile homes in the area and the zoning commission voted in favor.**

**Councilman Wells, what are the HUD standards and ask Ms. Betty to come up, he wanted to know if she reached out to the residents.**

**Betty Brown, 108 W. Green St., owner, stated she obtained 6 signatures**

**Lacy Landrum, report is attached and was presented at the last meeting.**

**Councilman Wells, wants to be sure the residents on the street are ok with this, so he would like to table it until he and Ms. Brown can get together with the residents.**

There was no public comment



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION AGENDA  
312 EAST CHARLES STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA**

**May 25, 2021**

**6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

**I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews**

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

**III. PRAYER: Pastor Barry, St. James AME Church**

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

**V. REPORTS:**

**1. Mayor:**

Shout out to Tydrill Nicole Taylor of the TNT Dancing Dolls from Amite area, went from Louisiana to New York and won. On Saturday May 29, 2021 the Zemurray pool is set to open at 9:00 am

**2. Council:**

**Councilman Kip Andrews, called Shaun Pennington**

**Shaun Pennington, 11515 Willington Lane**, representing Men United, wants to bring baseball and recreational soft ball back to the City of Hammond. Would like to use all three parks. Mr. Pennington is asking to use Martin Luther King and Clark Park every other Sunday, rotating the parks as well as Zemurray Park for all age groups. Thanked the police for their presence at an event they had over the weekend.

**Mayor**, sounds great, city is doing work in the parks, get with Desirae Dotey the recreation director for use of parks. Thanked Mr. Pennington for bringing it back.

**Councilman Wells**, ask Mr. Pennington if he got with Desirae and he thanked him for what they were doing, because it's needed in the community. He will do whatever he can to help.

**Shaun Pennington**, yes he and some other members have already spoke to Desirae.

**Rannilca Henry**, Men United, have been in contact with Desirae, trying to go through proper protocols, the parks need maintenance on the fields.

**Mayor**, we will take care of it

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, she will assist

**Councilman Divittorio**, Calls up Louise Golden, with a problem on Harden Dr. in Lincoln Park.

**Louise Golden, 2800 Anderson St**, there's a lot of drug trafficking in the area, abandoned properties. It's not safe for families and they need more police patrols.

**Bobby Mitchell**, He's familiar with that and they have it on the list for monitoring, will revisit it.

**Chief Bergeron**, Police are patrolling the area.

**Gladys Andrews**, young people have guns and it is not safe.

**Councilman Wells**, they need cameras in the area

**Councilman Andrews**, are there limits on hours for construction projects? Medline Project

**Bobby Mitchell**, 7 am to 7 pm, some exceptions.

**Mayor**, Will make a phone call on it

## VI. Minutes

### A. Minutes of May 11, 2021

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to approve the minutes of May 11, 2021

**ROLL CALL: Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (A), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Approved 4-0**

### B. Minutes of May 19, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to approve the minutes of May 19, 2021

**ROLL CALL: Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (A), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion Approved 4-0**

## VII. RESOLUTIONS

### A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

### B. NEW BUSINESS:

#### 1. A resolution to approve the Fiscal year 2021-2022 Non-Municipal Fire and Police personnel Holiday closing schedule for the City of Hammond.

**Jacqueline Browder**, provided the recommended Holiday closing schedule for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 for Non-Municipal Fire and Police personnel. The only change was the removal of the presidential election.

**Councilman Wells**, can public be given notice of closing schedule

**Lacy Landrum**, we can include city closure schedule in water/city utility bills.

There was a motion by Councilman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio to approve the Fiscal year 2021-2022 Non-Municipal Fire and Police personnel Holiday closing schedule for the City of Hammond.

**Vote: Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (A), Devon Wells (Y), Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y). Motion Approved 4-0**

#### 2. A resolution to approve Mr. Mule's Kitchen located at 118 N. Cate Street Hammond, La. 70401 for High/Low alcohol approval on premise. The ownership is PM Entertainment, Inc. (Laura Hammett)

**Laura Hammett**, stated all the requirements have been met

**Councilman Wells**, What type of food will be served.

**Daniel Lambert (owner)**, stated they would be serving New Orleans style Po-Boys and seafood.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman Andrews to approve Mr. Mule's Kitchen located at 118 N. Cate Street Hammond, La. 70401 for High/Low alcohol on premise.

**Vote: Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (A), Devon Wells (Y), Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y). Motion Approved 4-0**

#### 3. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of The City of Hammond with BFI Waste Services, LLC DBA Republic Services of Baton Rough in the estimated amount of \$46,210.67.

**Jana Thurman**, the city contract is coming to an end and this was the lowest bid. The bid is for dumpsters around the city.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked about items that are dumped outside of dumpster.

**Robert Morgan**, companies will pick up mattresses and miscellaneous items left outside of the dumpster but there is a charge, so it's easier for the city to pick them up.

**Councilman Wells**, who pays for dumpsters

**Lacy Landrum**, residents pay for shared dumpsters

**Jack Steven (YouTube)**, Shouldn't code enforcement fine landlords that leave trash scattered on their properties?

**Robert Morgan**, individuals can be sited for dumpster overflow. Notice can be given and they have 48 hours to remove.

**Jana Thurman**, will ask company what the charge is for overflow removal.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman DiVittorio** to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract on behalf of The City of Hammond with BFI Waste Services, LLC DBA Republic Services of Baton Rouge.

**VOTE: Councilman Wells (N), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (A) Councilman Andrews(Y). Motion Approved 3-1**

4. A resolution 1) supporting the submission of a \$14,800 grant application to the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership to purchase new and replacement body armor for Hammond police officers; and 2) supporting a cash match of \$7,400 from the Hammond Police Department.

**Charles Borchers**, this is to purchase 20 police vests

**Councilman Wells left the meeting**

**Chief Bergeron**, vests are purchased every year to keep rotation, so they won't have to purchase 80 vest at one time.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrew** and second by **Councilman Andrews** 1) supporting the submission of a \$14,800 grant application to the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership to purchase new and replacement body armor for Hammond police officers; and 2) supporting a cash match of \$7,400 from the Hammond Police Department.

**Vote: Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (A), Devon Wells (A), Kip Andrews (Y) Sam DiVittorio (Y). Motion Approved 3-0**

5. A resolution authorizing the purchase of a Generac generator from Arcco for a cost of \$37,970.84 under state contract #4400013651 and authorizing the expenditure of up to \$80,000 allocated in the FY2021 budget for the installation of a generator for City Hall and the Council Chambers. (Lacy Landrum)

**Lacy Landrum**, contract is approaching its expiration and money has already been appropriated in the budget. Generator will be used for City Hall and Council Chambers.

**Councilman Wells returned to the meeting**

**Councilman Andrews**, what other buildings were left out

**Lacy Landrum**, believes this is the last building without a generator.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Andrews** authorizing the purchase of a Generac generator from Arcco for a cost of \$37,970.84 under state contract #4400013651 and authorizing the expenditure of up to \$80,000 allocated in the FY2021 budget for the installation of a generator for City Hall and the Council Chambers.

**VOTE: Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (A), Councilman Andrews(Y). Motion Approved 4-0**

6. A Resolution to hire an attorney to represent the City of Hammond in the lawsuit entitled Edwin Bergeron, Patrick Dean, Denver Golmon, Jennifer Payne, Craig Dunn, Thaddeus Gautier, Chase Zaffuto, Brain McCormick and Thomas Mushinsky versus the City of Hammond #2021-0001375 division "F" Twenty First Judicial District Court, Tangipahoa Parish. (Councilman Devon Wells)

**Councilman Wells**, requested to move forward with hiring an attorney to represent the city.

**Carolyn Harold, 228 Cherie Dr**, crime is down in the city based on FBI data base. Use of force evaluation does not require an attorney. What is the goal? This is not an investigation, we need to move forward from 2017.

**Councilman Andrews**, we want to move forward.

**Debra McQueen (Youtube), 1002 Magazine St.**, why are officers suing the city?

**Councilman Andrews**, Officers filled a lawsuit to prevent them from being called to testify.

**Shauna Seals, 610 S. Range Road**. Please clarify what the expected outcome is from the investigation which has turned into a lawsuit.

**Councilman Andrews**, report will be provided to the citizens.

**Patricia Amos, Whitmore Acres**, why can't we use the city attorney?

**Jack Stevens**, How much money has the council spent on attorney fees so far?

**Nnenna Minimah - 52 Whitmar Dr, (Youtube)** Can we get a summary of what role/duties have in representing the city.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales to table, because item was added to the agenda on Monday. The Council president declared the motion dies for lack of second.**

**There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to hire an attorney to represent the City of Hammond in the lawsuit entitled Edwin Bergeron, Patrick Dean, Denver Golmon, Jennifer Payne, Craig Dunn, Thaddeus Gautier, Chase Zaffuto, Brain McCormick and Thomas Mushinsky versus the City of Hammond #2021-0001375 division "F" Twenty First Judicial District Court, Tangipahoa Parish.**

**Vote: Councilwoman Gonzales (N), Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (A) Councilman Wells (Y). Motion Approved 3-1**

**VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:**

**A. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Final adoption of an ordinance for a text amendment to Ordinance # 14-5364 regarding Article 6.1.3 Mixed Use MX-N to remove several allowed uses (TA-2020-07-00019).**

**Lacy Landrum**, suggested to refer this back to zoning commission for its recommendations and for further research.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio to refer this matter back to the Zoning Commission for its recommendations and further research.**

**ROLL CALL: Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (A), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion Approved 4-0**

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Final adoption of an ordinance to adopt and establish a tax on all taxable property within the corporate limits of Hammond for the Year 2021. (Lacy Landrum)**

<b>Public Works:</b>	<b>2.00 Mills</b>
<b>General Alimony:</b>	<b>9.04 Mills</b>
<b><u>Police &amp; Fire:</u></b>	<b><u>10.00 Mills</u></b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>21.04 Mills</b>

**Notice was given for any public comment and there was no Public Comment**

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to adopt and establish a tax on all taxable property within the corporate limits of Hammond for the Year 2021 as follows:  
Public Works: 2.00 Mills**

General Alimony: 9.04 Mills  
Police & Fire: 10.00 Mills  
Total: 21.04 Mills

**ROLL CALL: Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon ( A ), Councilman Wells ( Y ), Councilman DiVittorio ( Y ), Councilman Andrews ( Y ) Motion Approve d 4-0**

**2. Final adoption of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Betty L. Brown (owner) to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 7 Block 7 Greenville Park Addition located at 108 W. Green St. Zoned RS-3 (Z-2021-04-00090) the Zoning Commission Recommended approval with conditions 1) this approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Betty L. Brown, and 2.) the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards.**

Councilman Wells, asked for signatures

Lacy Landrum, signatures are not required, planning and zoning does not require signature

Councilman Wells, asked for it to be tabled

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to table this item

**ROLL CALL: Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (A), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion Approved 4 – 0 to table**

#### **IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:**

**1. Introduction of an ordinance to transfer \$450,000 from the Downtown District (207) Ending Fund Balance to the Railroad Park project (11917) for park construction.**

Chelsea Tallo-Little, DDD is allocating funds to improve its space. This is two projects- one is for the current public space behind the DDD office and renovation of the DDD building to add public restrooms. Most of the funds will come from the DDD budget.

Councilman Wells left the meeting

**2. There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to transfer \$450,000 from the Downtown District (207) Ending Fund Balance to the Railroad Park project (11917) for park construction.**

**ROLL CALL: Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (A), Councilman Wells (A), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion Approved 3-0 to introduce**

**Public hearing is set for June 8, 2021 at 5:30 pm**

**2. Introduction of an ordinance to transfer \$160,000 from the Sales Tax (203) Ending Fund Balance to the Railroad Park project (11917) for park construction.**

Lacy Landrum, asking for this to be introduced for a public hearing, this would be the city's portion to help with downtown improvements. The sales tax fund balance and the consolidated fund balance are attached. Asking for introduction so they can have a full public hearing and a slide show.

Councilwoman Gonzales, ask about the slide show/ hyperlinked

Lacy Landrum, the package is just a summarization of plans.

Chelsea Tallo- Little, this funding is requesting the city to pay for the sidewalk improvements and the reinforcement of the alley, behind the building, improvements on Thomas and Railroad.

Councilman DiVittorio, are there sidewalks already there.

Lacy Landrum, yes this is an enhancement and a widening of the sidewalks and reinforcements of the alley.

Councilman Andrews, make sure there is enough space for truck to get in the alley and not crack the sidewalks.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to transfer \$160,000 from the Sales Tax (203) Ending Fund Balance to the Railroad Park project (11917) for park construction.

ROLL CALL: Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (A), Councilman Wells (A), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion Approved 3 - 0 to introduce

Public hearing is set for June 8, 2021 at 5:30 pm

3. Introduction of an ordinance to transfer \$100,000 from the Sales Tax (203) Ending Fund Balance to the new DDD Building Renovation project to add public restrooms.

Lacy Landrum, this is to move and make restrooms available to the public and ADA accessible.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to transfer \$100,000 from the Sales Tax (203) Ending Fund Balance to the new DDD Building Renovation project to add public restrooms.

ROLL CALL: Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (A), Councilman Wells (A), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) 3-0 Motion Approved to introduce

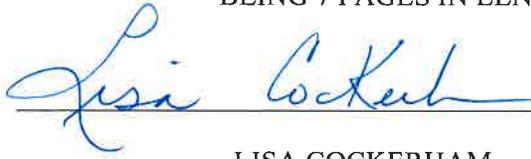
Public hearing is set for June 8, 2021 at 5:30 pm

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

**CERTIFICATION OF CLERK**

I LISA COCKERHAM, 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 MAY 25, 2021

BEING 7 PAGES IN LENGTH



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LISA COCKERHAM  
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

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PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS  
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL