

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
MEETING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
February 22, 2022**

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

III. PUBLIC HEARING:

1. An Ordinance by Starwood Management Co., LLC and Alice Sheridan to revoke a portion of George Perkins Sr. Dr. right of way and resubdivide 3 lots in Block 5 and Block 6 of Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 609 Mooney Ave. and 701 Mooney Ave., in accordance with a survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; Zoned RM-2.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that the zoning commission recommended approval.

Marion Sheridan, Alice Sheridan's daughter, 606-609 S. Mooney Ave, stated that they are not interested in the revocation of 609 S Mooney Ave.

Councilman Wells, stated for the record, that her mother was deceased and the community doesn't want this to take place.

2. An Ordinance to rename Mooney Park to Gibson Memorial Park.

Councilman Wells, stated that they were looking for a name for the park and once they found out they could rename the park he began to move ahead with the process. He stated that the community was divided 50/50.

Robin G. Chapman, 112 Mississippi St, stated that she has lived in Hammond all of her life. She stated that she commends Mr. Wells, her councilman for all the work that he has done in their community but she is not in favor of the name of the park being changed. She further stated that she doesn't think they should name the park just because people are deceased, but for people that have a history with contributing to that park or community. She stated that if that is a conversation, it should be had with the whole community and not a selected few.

Lacy Landrum, stated the name Mooney comes from the first mayor of Hammond.

Councilman Wells, called up Marion Sheridan and stated for the record that her grandfather sold the land to the city to build the park and he spoke with her and she stated that she did not have a problem with it but some of the family members might. He stated to city attorney Andre Coudrain that he would like to take the item off the agenda until they have further discussions in the community.

Andre Coudrain, stated that we were in the public hearing and that it could take place when we get to the final adoption. He stated that the council could remove, table, vote for or against the item.



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I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

III. PRAYER: President Kip Andrews

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

V. REPORTS:

Mayor: Lacy Landrum stated that the Mayor would not be present tonight due to illness.

Council:

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated she was having a town hall meeting tomorrow night February 23 at 5pm in council chambers, for district two to address some crime issues, HPD and Crime stoppers will be there.

Councilman Wells, stated that on Sunday the new bathrooms in Mooney Park were locked all day. He stated the old bathrooms need to be tore down and the new bathrooms are locked and they are not serving a purpose. The time was 1:30pm he was in the park.

Councilman Wells, asked about the status of the stop signs on Phoenix and Spruce.

Lacy Landrum, stated they have to have a committee meeting to discuss the different perspective of that along with first responders. They are looking at data and asked for information on accidents that have not been reported.

Councilman Wells, called Ms. Cox forward stating that she is one of the people that requested the stop signs.

Joyce Cox, 404 Phoenix Square, stated that cars are racing, 18 wheelers are coming through knocking down wires, and cars are parked on the street and sidewalks. She stated she always calls to make reports to send some on out to slow traffic down. She stated they need a stop sign to slow down traffic and they need assistance.

Stacy Watson, stated that she lived on Phoenix for over seventeen years and she stated that the speed coming through there is unbearable and a stop sign is needed.

Lena Harrison Martin, 504 Phoenix Square, stated they need stop signs as well as signs for the eighteen wheelers. She stated that her wires have been knocked down more than once. She stated she saw racing.

Councilman Wells stated that he was going to go out and pick out some streets in the good community where he doesn't see any of these issues taking place and he wants the same data. He stated this was his second time in three years asking about a stop sign, it took two years to get the first stop sign.

Lacy Landrum- stated she appreciates everyone speaking and it helps them to hear the different perspectives. She stated that multiple people are involved in the decision, first community responders, City civil engineers, and the streets department director. She stated the information received tonight is important.

Councilman Wells, stated that he wanted to see the same data from other neighborhoods.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked, what do we have as a policy on stop signs, the process of getting one and is there something in writing and who's all involved

Lacy Landrum, stated that's what she just described, the city engineer, street department director, usually the council person from that district, the mayor, fire, police and Acadian Ambulance. She stated it was similar to what a speed hump is.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked is that an ordinance.

Lacy Landrum, stated it was not an ordinance to her knowledge.

Councilman Andrews, Called up Mr. Dennis Wise of Recyclops for a presentation.

Dennis Wise, 619 Mill Street, Raleigh, NC, made a presentation on recycling, they are an online subscription service and there is no cost to the city.

Council President Andrews, congratulated officers who were promoted in the Hammond Police Department.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Wells** to approve the January 25, 2022 minutes.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

Approval of Minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Wells** to approve the February 8, 2022 minutes.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

VII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Civix for \$88,415 to conduct a housing and residential areas strategic growth study (RFP 22-16). See pages 33-34 for cost details. (Lacy Landrum)

Element 1, Housing Inventory & Enhancement Area Identification,	\$26,385
Element 2, Enhancement Areas Need & Opportunity Assessment,	\$44,210
Element 3, Review, Research & Recommendations	\$17,820
Housing Study Total Cost	\$88,415

Lacy Landrum, stated there were two attachments, they received several proposals back and they were reviewed by the housing committee and sub-committee. They have made a recommendation to enter into a contract with Civix and at this time would like to make that contingent upon council appropriation. They are going to go into further discussion and negotiations with Civix, upon your approval, they are the selected consultant to see what they can get in terms of best pricing.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that members of the committee spoke highly of the Civix Company.

Lemar Marshall, 1104 Rue Chalet, committee member, stated they graded each RFP and the group they chose was the best group. They already voted in a committee to do the process.

There was a motion by **Councilman DiVittorio** and second by **Councilman Wells** to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Civix subject to negotiation on price to conduct a housing and residential areas strategic growth study and subject to appropriation (RFP 22-16).

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

2. A resolution to approve Kangaroo #553 located at 1200 S Morrison Blvd Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is MM CS Services, LLC. (Kasey Daigle)

Kasey Daigle, stated this was a change of ownership and owners have met all the requirements.

Michael Joiner, representative for the company was present

Councilman Wells, thanked him for his business and welcomed him to the community

There was a motion by **Councilman DiVittorio** and second by **Councilman Wells** to approve Kangaroo #553 located at 1200 S Morrison Blvd Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is MM CS Services, LLC.

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

3. A resolution for the Hammond City Council to accept the recommendations from Seth W. Stoughton's report and initiate developing a request for proposals to solicit information from private entities that will conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations. (Councilman Wells)

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to table a resolution for the Hammond City Council to accept the recommendations from Seth W. Stoughton's report and initiate developing a request for proposals to solicit information from private entities that will conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations.

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

4. A resolution supporting the submission of a \$45,000 application to the Traffic Safety Grant Program for Impaired Driving, Occupant Protection, and Juvenile Underage Drinking Enforcement. (Charles Borchers IV)

Charles Borchers, stated that there was no match requirement and this was an overtime based grant to be used to cover overtime, DUI check points and juvenile underage drinking.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to approve supporting the submission of a \$45,000 application to the Traffic Safety Grant Program for Impaired Driving, Occupant Protection, and Juvenile Underage Drinking Enforcement.

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

5. A resolution approving the purchase of an emergency generator for Lift Station 51 (located on Hipark Boulevard in District 3) in the amount of \$44,624.83 under Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program Grant 58562A (City Project 32102). (Charles Borchers IV)

Charles Borchers, stated that this was a purchase from ARCCO, and is under state contract pricing, and the funds will be coming out of the project cost account.

Councilman Wells, stated that there were issues in other areas that need emergency generators for sewer.

Lacy Landrum, stated that projects for sewer on Mississippi and Mooney has already begun.

Councilman Wells, stated sewer issues in his area needs immediate attention and all the sewer from other areas are coming through District 3 and this should be a priority. He stated they have a major problem. He stated he wants the same things for district 3 that other communities have. Let's get the sewer out of the people houses in District 3.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if this was a grant and if this was within budget.

Charles Borchers, answered yes.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon approving the purchase of an emergency generator for Lift Station 51 (located on Hipark Boulevard in District 3) in the amount of \$44,624.83 under Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program Grant 58562A (City Project 32102)

Councilman Wells, asked Lacy Landrum for the data on the stop sign and sewer and he's going to give them the data on everyone that has gotten sewer in their houses.

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

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance by Starwood Management Co., LLC and Alice Sheridan to revoke a portion of George Perkins Sr. Dr. right of way and resubdivide 3 lots in Block 5 and Block 6 of Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 609 Mooney Ave. and 701 Mooney Ave., in accordance with a survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; Zoned RM-2. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger. Planning and Zoning recommended approval, he also stated that this was a pending case when he started.

Councilman Wells, asked, did he get a legal opinion regarding Adrien Well and Lillie Scott. He also stated that he wanted the same for every person and be fair to everyone.

Earnestine Scott, 407 White St. stated it was out of order to mention her deceased mother.

Councilman Wells, asked Earnestine Scott if she approved of what the city wants to take place for Starwood.

Earnestine Scott, she stated she did not know what they were trying to do.

Councilman Wells, state that they were trying to give him property.

Claude Sims, stated his homestead is at 806 S. Mooney Ave, and that the area is for single family property dwellings and don't think the property should be given to Mr. Starwood to make any other type of development. He stated he was appalled to hear talk of his auntie Ms. Lillie Scott with regard to the property and her death.

Councilwoman Gonzales, wanted clarification on what was going on.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that duplexes are allowed in that area and the lot sizes are issues.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated, the intention would be to make the lot bigger and therefore meet the requirement and not need a variance. She asked if he doesn't have the lot made bigger he would need a variance for a duplex.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated the he's making a lot bigger but wasn't approved to do a duplex

Sam DiVittorio, stated the lot is zoned for duplexes, but asked, right now does the minimum square footage to build a duplex or does he need the additional land from the city street that's abandoned to add to that lot.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that he doesn't have enough room for a duplex.

Ron Matthews, 905 Del Mar, Planning and Zoning Commissioner, stated that it's in the council's hand, it's up to the city to decide what to do. He asked city attorney Andre Coudrain, if a landowner doesn't want a portion of the revocation what do you do?

Andre Coudrain, stated that if the property is revoked, the landowner can do what they want with the property and he stated the state law that if revoked, the property is split down the middle to the adjoining landowners.

Jacqueline Taylor, 809 S. Chestnut, stated when you get a permit, should you ask the people in the neighborhood do they want to allow complexes etc. She stated that FEMA was putting trailers in the neighborhood in the city limits.

Lacy Landrum stated that the council passed an emergency ordinance it is for a limited time and must be permitted through the building permit office. She asked Jacqueline if she have any that they need to look at they would be happy to go out and see if they moved in without permission.

Jacqueline Taylor, also stated that they needed to clean the out the canals.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to deny an Ordinance by Starwood Management Co., LLC and Alice Sheridan to revoke a portion of George Perkins Sr. Dr. right of way and resubdivide 3 lots in Block 5 and Block 6 of Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 609 Mooney Ave. and 701 Mooney Ave., in accordance with a survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; Zoned RM-2.

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

2. Final adoption of an Introduction of an ordinance to rename Mooney Park to Gibson Memorial Park. (Councilman Wells)

Councilman Wells, stated that he was going to take this item off the agenda and go back to the community and decide on what to name Mooney Park.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to remove an introduction of an ordinance to rename Mooney Park from the agenda.

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

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an Ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated that this is an amendment that is done after the audit is completed. All they are doing is changing the beginning fund balances to match the actual balances. She stated this would add money to the budget to give flexibility for projects. She also stated that the city is running ahead on the sales tax revenue. They are requesting the addition of four million dollars to be added into the sales tax revenue line item.

Carlee Gonzales, Asked about the salary study.

Lacy Landrum, stated that we will be getting the numbers by the end of this month.

Councilman Wells, asked that information on meeting with the salary study consultant be posted on everyone's check.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for March 8, 2022 at 5:30

2. An Ordinance to Amend the Hammond Unified Development Code to Add the Suburban Highway Overlay District. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that planning and zoning commission gave a recommendation to amend. The report outlines everything and he included a map that outlines the areas.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked, have the affected property owners been give notice.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that state law states, when you are doing a large rezoning such as this, it's almost impossible to notify the property owners that it is taking affect and by state law you do not have to notify all the individual property owners when you are doing a major changing in zoning like this. The answer is no.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked it was possible to reach out to the media so that it's put in the newspaper, so that people would know that it's happening

Jeffery Leuenberger, state that we could do a press release and he would get the report on the website to make sure all the information is out there

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio to introduce and ordinance to amend the Hammond Unified Development Code to Add the Suburban Highway Overlay District.

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for March 8, 2022 at 5:30

X. ADJOURN: there was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilman DiVittorio to adjourn. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned. 5-0

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
TRANSACTION AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD FEBRUARY 22,
2022
BEING 7 PAGES IN LENGTH

LISA COCKERHAM
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL

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