I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

III. PUBLIC HEARING:

An Ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Rashetta Williams (owner) and Joseph Williams (applicant) to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 7A Rose Hill Park Subdivision; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2021-11-00095) 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 Rashetta Williams or Joseph Williams, and 2) the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger, City Planner stated that this item was introduced at the meeting on December 14, 2021 and the commission recommends approval.

There was no public comment.
I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

III. PRAYER: Pastor Patricia Bell, New Life Outreach Ministries

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

V. ELECTION

A. Election of President of City Council for 2022

There was motion by Councilman Devon Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to elect Councilman Kip Andrews to the position of City Council President for year 2022.

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

B. Election of Vice President of City Council for 2022

There was motion by Councilman Devon Wells and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to elect Councilman Sam DiVittorio to the position of City Council Vice President for year 2022. Motion Approve 5-0

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

VI. REPORTS:

Mayor: Stated he didn’t have anything to report at this time and asked that Doctor Rob Peltier from North Oaks come up and let us know what is going on in our community.

Dr. Robert Peltier, Chief Medical Officer, North Oaks Health System came forward and gave a presentation on Covid in the community. He stated that we were in another wave of Covid and gave several statistics.

Councilman Wells, asked the doctor his recommendation about wearing a mask.

Dr. Peltier, stated to wear a mask when close to people, and to spread out and social distance. He stated that everything we have done in the past, has proved to work. He explained the purpose and types of masks.

John Hatcher, 44016 Parker Blvd, asked about passing the peak of Covid cases

Dr. Peltier, stated that this was a Washington state model that had us peaking on January 8th or 9th and according to their model we passed the peak. He stated that it was a good educated guess based off of data.

John Hatcher, asked the doctor to explain how are passed the peak when students are coming back from the holiday break.

Dr. Peltier, stated yes that is an issue and it’s not his model and he began to explain the model. He stated that there were some benefits to the model and not some benefits of that model and he explained some of the variables.

Council President Andrews, thanked the doctor for coming out and keep us informed.

Council:

Councilman Wells, asked the administration for an update on sidewalks and drainage that was approved in July. He stated that he emailed Mr. Chuck to let him know that he would be asking this question.

Mayor, stated that we have already started on some projects, the projects that the council has approved. He also stated that they are hoping to have all the projects finished. Asked what particular projects he is asking about.

Councilman Wells, stated the sidewalk on Coleman St., drainage on Mooney Ave, Mississippi St., Reed St.
Lacy Landrum, stated that those were all in this fiscal year and was approved in July and are under design, unsure of the date that they will be coming out for bid, but she can get that to him.

Councilman Wells, stated that he also talked to Mr. Chuck about not putting all the jobs under one contractor. He also asked for an update on the railroad spur. How much have we collected since we started picking up the fund?

Lacy Landrum, stated she does not have that number off the top of her head, but she can look it up and give it to Councilman Wells tomorrow.

Councilman Wells, stated that the park was coming along and he thanked the Mayor and the administration for the work on Mooney Park.

Councilman Wells, stated that they have had two deaths and he would like to find out what’s going on.

Chief Bergeron, stated that the coroner’s office does an autopsy to determine the cause of death.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked Lacy that when she check on Councilman Wells request can she check on Lincoln Park, purchase of picnic table, upgrades and resurfacing.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman Leon to approve the minutes of December 14, 2021

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 from the Charter Review Committee to request an extension until March 31, 2022, to deliver the committee’s report. (Frank DiVittorio)

Frank DiVittorio, Chair of the Charter Review Committee stated that he was asking for an extension to the deadline due to hurricane and other factors.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to approve a resolution from the Charter Review Committee to request an extension until March 31, 2022, to deliver the committee’s report.

Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Motion approved 5-0

2. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, presented this item and stated that this was the 5th annual Art of the Cocktail, they will have two types of tickets and there will be wrist bands and carding for age.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401.

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

3. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum presented this item and stated that this was the same as the resolution before it. This is a waiver of open container.

Councilman Wells, asked why didn’t she put the two together?
Lacy Landrum stated, you are doing two separate things, one is for serving alcohol and one is for waiver of the open container ordinance. This is how the State wants the special events permits to come to them. They like to see that you are authorizing the sale of alcohol which is one versus the open container, which is the second resolution. The State prefers that they be separate.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio authorizing the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401

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

4. A resolution to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks. (Joseph Dominick)

Joseph Dominick of 43 Pine Square presented this item and stated that he was a member of the Hammond Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club. He also stated that this is their 2nd Annual Chili Cook-off and it is a fundraising event and all the funds will be donated to local charities.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman DiVittorio to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks. (Joseph Dominick)

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

5. A resolution to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks. (Joseph Dominick)

Joseph Dominick presented this item,

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks.

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

6. A resolution to approve the appointment of Cassie Ragan, representing the Mayor’s seat, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. (Chelsea Tallo Little)

Chelsea Tallo Little, presented this item and stated that these three are re-appointments and that Cassie was unable to be here tonight and that this was the Mayor’s seat and he nominated her.

Mayor Panepinto, stated that Cassie is a local merchant and is a big participant in our community and is an asset to the board and he recommends her approval.

Councilman Wells stated he will vote for this appointment but stated all persons nominated should be present at the meeting.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman DiVittorio to approve the appointment of Cassie Ragan, representing the Mayor’s seat, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0
7. A resolution to approve the appointment of Frank DiVittorio, representing the Eastside Business and Property Owners, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. (Chelsea Tallo Little)

Chelsea Tallo Little, presented this item and stated Frank is another re-appointment for a second consecutive term and he is present tonight.

Frank DiVittorio, stated he has been on the Downtown Development Board and he enjoys being on the board and he would appreciate another term.

Councilman Wells, thanked Frank for showing up.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman Andrews to approve the appointment of Frank DiVittorio, representing the Eastside Business and Property Owners, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023.

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

8. A resolution to approve the appointment of Elsbert Hollywood, representing the Tangipahoa Chamber of Commerce seat, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. (Chelsea Tallo Little)

Chelsea Tallo Little, presented this item and stated this is the Tangipahoa Chamber of Commerce appointment and they get three appointments. This is a re-appointment and they recommend that she continues to represent the Chamber.

Elsbert Hollywood stated that she has had the pleasure of serving for the past two years and it has been her pleasure to serve and she would like to continue.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve the appointment of Elsbert Hollywood, representing the Tangipahoa Chamber of Commerce seat, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023

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:

Final adoption of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Rashetta Williams (owner) and Joseph Williams (applicant) to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 7A Rose Hill Park Subdivision; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2021-11-00095) 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 Rashetta Williams or Joseph Williams, and 2) the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger, City Planner, stated the zoning committee approved unanimously a recommendation and was presented to the City Council on December 14, 2022, for approval with condition that were just stated. This is in the proposed district for mobile homes and meets all the other requirements of the UDC.

Councilman Wells, asked what district this was in.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated District four.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells, to adopt an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Rashetta Williams (owner) and Joseph Williams (applicant) to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 7A Rose Hill Park Subdivision; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2021-11-00095) 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 Rashetta Williams or Joseph Williams, and 2) the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards.
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: NONE

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

CERTIFICATION OF CLERK


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.
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
January 25, 2022
5:30pm

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE
I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

III. PRAYER:

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

V. REPORTS:

Mayor Reports:

Mayor stated that the tree and trash debris pick-up final debris pass will be February 18, 2022, this does not include stumps. Mayor stated that rainbow trout is coming to Zemurry Park Pond.

Mayor invited Mr. Vince Starwood to come forward.

Vince Starwood, 216 Choctow Rd, Lafayette, LA, stated that he had been denied approval on his request and others have been given permission. He wanted to know where the consistency is. He asked why his item was removed from the agenda, when another item identical to his item was placed on the agenda. He doesn’t know why his item was removed and he wanted to know.

Councilman Andrews, asked the Mayor to repeat the information about the final debris pickup.

Mayor, stated that the final pass for debris pickup will be February 18, 2022 and that does not include stumps.

Councilman Wells, asked if the debris pick was still under FEMA and the parish and when will it go up under the city.

Mayor, when they decide to quit picking up and they have done all that they could do and the parish agrees then it will be on the city.

Councilman Andrews, asked if they still needed to provide addresses.

Mayor, stated yes and to continue to send in addresses.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked that information could be put on Facebook and the city’s page.

Mayor, stated to just give us addresses.

Councilman Wells, stated he has an address on Brent St, off of Mississippi St.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about a follow-up to the lighting on Timber lane and when the boring contract is going to start.

Lacy Landrum, stated she would check on it.

Council Reports:

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if there was an update on the salary study.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they had a meeting with the consultants and they are coming on February 4, 2022 to meet with all the department heads to review job descriptions and structures within those departments as well as talk about recruiting, retaining and employee challenges within the departments. They already reviewed the employee job descriptions and structures within the department. They are making progress and she is hoping to have a draft of a report by the end of February or early March.
Councilman Leon, asked about the re-districting.

Lacy Landrum, stated that it was one of the items for tonight and that Mr. Blair would like to meet with each of them. She thinks he’s trying to have everything in place by April because May 8th is the deadline.

Booking Room Report:

Attorney Michael Adams, stated that it’s been almost two years and tonight they are submitting the final report and no one has seen it before tonight. He explained what the council was receiving and he introduced Seth Stoughton.

Seth Stoughton, Mr. Stoughton delivered a written report to the Council and made a presentation on his report. He explained his findings and made recommendations. Councilman Wells, stated we have an issue protecting the citizens of Hammond. He asked if those officers involved were still working for the City of Hammond.

Mayor, answered, yes they were.

Councilman Wells, asked Seth Stoughton if he could recommend steps we need to take, recommendations on what to do next. He stated that we have a real problem, being a black male, I’m scared. He stated that it doesn’t matter when it comes to color. He asked for recommendations so this will not happen again in this area.

Seth Stoughton, thanked Councilman Wells for the question and stated he is limited in his ability to provide specific recommendations, not being the legal counsel. He referred him back to the recommendations in the executive summary.

Councilman Wells, stated at this time, he asked Andre and Council President about adding two resolutions to the agenda.

City Attorney Andre Coudrain, stated he would need to tell the council what those resolutions are and he stated we are still under reports, but he could see no reason why he couldn’t make that motion now. Andre stated that whatever the agenda item is, it would call for a unanimous vote of the council to add an item to the agenda.

Councilman Wells state, “I would like to make a resolution that the City Council make a formal request to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Louisiana State Police, Louisiana Attorney General Office and any other agency recommending the Civil Service Right by the City Attorney to investigate the this report.” Councilman Wells asked what would be the next step.

City Attorney Andre Coudrain, stated you would have to make a motion to add that item to the agenda and we need a second.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and a second by Councilman DiVittorio to add this item to the agenda,

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (N), Councilman Wells (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (N) Motion denied 3-2

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that we have just been given a hundred something page report and she does not think it’s appropriate to add a resolution before she has had a chance to read it and she would be happy to put it on the next agenda so that they could properly discuss it. She further stated that she believed they once talked about referring the issue to some of those authorities and that did not happen, and they got an expert instead and she just wants a chance to review the report.

Councilman Leon, stated it took almost a year for them to put the report together and in thirty minutes they get presented with it and then they are asked to make a decision. He stated he is not against making a decision or against the resolution but he needs some time to process it and would like to take the material read over and process it. He stated he does not think tonight is the appropriate time to vote on it.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated for the record that she asked to see a copy of the report last week, but she understood that they were all going to get it at once. Had she gotten the report a week ago and had a chance to read it, she may have been able to give some thought to the resolution to amend the agenda and maybe the next one.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that he wanted to make clear that anyone that watches the video that has been around a while is disturbing. He stated that he supports law enforcement, good law enforcement. He stated that watching that video, there shouldn’t be much else to see that it is uncalled for disgusting video that we watched. He stated then to promote a guy, the administration to recommend his promotion after knowing this and bringing it to them when they first got in, it’s very sad to know that. He also stated that they did not have this information and he want to make that clear. The video was disturbing and disgusting.

Councilman Wells, stated December 2017 is when this took place and here it is 2022. He stated it’s not fair to the citizens of Hammond for this to take place. He stated he doesn’t know Mr. Ratcliff and he voted for the chief based on what he was told. He stated that the Mayor rushed the vote to approve the chief. Councilman Wells asked to make another resolution.

Councilman Andrews, stated that Councilwoman Gonzales did ask for a copy of the report. He stated that the last meeting he had with the attorneys, it was decided that this report would be given at one time to everyone at the same time. No information was given to him and Councilman DiVittorio on the phone call. The decision was made
A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution authorizing the purchase of Playground equipment and installation for Jackson Park improvements from Planet Recess for a total of $59,204.00. (Chris Mouswaswa)

Chris Mouswaswa, Assistant Director of Recreation stated that Desiree Dotey was unable to attend the meeting and he was filling in for her. Chris asked to move forward with the process and was seeking approval.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the plans for other projects.

Chris Mouswaswa, stated once they get done with this, they would begin to look into other items.
There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells to a resolution authorizing the purchase of Playground equipment and installation for Jackson Park improvements from Planet Recess for a total of $59,204.00.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: NONE

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

1. Introduction of an Ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City's single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated that this was just an introduction and it was the same ordinance that Mr. Bill Blair went over when he talked about the process. She stated that he would like to speak with each of them to go over the information.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City's single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

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

2. Introduction of an Ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubplot 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2 (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated this is a right of way revocation and the zoning commission recommended approval at their January 6th meeting. They are seeking approval

Councilman Wells, asked Jeffery how long the process has been going on or when the application was first put in.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that he wasn’t sure but he thinks it was before he started

Councilman Wells, stated for the record, he asked Jeffery if there was any way he could locate that information, this has been going on for years.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated he could go back to see how long this has been going on, assuming from when they put in an application.

Councilman Wells, stated they were here and he called up Mr. Adrien Wells.

Adrien Wells, 811B Mooney Ave,

Councilman Wells stated that Adrien was his cousin and for the record he told him if there’s anything he is trying to do to go talk to the community. If the community doesn’t want what he is trying to do, he is not going to vote on it.

Adrien Wells, stated he tried to get this done about five or six years ago and was told he could not get it then he was told he needed a survey.

Councilman Wells, thanked Adreian Wells

Councilman DiVittorio, stated he wanted to ask and clarify if the gentleman that came up earlier was talking about the same thing or was he talking about getting a variance. He stated that the gentleman was saying that this was the same thing and he wanted to make sure. He asked if that was correct.

Jeffery Leuenberger stated partially, he stated he came in with two requests and one was for the variance and the other was for the right of way revocation.

Councilman DiVittorio, the same thing here

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated yes the exact same thing. He stated that the variance was not recommended by the planning commission but the right of way was recommended.
Councilman Wells, stated to Jeffery that when he came to his office he told him that if you are going to approve something in district three he would like for you to ride out and look at it.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio to introduce an ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubdivide 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Abstain) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 4-0

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

3. Introduction of an Ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that planning and zoning recommended approval. This is more of a cleanup because it is a small parcel of land that wasn’t rezoned.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked Jeffery Leuenberger to review the area to see other if other cleanup is needed.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (A) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

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

4. Introduction of an Ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated this was a request received from the council to the planning and zoning commission. There was a discussion in the January 6th meeting, recommending a change to require parking on hard surfaces or driveway with allowance for a seven day temporary storage.

Councilman DiVittorio, talked about changes to the ordinance and may be able to reduce to three days.

Andre Coudrain, stated that the council may want to make changes

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (A) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

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

Stephen Quinn, citizen, stated issues about police force still exist and should not prolong this.

X. ADJOURN: there was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales 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 JAN. 25, 2022
BEING 9 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.
I. CALL TO ORDER: Council 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. Introduction of an Ordinance establishing a temporary 365 Day Moratorium on the acceptance and processing of subdivision plats, site development plans or zoning amendments for multifamily housing within the City of Hammond, providing for variances and providing a severability clause.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated this was introduced at the last meeting in December and it was postponed to this meeting to give people time to review it, planning and zoning and the housing committee. He asked if anyone had any input on the matter.

Joe Meir, 4065 High Oaks Trail, asked about the posted document.

Andre Coudrain, stated that as a result of the discussion there were some concerns about the language dealing with the housing committee and based on that, he stuck through most references to the housing committee. There are no substantive changes. The only changes are to the whereas sections.

Joe Meir, stated that he had sent the ordinance to the housing committee and asked for feedback about the ordinance. The consensus of the housing committee was that they had nothing to do with the ordinance as it was developed. He stated that under the proposed moratorium there are a number of issues: length of moratorium; has the city considered the impact on development cost; impact on vested rights; undue hardship on existing property owners; lack of clear and objective standard of what is happening with the moratorium, what the plan and how it’s going to take place; he stated that the council controls changes, so the moratorium is not needed; He stated a yearlong moratorium is not justified at this point if the city is concerned about potential negative impacts on family developments on neighboring single family neighborhoods; consider adopting a limited moratorium that directly address the concerns that applies only to multifamily developments on lots that directly abuts to single family properties. He stated the due process is impacted by this, if developers or property owners have already purchased property with plans of developing the property. The moratorium is not clear on how it’s going to affect the property owner’s rights.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked to hear what planning and zoning had to say and one of the reasons it was extended was to see what planning and zonings input was.

Jeffery Leuenberger, on January 6 the planning and zoning had a discussion and their recommendation was, instead of doing 365 days the recommendation was to reduce it to 120 days with the city council having an option to extend after that.
Councilman DiVittorio, stated that this was presented to help the housing committee when they are doing a study to hire consultants, a moratorium would allow a pause while the housing committee is doing its study. Stated they are trying to improve and better the city. It’s was intended plan, help work together, plan ahead and growing smart.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that she was at the planning and zoning meeting and a shorter period would show that something is being done. She thought that 120 days was the planning and zoning compromise.

Councilman Divittorio, stated that this was an introduction and we introduce it for a year. It is a starting point and it is not infringing on property rights. If someone has an issue they can still come before council with a variance and that would allow project to be approved.

Councilman Wells, stated there is a lot of infrastructure going on in District 3. His district has sewer issues and it’s now spilling over into Councilman Sam’s District. A study is needed to look at the problems and he would like to slow down the process.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that these are high density developments, he has had a lot of supportive feedback.

Steve Leon, stated that this encompassed smaller developments as well and that is a concern. There is no sense of urgency. He suggest that they agree to back down on the 365 day and have some type of movement every 60 days.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that this was a big decision and rushing is not a good idea. As far as a timeframe of a year, it’s going to take some time to get a study, review it and get some policies in place. He stated that he is open to making it 180 day with an option to extend. We are moving in the right direction and it’s going to take time.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked for clarification on the size of building.

Andre Coudrain, explained the ordinance, wording and property rights. He stated the right he is concerned about is those that has already submitted and application.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked Jeffery Leuenberger about permits that were submitted to him.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that everything that has be provided to him is what has been applied for.

Andre Coudrain, stated make it clear so that there are no misunderstanding in the public. In final adoption, consider to make a direct statement that the moratorium does not apply to existing applications.

Councilman Wells, stated that when people buy property the need to make sure they know what it is zoned for.

2. Introduction of an Ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City’s single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

Lacy Landrum, stated this is a housekeeping formality issue. This is required by the redistricting process. We do not have the right demographics in some of the districts. She state there are too many in some districts and not enough in others according to the new census data. As we are beginning the redistricting plan, she hopes to have this completed by April or May.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked when the exact cut off is.

Lacy Landrum, stated May 8th.

3. Introduction of an Ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubdivide 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that this was a Right of Way Revocation and the Zoning Commission heard this on January 6th and they recommended approval.
4. Introduction of an Ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodino, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that this was also a rezoning case and the rezoning was to conform to the surrounding area. The Zoning Commission recommended approval.

5. Introduction of an Ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated this was brought to the Planning and Zoning Commission on January 6 to get their recommendation on boats on a trailer. The recommendation was to amend 6.1.1 of the UDC to strike boats on a trailer boats on a trailer will not be included in this prohibition. To strike that language and include that trailers must be on a hard surface and to allow seven day exemption for temporary storage.

Councilman Wells, asked Jeffery Leuenberger where he lived.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated Baton Rouge

Councilman Wells, asked Andre Coudrain what the charter says?

Andre Coudrain, stated section 4.01 states that department heads must live in the city or within five mile radius of the nearest point of the corporate limits.

Lacy Landrum, stated the Jeffery is not a department head, he in the building department and Robert Morgan is the department head.

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HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
February 8, 2022
6:00 pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

III. PRAYER: President Andrews

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

V. REPORTS:

Mayor: Thank the Citizen and reports that the city is 1.3 million over budget for sales tax.

Council:

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that Chick fila had their ribbon cutting this morning and will open tomorrow. He thanked the parish and administration.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that keep Hammond Beautiful will be in Clark Park at 10 a.m. this Saturday.

Councilman Leon, asked about the final cleanup of debris

Mayor Panepinto, stated the final clean-up will begin February 18, and he asked that they continue to submit addresses. After the final debris pick up, stumps will be picked up.

Councilman Wells, gave several addresses for debris pickup and stated that city workers should ride out looking for debris.
Lacy Landrum, stated they already go out and she does as well.

Councilman Wells, asked why the new restrooms at Mooney Park were locked.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she did not know why the doors were locked but they had to reroute the electrical system.

Councilman Wells, asked when the old restrooms will be torn down.

Lacy Landrum, stated she wasn’t sure, they are focused on getting the new restrooms up and running, before they come in and demo.

Councilman Wells, asked for an update on the drainage and sidewalk improvements in district 3.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they were under design and any day they will be coming out for bid.

Councilman Wells, stated that this was passed in July.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they focused on the sewer issues first. The project was designed and has gone out for bids. That was the first priority and the next priority is the sidewalk & drainage and the other priority is the improvements at Jackson Park.

Councilman Wells, asked when they started on the sewer job.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she believes that they have already started they did the SSES, which is a survey of all of the work that had to be completed before some of the rehab could start.

Councilman Wells, asked for an update on the stop signs on Phoenix and Spruce Streets.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they pulled the crash data and that there has been three accidents there in the last three years. There needs to be a meeting between the engineer, the Mayor and police to discuss that location of a stop sign.

Councilman Wells, stated that there are wrecks there all the time that is not being report.

Councilman Wells, asked about the retention pond on Natchez. He stated it had an awful smell. He asked what they can do about that.

Lacy Landrum, stated they are working on the other pond, but doesn’t know if that is going to change the smell.

Councilman Wells, asked if the water meters are being read from month to month.

Mayor Panepinto, stated yes they are but after the storm they did an average for a couple of months because of a shortage of workers. When there were misreads they have gone back out and did a reread of the meter. Since the storm and due to covid they haven’t charged any late fees.

Councilman Wells, stated that the customers are telling him that they are not reading.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the Utility Supervisor said today that the meter is being read.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that he has had several incorrect bills in his district. He doesn’t think they may be reading the meters and that’s something they may want to check into.

Councilman Andrews, stated that he also received a lot of calls on water bills as well.

Councilman Wells, stated that he was at a function and had an issue with police officers and if this continues he is not going to internal affairs, he will personally get the Department of Justice involved. He has been stopped several times by the police department.

Councilman Andrews, stated that on February 22, we will have our Wilbert Dangerfield Awards. He also ask about the hours for construction on Medline. He has gotten some call that they been working after the hours of 7pm.

Andre Coudrain, stated it’s an enforcement issue and they can be issued a citation for working beyond the hours of the agreement.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked Lacy about Timberlane boring.

Lacy Landrum, stated the started with Rue St. Martin, but don’t think they started on Timberlane yet.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Approval of minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to table 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 to table

VII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:
1. A resolution to direct special counsel Michael R. Adams to refer the 2017 booking room incident to the District Attorney's Office for the 21st Judicial District, the Office of the Louisiana Attorney General, the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), for criminal investigation and potential prosecution, based upon the report received from Mr. Seth W. Stoughton.

Councilman Wells, read a typed statement on his experience with the information regarding the booking room incident, police department and raises for police and city workers. He thanked the council and he stated the City Council and the Mayor has made him a better person.

Jermaine Luckett, 515 Claudia Lane, stated he believes the issue should be addressed quickly and he asked, what kind type of leader are you? He asked and what side of history will you be on.

Kendrick Ratliff, 43511 stated that it was not about black or white, it’s about love. He asked why it was covered up and been pushed to the side like he’s not a human being. He hopes that a resolution be found and that they come to an agreement and he hopes for justice, peace and equality.

Earnestine Scott, 407 White St, stated that she doesn’t think that the police department is trained and she’s concerned about the way they handled them. She stated she thinks they should try and find jobs for young people. She stated she doesn’t like when the police target our people, instead of trying to help them. They need to be trained.

Stacy Watson, 204 George Perkins Sr Dr., She asked, if something is happening to you or someone, is it not ok to ask an officer, what did I do?

Lt. Scivique, stated that it was according to the situation.

Councilman Wells, stated that he has nothing against good police officers and bad police do not need to be working for the city of Hammond.

Mandy Franis Braywick, stated that they should schedule something to have officers get to know the areas better. She suggested inviting police officers to the community to meet and talk. She said she knows the police force and there are a lot of good officers and don’t hurt good officers because of bad officers.

Councilman Wells, stated for the record that he has nothing against the police department and they deserve a raise.

Kendrick Ratliff, stated he believed he was racially profiled based on the area he was in.

Carolyn Harrell, 220 Cherry Dr, stated that the city needs to try and equip the department.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that the report has about seventeen recommendations and number two is to refer the report to different entities. She stated that the American Civil Liberties Union was not recommended in the report and she doesn’t think that the American Civil Liberties Union has any power for criminal investigations or prosecution. There are so many good things in the report, it not just about the booking room incident, but how can things be changed and where they are falling short. She suggested that they go past this resolution and come up with some other things. She also stated that some things that are recommended in the report are already implemented.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to direct special counsel Michael R. Adams to refer the 2017 booking room incident to the District Attorney's Office for the 21st Judicial District, the Office of the Louisiana Attorney General, the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), for criminal investigation and potential prosecution, based upon the report received from Mr. Seth W. Stoughton.

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 authorize the Hammond BBQ, Inc. to sell Beer on the City's property lying within the boundaries of S.W. Railroad Ave. from 100 yards South of Coleman Street to West Thomas Street; Coleman Street from Cate Street to S.W. Railroad Avenue, for the hours of 06:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Thursday, March 24, 2022; 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2022; and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022 (Brian Shirey)

Brian Shirey, stated that they were a 501c3 and they have given over half million dollars to charities over the years. He stated that this was a two day event and they will not have any professional teams this year, locals only.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated he was glad they were back
Councilwoman Gonzales, asked about the Chicken Little section where the kids can cook.

Councilman Wells, thanked Brian for having the event and stated that he reached out to him and he appreciated him for doing that.

Councilman Andrews, thanked Brain Shirey, for putting the event together and for getting people back out and involved again

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio to authorize the Hammond BBQ Inc. to sell beer on the City’s property lying within the boundaries of S.W. Railroad Ave. from 100 yards South of Coleman Street to West Thomas Street; Coleman Street from Cate Street to S.W. Railroad Avenue, for the hours of 06:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Thursday, March 24, 2022; 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2022; and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022.

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

3. A resolution to authorize the Hammond BBQ, Inc. to obtain a Waiver of the Open container Law on the City’s property lying within the boundaries of S.W. Railroad Ave. from 100 yards South of Coleman Street to West Thomas Street; Coleman Street from Cate Street to S.W. Railroad Avenue, for the hours of 06:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Thursday, March 24, 2022; 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2022; and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022 (Brian Shirey)

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to authorize the Hammond BBQ, Inc. to obtain a Waiver of the Open container Law on the City’s property lying within the boundaries of S.W. Railroad Ave. from 100 yards South of Coleman Street to West Thomas Street; Coleman Street from Cate Street to S.W. Railroad Avenue, for the hours of 06:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Thursday, March 24, 2022; 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2022; and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022 (Brian Shirey)

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

4. A resolution supporting the submission of a $25,000 grant application to the State Farm Neighborhood Assist Program for improvements to Clarke Park Playground.

Charles Borchers, stated, that this was to repair hurricane damage and improve the park.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated that the storm took out some of the structures.

Councilman Wells, asked if the city was coming up with some of the money.

Charles Borchers, stated that the recreation department has about $25,000 to $30,000 in their budget for the projects and that there was no match.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to a resolution authorizing the purchase of Playground equipment and installation for Jackson Park improvements from Planet Recess for a total of $59,204.00.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Introduction of an Ordinance establishing a temporary 365 Day Moratorium on the acceptance and processing of subdivision plats, site development plans or zoning amendments for multifamily housing within the City of Hammond, providing for variances and providing a severability clause.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that it was right for the community and to let the study’s come in, review it and make plans for smart growth. Stated he would like to amend the 365 days to 180 days with an option to extend. He asked Andre what would be the correct way to do that and to make sure it is written correctly.

Andre Coudrain, stated you would make the motion to amend from 365 days to 180 days, he stated that there was already a provision that talked about the option to extend.
Councilwoman Gonzales, asked that it be clear, that the items the housing committee did not want was taken out. She didn’t think it was clear.

Andre Coudrain, stated that the only thing that would change is the number. He circulated changes to address the comments that were made at the introduction to remove much of the language, just in the whereas section and not the details of it. Just removing reference of details of the Housing Advisory Committee to say that the council created a Housing Advisory Committee and the committee is expected to make recommendations regarding single family housing and that the city will change if unlimited growth happens before the city can review and consider recommendations of the Housing Advisor Committee, that is the only reference to the Housing Advisory Committee and everything else would be stricken through. He stated that if that is the wish of the council, you could make a motion to make that change as well.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells to amend the Ordinance to a 180 day moratorium, not a 365 day moratorium. Motion Approve 5-0

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (A) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and a second by Councilman Leon to amend to strike paragraph 3 of the Ordinance regarding extensions.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (A) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

There was a motion by Councilman Divittorio and a second by Councilman Andrews to amend the ordinance to state it does not apply to existing applications.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (A) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and a second by Councilman Wells to adopt the ordinance as amended. Establishing a temporary 180 Day moratorium on the acceptance and processing of subdivision plats, site development plans or zoning amendments for multifamily housing within the City of Hammond, providing for variances and providing a severability clause.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (A) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

Joe Mier, Chairman of Housing Committee, gave an update on the housing committee and stated that they receive four proposals and they would be meeting on this Thursday to review them.

Councilman Wells left the meeting

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City’s single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and a second by Councilman DiVittorio to adopt an Ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City’s single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 4-0

2. Final adoption of an Ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubdivide 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2.

Jeffery Leuenberger, zoning commission recommend approval

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and a second by Councilman DiVittorio to adopt an Ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubdivide 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2.

Councilman Wells returns to the meeting
VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Abstain) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 4-0

3. Final adoption of an Ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated the rezoning will conform to the surrounding area and the zoning commission recommends approval.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and a second by Councilman Andrews to adopt an Ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A d 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Abstain), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

4. Final adoption of an Ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated this was an amendment asked by the council to give a recommendation on boats on a trailer. The recommendation was to amend 6.1.1 of the UDC to strike boats on a trailer boats on a trailer will not be included in this prohibition. To strike that language and include that trailers must be on a hard surface and to allow seven day exemption for temporary storage.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated he thinks seven days is a long time. Stated he would like to make an amendment to change from seven days to one day.

Councilman Leon, asked if it was realistically enforceable. Stated the need to make sure the resolutions don’t override subdivision HOA.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and a second by Councilman Andrews to remove the temporary seven day allowance in the ordinance.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

There was a motion by Councilman Gonzales and a second by Councilman Andrews to adopt as amended Ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction for 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 planning and zoning on voted on January 6, 2021 and recommended approval of the Right of Way Revocation.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to introduce 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: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Abstain), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 4-0

Public Hearing will be scheduled for February 22, 2022 at 5:30

2. Introduction of an ordinance to rename Mooney Park to Gibson Memorial Park.
Councilman Wells, stated that he is requesting to rename the park and would like to honor the pioneers of the community.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to introduce an ordinance to rename Mooney Park to Gibson Memorial Park.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 5-0

Public Hearing will be scheduled for February 22, 2022 at 5:30

X. ADJOURN: there was a motion by Councilman Leon second by Councilwoman Gonzales 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 FEBRUARY 8, 2022 BEING 9 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.
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 revocate 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.
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

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 revocate 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 revocate 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 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:
I. 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 one 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


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.
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 to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022. (Laura Hammett)

Laura Hammett, stated that they were amending the beginning fund balance based on actual numbers and not just estimates, and once the audit from last year is completed they have final numbers and generally come before the council in March. She stated that anything that changes more than 5% must come before the City Council. She discussed the actual line items to be amended, items with more than a 5% variance.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if the money in the Department of Motor Vehicles is being moved over to the general fund.

Laura Hammett, stated yes.

Lacy Landrum, stated that that move is not reflected yet on the consolidated budget because they have not closed that fund. The closure of the fund will happen in the next budget.

Councilman Wells, asked about the request that was made previously by Councilman DiVittorio regarding a breakdown of the city’s finances. He asked when the information would be available.

Laura Hammett, stated that they just finished closing the books for February and she haven’t had a chance to do an analysis on that yet, but she can have it for the next meeting.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they already provided the report that was requested.

Councilman Wells, stated that they asked for a breakdown of where the money is being moved to and what’s going on with the accounts.

Laura Hammett, stated that she has an open door policy and if they have any questions they can give her a call.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked about the workers comp. line item.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they did not spend as much as what was budgeted.

Laura Hammett, stated that sales tax for the year is at $5 million above what they budgeted. They are asking for a $4 million dollar increase to the budget in sales tax revenue. They are not appropriating the funds, they are just recognizing that revenue.
Lacy Landrum explained the sales tax process. She stated it takes about a month to receive the sales tax.

Laura Hammett stated that they were asking to add funds for the housing study. They already had the $50,000 set aside for it but the proposal has come in at the $88,000, so they are asking for an addition $38,415, so they can move forward with the housing study.

Ron Matthews stated that the $88,000 from the original proposal may be reduced. He stated they had a zoom meeting with Civix and their getting closer to $50,000.

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

Jeffery Leuenberger, City Planner stated that the planning commission met on February 3, 2022 and recommended this. He also stated that there was one change to correct the street name. The name on the other side of I-12 to show Veterans Ave. The Unified Development Code was to change setbacks and built to lines. He stated that this has been discussed for a long time.

Councilman Andrews asked if this had been published in the newspaper.

Jeffery Leuenberger stated not in the paper and that notices to individuals would be expensive.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated that they had previously talked about doing a press release. She was interested in a general notice by press release to notify the public of the changes.

Jeffery Leuenberger stated that this was a unanimous vote of Planning and Zoning.

Councilman Wells stated that they should find a way to give notice to the people and property owners. He stated that there were a lot of people in the Historic District. He stated that everyone needs to know and he asked why it came up now.

Lacy Landrum stated that Planning and Zoning had a lot of variances and this would minimize the variance request and give better direction to Planning and Zoning and property owners.

Ron Matthews, Planning & Zoning Commissioner, stated that he thinks this is a good thing. He recommend that it be advertised in the paper and he stated that this is in line with the city’s master plan and it’s a good thing throughout the city.

Councilman Wells asked that it be put on hold.

Beezie Landry, 802 W. Thomas, stated he was with Stirling Properties and this is welcomed progress. He also stated that in retail development, he thinks 60ft is too small and they would still need a variance because 60ft is only for parking, but does not account for sidewalks and landscaping.

Councilman Wells thanked Mr. Landry for coming up and his suggestions would be taken into consideration.

Jeffery Leuenberger stated that he agreed with Mr. Landry and he would go back and work on it.
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: Ron Matthews

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

V. REPORTS:

Mayor:

Mayor, stated this was a great week for LHSSA top 28 ladies. He congratulated Ponchatoula and Amite. He thanked Tangi Tourism and SLU and Chamber of Commerce and the many volunteers. He mentioned the USPCA K-9 competition taking place at Chappapeela Sports Park.

He also stated that on March 28th the pond at Zemmuray Park will be stocked with catfish. On April 2nd there will be an Easter Egg Hunt at Clark Park from 12pm-4pm.

There will be an Easter Camp from April 18-23

The final Hurricane Debris pick-up has begun.

Council:

Council President Andrews recognized Albert Cusimano

Albert Cusimano, 39744 Reba Ln, Ponchatoula, stated he wanted to speak about making Hammond a Purple Heart City. It would be the 2nd Purple Heart City in the state of Louisiana. He stated that Ponchatoula was the first and he explained the process. He stated that it doesn’t cost anything and the city would receive a proclamation and can put up a sign if they choose, stating that they are a Purple Heart City.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated that the 1st Veterans Breakfast will be on April 28th and that there would be an Easter egg hunt on April 2nd from 12-4 pm in Clark Park.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked for an update on street lights.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she did not have an update, but city personnel went out to do an assessment and Entergy said they have been doing assessments.

Councilman Leon, stated that lights were out city wide.

Lacy Landrum, stated that that city personnel went out to do an assessment and will provide an update at the next meeting.

Councilman Wells, asked about the concrete behind the splash park and the bathroom at Mooney Park.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the city needed to get quotes and look at the appropriations in the budget.

Councilman Wells, asked about getting bleachers in the park and stated that there were problems with lights and he asked about stop signs and thanked the Mayor and the community for the stop sign on Spruce St.

Councilman Andrews, stated that on April 16th there will be an Easter egg hunt in Martin Luther King Park.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the February 22, 2022 meeting.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to approve the February 22, 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 authorizing 1) application for $400,000 in "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program funds for improvements to Martin Luther King and Zemurray Parks; 2) local funds/match for design, engineering, and/or administrative costs, if incurred; 3) Grants Department staff to administer the City's "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program; and 4) the Mayor to sign related documents. (Charles Borchers IV)

Charles Borchers, stated that the application was previously approved by the council and this include more specific information which was requested by the State. He stated that there is no match. He stated that the grant would cover new equipment, a walking trail around the park, new surfaces under the equipment, bleachers and outdoor grills in Martin Luther King for a total of $218,000. In Zemurray Park, they will put in new equipment, replace some equipment, picnic pavilions, expand the dog park and re-do the privacy wall and improve the sidewalks for a total of $182,000.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells authorizing 1) application for $400,000 in "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program funds for improvements to Martin Luther King and Zemurray Parks; 2) local funds/match for design, engineering, and/or administrative costs, if incurred; 3) Grants Department staff to administer the City's "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program; and 4) the Mayor to sign related documents.

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 authorize the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Tangipahoa Parish Government to overlay the following streets: North Wilson Street, Western Avenue, Natchez Street, Mooney Avenue, South Elm Street, Fern Street, East Merry Street, West Green Street, East Green Street, and Celia Street. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated that this was a standard agreement and is covered under the Tangipahoa Parish Government. She stated that there was no cost to the city and the Parish will overlay the streets. She stated that they have asked for more coordination of the priorities that the council, streets department and the Mayor and city engineer have so that they could all be on the same page.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated he was concerned about some streets that were not included and are in worse condition with potholes on several roads. He would like to see something improved and we need to get a better handle on the process.

Lacy Landrum stated that they have had meeting with parish leadership to try and get a better process.

Councilman Wells, stated they need a better understanding and better communication with City Council Members.

Councilman Leon, stated that he has had conversations with Buddy Ridgel and that a lot of these plans are more than five years out and they have their system. He stated they all have streets within their districts that are bad.

Lacy Landrum, stated that this was already bid before they received the contract.

Mayor, stated if the roads are bad we should take them on in next year’s budget.

Lacy Landrum, stated we can appropriate funds, think up your top five streets in each District that needs work and think in terms of priority and look at cost.

Councilman Wells, asked that it be known that they are talking about asphalt and not concrete.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales, authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Tangipahoa Parish Government to overlay the following streets: North Wilson Street, Western Avenue, Natchez Street, Mooney Avenue, South Elm Street, Fern Street, East Merry Street, West Green Street, East Green Street, and Celia Street. (Lacy Landrum)

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 request the Mayor to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit information from private entities that will conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations. (Councilman Wells)

Councilman Wells, stated they agreed on an investigation and that the city has the report and it is only right for the council to request the Mayor to develop an RFP to review the Hammond Police Department operations.

Councilman Leon, stated that they ask for a report to be done and the report was done and the administration was given a copy of the report and he doesn’t think the city needs to go further.

Councilman Wells, stated that he and his community is asking for it. He stated that the city needs to do something about this, people who something wrong should not be promote. Councilman Wells asked the Mayor if he read the report.

Mayor, stated that he read the report and listened to the man give his report and he was taking the word of the suspect and that there is a distorted view.

Councilman Andrews, asked about some of the recommendations that were made inside of the report, he stated that if they could get some of the information; current copy of the booking room policies and procedures, training, proper handcuffing, current copy of the use of force procedures, current copy of the policies on securing prisoners in the jail and the booking room, including the dates and times of the training. He thinks that that would help him in his review, he stated that he couldn’t speak for anyone else.

Lacy Landrum, stated that some recommendations are under review or have already been done.

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales, stated that some recommendations are based on testimony or old information. She stated that she thinks it’s appropriate to get something in writing on the status of recommendations in the department. She stated that she still has a problem with this resolution.

Councilman Andrews, stated that the information he is requesting is a place to start.

Councilman Wells, stated that he doesn’t think his community is safe with the current chief and he thinks the Mayor is turning the city into rotten fruit and he should fix it.

Councilman Andrews, proposed to make an amendment to the resolution

Tracy Wells, 610 Mooney Ave, stated that she that what’s on the agenda is asking for an RFP for recommendation number one. She stated that recommendation number one states that the City of Hammond should conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations. She stated that these do not fall under policies and procedures as stated; agency culture, employee morale, retaliation (real or perceived) against Hammond Police Department employees and former employees, favoritism etc. She stated that there is a problem with Hammond Police Department operations. She stated that the report states that there is an over reach between the Mayor and department and the police department should be above and beyond reproach. There’s no delineation between the department and the Mayor’s office and people in her community are afraid to call the police.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that the video is clear, stated that the department does have issues and they need to be addressed and fixed the right way. We need to do what’s right.

Nana Minimar, 52 Whitmore Dr, stated that there are two parts to the resolution 1) acceptance of report, 2) Issue RFP. She asked how we can make the department better and safe for everyone and a critical self-analysis is sometimes needed to help us get better.

Mayor, stated that the chief, assist chief and some of the officers are involve in reviewing the policies.

Denise Palmer, 43502 Robertson Rd, stated that the council represents Hammond as a whole. She spoke of a situation happened to her regarding the Hammond Police Department. She told the council that they need to do the right thing.

Tracy Wells, stated that there is a difference in professionalism between the different departments in the city. Some are well trained in customer service and some are not and she stated that it was a systemic issue.

Councilman Andrews, proposed a substitute motion that the Mayor give a written report to the council, this is an amendment to the resolution.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio to add a report by the Mayor to the Council to the resolution.

VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (N), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (N), Devon Wells (Y), Motion Approved 3-2
There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to authorize the Hammond City Council to accept the recommendations from Seth W. Stoughton's report and request the Mayor to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit information from private entities that will conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations and for the Mayor to issue a report to the Council.

VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (N), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (N), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 3-2 as amended

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

I. Final Adoption of an Ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022. (Lacy Landrum)

Laura Hammett, stated that they were amending the beginning fund balance, recognizing $4 million dollars in sales tax and moving $38,000 to consultant services for a housing study.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to adopt 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

2. Final Adoption of an Ordinance to Amend the Hammond Unified Development Code to Add the Suburban Highway Overlay District. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilwoman Leon to amend the ordinance as recommended to correct the street names.

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

There was a motion to by Councilwoman Gonzales and a second by Councilman Andrews to table this item and have it advertised in the Daily Star, Advocate and Action News as amended.

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 for an Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated the planning and zoning unanimously recommended it.

Councilman Wells, stated that the application was not complete

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated the he would get the application updated.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells, to Introduce an Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)

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

2. Introduction for an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02-00098)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that the applicant wants to put a duplex on the property that would allow for a salon on one side and living on the other. He stated that duplexes are allowed and this is a conditional use for business and this was in District 3.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02-00098) (Jeffery Leuenberger)
VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

X. ADJOURN: there was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilwoman Gonzales 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 TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD March 8, 2022 BEING 7 PAGES IN LENGTH

[Signature]

LISA COCKERHAM
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

[Signature]

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.
Jeffery Leuenberger, the planning commission wanted to come up with a better solution to minimize variances. On March 3, 2022 the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval. It was introduced and there was a press release and advertising for public comments. The received public comments. The plan is to increase the build to line from 0-15 feet to 0-85 feet. A developer will be allow to set their building back 85ft. They are proposing an overlay district that will cover all lots fronting major arterials in the city. Developers will be allowed to set their building back up to 85ft and be further away from the street for safety and required them to maintain the landscaping.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if this was for all C-H zoned properties.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that this was for all zoned property that are within that overlay district.

Councilman Wells, asked if he had spoken to the realtor who had attended a previous meeting.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she thinks that was Beezie Landry and she thinks that what he was to increase it from 65 to 85ft.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated at first it was 65ft which gave room for parking and landscaping, but by increasing it to 85ft that would allow them to preserve some of the right away along the road and a little landscaping along the front of the building.

Councilman Wells, asked about the meeting being opened to the public and he asked how many people attended. He wants to make sure the public was aware.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that no one came to speak for or against it.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if any concerned citizens reached out to him.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated he had a couple of concerns but nothing formally submitted. He had a few concerning pedestrian ability.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that she appreciated the press release and wanted to let the public know that this does not affect downtown.

2. An Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02- 00098)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that duplexes are allowed in this zoning. The applicant wants to have a family member live in one side of the duplex and run a hair salon in the other side of the duplex. This requires an Expanded Conditional Use to do it and by granting an Expanded Conditional Use it expires at the change of ownership, at that time it will revert back to a duplex.

Councilman Wells, asked what district this request was in and he said that he spoke to Mr. and Mrs. Cox. He ask Jeffery if he went over the area to take a look and asked if he saw the new house that the Cox’s built.

Jeffery Leuenberger answered yes.
Councilman Wells, thanked Mrs. Cox’s and her husband for all that she has been doing in the community. He stated that the area needs to be cleaned up and he supports Mrs. Cox for what they are trying to do in the community.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that the planning and zoning commission recommended this 3-0 Joyce Cox, 404 Phoenix Sq. stated that she is requesting the duplex and one side will be residential and the other side for a beauty salon. The salon will operate by appointments only. She stated she spoke with several neighbors, she presented signatures from community members, a drawing of the plans and pictures. She stated they are trying to clean up and beautify the community.

Donald Burton, 311 Cedar Lane, Ponchatoula, La. stated that he is the son of Joyce and Anthony Cox. He supports the Expanded Conditional Use and he stated that they are trying to plant a seed into the community. He came behalf of his parents to say that he is standing in the gap with them to make a better place one establishment at a time.

Nicole Labbee, 16167 Blue Bayou St, Ponchatoula, stated she will be operating the salon and Joyce and Anthony Cox are her parents. Stated she grew up in the community and this would be good for the community.

Jacqueline Taylor, stated that this was her family and she was proud of her family and they are doing a good job cleaning up the neighborhood. She also thanked the city for putting up the stop sign.

3. An Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated this was another annexation request that came from planning and zoning meeting on March 3, 2022 and the recommended approval was 3-0. They are wanting to annex a portion of property in the rear of existing property to complete what their business plan is for that sight plan.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that it’s always good to welcome in business, especially when it’s sales tax generating.

Councilman Wells, asked what district it was in.

Councilman DiVittorio, answered District Four

HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
April 12, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

III. PRAYER: Pastor Andrew Jackson

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

V. ISSUE OF PROCLAMATION:

Albert Cusimano, was presented with a proclamation from City Council President Kip Andrews and Mayor Pete Panepinto making the City of Hammond a Purple Heart City. He in turn presented the Mayor and City with a plaque.

Mayor Pete Panepinto presented a proclamation to the Hammond Rotary Club members in honor of the Rotary Clubs 100th Anniversary.

VI. PRESENTATION:

• Entergy update- Al Galindo

Al Galindo of Entergy provided a recap of the damages from Hurricane Ida and gave a recovery update. He stated that their first priority was to restore power, then repair damage, they are still in restoration mode; transitioned to street light repair at the end of 2021. They brought in additional resources; they have added contractors to help with the repair work; He estimates that all repairs will be completed by Mid-May. He stated street light credits
have been issued and to let them know of anyone that has been affected and are in need of a bill credit. LED lights will be installed at Mooney Park and new service for the concession stand. Entergy is replacing non LED to LED this is currently in their engineering group. He also stated that if there were any issues in the council district to let them know.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that Mr. Galindo made a comment about the pricing of LED compared to the Non LED, he asked when they are going to finish the valuation and if the cost is going to go down.

Al Galindo, stated that their regulatory team is starting this summer. He's anticipating they should have an answer on rate restructuring for LED light by the end of the year.

Councilman Wells, asked are residents with lights out, are they getting a credit.

Al Galindo, stated the do not know if lights were out on the customer's property unless they report it. Customers need to report it and it can be done through the website and credits will be issued based on when the light was repaired.

Councilman Wells, asked about increased costs because of storm damage and how much would be added on to the bills per month.

Al Galindo, stated there will be an added cost of about $8 dollars per month and that's due to the Stafford Act. Councilman Wells, stated that he has a lot of elders in his community and he's concerned about their bills.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if there were policy changes since the storm on the removal of tree limbs and vegetation.

Al Galindo, stated that they have a full time vegetation crew that go out and observe areas that need to be trimmed back. He asked Chris Hammond if they had any feedback, stated that they could provide more specific information about what they are doing in Hammond from their vegetation supervisor.

Councilman Wells, asked who is responsible for the removal of hanging cables that's still hanging from the poles.

Al Galindo, stated that they have had others send pictures, but if he would let them know than they could share the information with their partners, AT&T and the cable companies to get those things taken care of. Pictures usually help them better understand who to call.

Councilman Wells, asked who he contacts.

Al Galindo, stated that he should contact Chris the local Entergy customer service manager.

- Kushner LaGraize, LLC - City's Audit Report

Michelle Treschwig, presented a summary of the city's financial statement she stated that it was a great year for the city. The audit has been reviewed and approved by the Legislative Auditor and is available for public inspection on their website. The type of report issued on the basic financial report was an unmodified opinion, which is the best that can be given. There was one finding, which was a significant deficiency to the financial reporting in accordance with General Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB). She stated this is a standard finding with government entities.

Councilman Wells, asked if they did this or if they hired someone else to do it.

Michelle Treschwig, stated that the MD&A or Management Discussion Analysis, she stated that Lacy Landrum with assistance writes out the financial highlights, information on the variances and anything like that. Councilman Wells, asked how much do they charge per year to conduct the audit.

Michelle Treschwig, stated that they normally charge around $50,000 for the audit and some additional items.

Councilman Wells, asked when their contract would be ending.

Michelle Treschwig, stated that the contract was up and that this was the last year on the current contract. Councilman Wells, asked how long have they been working for the City of Hammond.

Michelle Treschwig, stated that they started in 2011.

Tracy Wells, 610 Mooney Ave, she read a statement from page 110 in the document and she said to Michelle that she mentioned that there was a significant deficiency but she didn't elaborate. She asked her to expound.

Michelle Treschwig, she explained the importance of financial statement being prepared in accordance with GAAP (General Accepted Accounting Principles). The city's financial statements were not prepared in accordance with GAAP. She stated that the finance director resigned and new personnel are now undergoing that training and she believes eventually by next year or so, they will have that knowledge to be able to review the financial statements and report in accordance with GAAP. She stated it is a significant deficiency and a lot of entities have this finding and it's a very common finding.

Councilman Wells, stated that he had met with her before and he doesn't trust people when it comes to the taxpayer's money. He stated he requested financial information on a quarterly basis and still have not received any, taxpayers need to know where their money is being spent.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they did provide the budget to actual report to council. It shows what has been spent and it matches your budget binder. She stated what was requested earlier were some very detailed reports and those have been provided as requested.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes of the March 8, 2022 meeting

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

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

IX. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:
A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Final Adoption of an Ordinance to Amend UDC #8 to add a Suburban Highway Overlay District (SH) to allow for new development to fit within the context of the proposed overlay district as recommended by the city planner. (Z-2019-11-00015)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that this is the final adoption that has been discussed in the public hearing.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to adopt an Ordinance to Amend UDC #8 to add a Suburban Highway Overlay District (SH) to allow for new development to fit within the context of the proposed overlay district as recommended by the city planner with 85’ build line.

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

2. Final Adoption of an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02-00098)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that this is consideration for final approval.

Councilman Wells, asked about the parking and if it was adequate. He stated that it was brought to his attention about the parking and he spoke to the planning commissioner and he stated that there was more than enough parking.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to adopt an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02-00098)

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

3. Final Adoption of an Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated this is consideration for final approval from the public hearing.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to adopt an Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)

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

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to renew insurance coverage for the City of Hammond for the period of May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023. (Don Stiel)

Don Stiel, stated that this was a renewal and there was a cost increase on some coverages. Travelers Insurance will be used for commercial, liability, law enforcement and fire units. He proposed the move to Midwest Indemnity for Workers Comp, airport liability, blanket bond, property and equipment.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales authorizing the Mayor to renew the insurance coverage for the City of Hammond for the period of May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023 in accordance with the recommendation of Mr. Stiel.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion approved 5-0

2. A resolution to ratify and award bids received 4/7/2022 for “Canal Improvements [FY2022]” - project no. 420-12206. (Webb Anderson).

Webb Anderson, stated that they had received three bids for the canal improvements at Natchez and Skinner. The lowest bid came in from Carey R. Contractor, LLC. He recommends award to Carey R Contractors. He
explained the total project budget is $565,000.
Councilwoman Gonzales, asked how much is budgeted for this project. Lacy Landrum, stated that $250,000 is budgeted for it total. She stated if you want to award the base bid only you will only need to award contingent on moving money to fund the remainder of the project. If you wanted to fund just the base bid of the total contract for the construction contract and the engineering you will need to move $45,000 from the fund balance. If you want to fund the entire project which is the base plus the added alternate for the extra work, then you’re going to need to move $315,000 from the fund balance.
Councilwoman Gonzales, asked Webb Anderson to explain the alternate and why it is needed. Webb Anderson, stated originally the project was to extend it, a year later they looked at it and a metal pipe underneath Natchez is deteriorating and Councilman Wells requested that they put it in, so they did it as an alternate.
Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if it was a drainage pipe. Webb Anderson, answered yes it is and stated that two existing metal pipes will be replaced with a concrete. Councilman Wells, stated that they looked at it and decided that they all needed to be replaced.
Lacy Landrum, stated that originally $100,000 was appropriated for Natchez-Skinner and $150,000 was appropriated for Arnolds Creek. These were billed as canal improvements as a total project. Councilman Wells requested as he just stated that the other parts come out so they can be replaced with the additional improvements.
Webb Anderson, stated the numbers started going up because of the larger area.
Councilman Wells, asked if the total cost of the project was $565,000. Webb Anderson, stated the total project budget, but if you were going to move for the base bid and the alternate you would be awarding for $469,221.62 contingent on moving money.
Lacy Landrum, stated to Councilman Wells that he was correct and that the total project budget for the construction and the engineering is $565,000. She stated that’s why they need to move $315,000. Stated to the council that they will be voting to award the construction contract and it will be contingent upon the approval of moving money from the fund balance into the project. So under introduction of an ordinance we will amend the agenda if that’s the council’s pleasure. Then at the next meeting we would have a public hearing and final adoption if we are moving money from the fund balance into a project.
Councilwoman Gonzales, stated she is trying to understand. The original project was in the plan and in the budget, but a little bit over. She doesn’t understand the alternate and she asked how dire that is because there are a lot of other things in the city that needs work, $315,000 worth of work. She wants to know how necessary it is.
Webb Anderson, stated that it would start causing problems with the street and the right time to do it would be while you are doing the other work because it all will tie in together.
Councilman Wells, stated that while they are in the area he is going to recommend they do they work.
Mayor, stated he agrees and while they are out there and the equipment is there and it’s needed. We have the funds we should do it.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio recommend to award to the low bidder KCR Contractors, LLC. on the base bid and the alternate for $469,221.62 contingent upon moving the $315,000 from the fund balance to this project for “Canal Improvements [FY2022]” – project no. 420-12206.

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

Charles Borchers, stated that a few council meeting back he presented a housekeeping resolution related to this application. On March 30th he received an award letter indicating that we had received $400,000 with no cash match involved to make these improvements in the parks and he’s asking the council to accept this award.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews 1) accepting a $400,000 grant from the “Love Louisiana Outdoors” program for improvements to Martin Luther King and Zemurray Parks; 2) authorizing in-kind match in the form of project/program design, engineering, and/or administration by Grants Department staff; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents. (Charles Borchers IV)

Charles Borchers, stated that a few council meeting back he presented a housekeeping resolution related to this application. On March 30th he received an award letter indicating that we had received $400,000 with no cash match involved to make these improvements in the parks and he’s asking the council to accept this award.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews 1) accepting a $400,000 grant from the “Love Louisiana Outdoors” program for improvements to Martin Luther King and Zemurray Parks; 2) authorizing in-kind match in the form of project/program design, engineering, and/or administration by Grants Department staff; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents. (Charles Borchers IV)

Charles Borchers, stated that the request went in, late 2020 and they have been waiting for a while for the grant contract to arrive. They found out last year around July/August that they were approved for funding but they have been waiting since then for the grant contract which they have just received. He is asking the council to accept this and there is a $75,000 cash match which will come from the grant match fund, it’s a 25% match of the total project cost of about $300,000.
Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if this money is ready to be given to us.
Charles Borchers, answered that we have waited for the last year or so and yes it is being given to us.

Councilman Leon, asked once the funding is accepted, how long you have to start the project.

Councilman Charles Borchers, stated capital outlay is expected to take a while so it can be a long process. Once the contract is executed it could take a month or more. It’s kind of a slow process and possibly be started within six months.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews 1) accepting a $225,000 grant from the Capital Outlay Program for roadside drainage improvements in the Ruth-Mitchell-Pine Drive subdivision (in District 1) and along Old Covington Highway between Range Road and Fern Street (in District 2); 2) approving a cash match of $75,000 from the Grant Match Fund; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

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

5. A resolution supporting the submission of a grant application for $23,000 to the Community Water Enrichment Fund for automatic water monitoring/treatment equipment for City water wells. (Charles Borchers IV)

Charles Borchers, stated we have been able to apply every year and our allocation is $23,000 which is the city’s portion of what the parish receives. This grant will be used to install automatic monitoring equipment for water wells testing.

Councilman Wells, asked who is monitoring the equipment.

Charles Borchers, answered, the water and sewer department.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio supporting the submission of a grant application for $23,000 to the Community Water Enrichment Fund for automatic water monitoring/treatment equipment for City water wells.

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

6. A resolution supporting the submission of a grant application for $23,000 to the Local Government Assistance Program to purchase security cameras for City parking malls, parks, and other public spaces. (Charles Borchers IV)

Charles Borchers, stated that they apply for these funds every year and equipment is an eligible category. Cameras are considered equipment and they are proposing to use these funds.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked what parks are included, how will it be allocated.

Charles Borchers, stated that how the money is allocated is yet to be determined.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked that he make sure that Jackson Park get some cameras.

Councilman Wells, asked when was the grant applied for.

Charles Borchers, stated that it has not been applied for yet.

Councilman Wells, stated he been asking for cameras in District 3, He thanked Charles for getting the cameras downtown and for all the parks.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated to be clear $50,000 was already allocated in the budget, so this would be a supplement to that.

Charles Borchers, answered yes

Councilman Well, stated he wants the park covered and he wants the park to be safe.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilwoman Gonzales supporting the submission of a grant application for $23,000 to the Local Government Assistance Program to purchase security cameras for City parking malls, parks, and other public spaces.

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

7. A resolution authorizing the purchase of a KX040-4R1AP Excavator for $65,279.53 for the Water and Sewer Department. State Contract # 4400017852 (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this was approved originally in the water and sewer budget for this year

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if this was within budget.

Jana Soileau, answered yes

Tracy Wells, 610 Mooney Ave, asked what an excavator is used for.

Mayor, stated for cleaning ditches

Tracy Wells, stated that the ditches are not being cleaned and they are not getting the services of ditches being cleaned on a regular basis.

Councilman Wells, stated that the ditches are about a month and half behind in being cleaned in District Three.

Lacy Landrum, stated that there was an earlier question and the amount was $70,000 that has been budgeted.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews authorizing the purchase of a KX040-4R1AP Excavator for $65,279.53 for the Water and Sewer Department. State Contract # 4400017852.

VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0
8. A resolution authorizing the purchase of a Tow-behind Carlton SP 7500 Series Stump Cutter from Ditch Witch of Louisiana for the Total of $73,750.00 RFP 22-21 (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this was another item that was approved in this year’s budget and Ditch Witch was the only company that submitted a proposal.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked how many stumps we have that needs to be grinded.

Robert Williams, answered about 32 stumps

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the maintenance, who’s going to use it and why not sub this out.

Robert Williams, stated that there’s more than that since the storm, trees are being cut and sometimes it’s needed when ditches are cleaned.

Councilman DiVittorio, state that the math doesn’t add up and he ask whose going to run it, and there are some liabilities issue and a lot of maintenance. We could lease one with needed and return it back.

Councilman Wells, asked if Mr. Williams reached out to someone about pricing for the grinding, then he stated he was concerned about safety and the lack of staff. He asked if a tracking device was going to be on the stump grinder. It belong to the city and needs to be used by city workers when they are at work and not for their personal jobs. He stated new equipment needs to have a tracking device. He also stated that we were behind on cleaning the ditches.

Lacy Landrum stated, that’s how equipment is currently used and that’s how it is stated in the policy.

Mayor, stated that we do sub-contract the stump grinders to come in when we need them. He further stated that the department has asked for this piece of equipment for a long time. It’s been asked for and budgeted and needed.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that it doesn’t make any financial since.

Councilman Wells, asked Jana Soileau if the stump grinder has a tracker on it. He asked that she get a tracking device on the equipment

Jana Soileau, stated that she didn’t think it had one, but it could possibly be added.

Councilman Andrews, asked Jana if the item is approved can she check on the tracking device and if that would change the price of the item.

Jana Soileau, stated that she did not thinks so and a tracking device did not have to come from that company.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews authorizing the purchase of a Tow-behind Carlton SP 7500 Series Stump Cutter from Ditch Witch of Louisiana for the Total of $73,750.00 RFP 22-21

VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (N), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (N). Motion Approved 3-2

9. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement between the Industrial Development Board of the City of Hammond, Inc and the City of Hammond for the use of the police training center at 47038 Conrad Anderson Boulevard. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated that the police training center is at this building and has been occupied by the police department for many years. She stated that it came to their attention through the city attorney that the Industrial Development Board owns the building and they are discussing whether to transfer the entire building over to the police department. In the interim they are asking for the council’s approval of the cooperative endeavor agreement for the city to formalize the arrangement. She stated that the other benefit to this item is that the sheriff office also uses that building for training as well. The Hammond Police Department has primary use and the sheriff office has secondary use and they agree to split the cost of replacing the roof with the City of Hammond 50/50, which is the next item.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if the amount on the next item is the full price. They would be covering half of that.

Lacy Landrum, stated that was correct.

Councilman Wells, asked who was on the board.

Lacy Landrum, proceeded to answer and explain.

Councilman Wells, asked when the last time the board had a meeting was and if they were a non-profit.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the Industrial Development Board was a non-profit.

Councilman Wells, asked the City Attorney, would it be an issue if you are on a board and they are asking for money, is he allowed to vote on it.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, stated yes, as long as you or members of your immediate family don’t have a personal interest. Because you are a member of a non-profit board that does not automatically disqualify you.

Lacy Landrum stated for clarity that the Industrial Development Board is not receiving any money. The do not charge the City of Hammond or the Hammond Police Department any rent.

Councilman Wells, he asked about the utilities and who pays for them and why five years.

Lacy Landrum, asked why five years for the arrangement and said that was standard and she asked the city attorney.

Andre Coudrain, stated that the city has had free use of the building and now they are putting money into it and you would want to be sure that you capitalize on what the expense of the roof is. He stated five years is not automatic and it could be a different number.

Councilman Wells, stated he is concerned for the next city council.

Andre Coudrain, stated that under this agreement the city can terminate this on a ninety days’ notice. The five years was to protect the city and capture the investment of the roof, but it can be cancelled but the City within ninety days.
Councilman Wells, stated that he is against it because he doesn’t want to do five years and he feels like they are cheating the next city council and he doesn’t understand why they are not using their own budget.

Mayor, stated that the Assistant Chief can provide input on how long they have had and use the building.

Assistant Chief Monistere, stated that the training center is in use almost every day and they offer classes for Hammond Police Department and other agencies and training.

Councilwoman Gonzales, states that splitting the roof is a good deal. She would rather see the building come to the city and she state we had done a lot to the building and we should ownership. She also asked if they had insurance and who does the maintenance on the building. She asked the city attorney if we had insurance and will we get insurance and why it didn’t cover the roof.

Councilman Wells, asked if the nonprofit is active
Lacy Landrum, stated that they are, they are paying for half.

Robert Williams, stated that the streets department uses the building for training.

Tracy Wells, asked how you can pay insurance and utilities on a building that the city does not own and not come before the council. How can we use taxpayer money to pay insurance on a building that the city does not own?

Mayor, stated that we use the building and it has been given to us to use for about thirty years. The tax payers are getting training out of this building for their police officers, fireman and other departments.

Tracy Wells, ask Mr. Coudrain, City Attorney, can money be used legally to pay an entity that has no contract in place with the city.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, stated yes because the City has an insurable interest in the building. He stated we want to have something in writing and that is why they are proposing this agreement.

Tracy Wells, stated that if this is the Industrial Development Board at 1515 Martin Dr. Suite 136, she stated that this non-profit have not been active with the state of Louisiana was May 17, 2021. The last report filed for this entity was April 10, 2018.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, stated that they do have record title for that property.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve the cooperative endeavor agreement between the Industrial Development Board of the City of Hammond, Inc and the City of Hammond for the use of the police training center at 47038 Conrad Anderson Boulevard, pending the board getting their status in good standing with the Secretary of State.

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

10. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Partin Roofing, LLC for $125,900.00 to remove and replace the existing roof at the Police Training Center. RFP 22-17 (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that they put an RFP out and Partin Roofing was the lowest proposal. She closed this bid out on January 31st and have had to ask for one extension and they granted the extension. They gave them until the 13th to give them the answer of approval.

Councilman Andrews, stated that the Sheriff department is funding for one half of the bill.

Councilman Wells, asked if the Sheriff department is splitting the bill, why we have to pay $125,000.

Jana Soileau, stated that we are going to pay that and they are going to refund the city.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the city will invoice the funds.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Leon authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Partin Roofing, LLC for $125,900.00 to remove and replace the existing roof at the Police Training Center. RFP 22-17

VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Abstain). Motion Approved 4-1 (abstain)

11. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of the City of Hammond with DPC Enterprises in the estimated amount of $59,472.00. (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this was a re-bid of the past contract of the chlorination of our water wells and asking for approval to move forward on the bid from DPC Enterprises.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of the City of Hammond with DPC Enterprises in the estimated amount of $59,472.00.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion approved 5-0

12. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of the City of Hammond with Rail Technical Services in the estimated amount of $28,170.00. (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this was another contract that came to an end and this is a re-bid of the past contract. This is for our monthly and annual inspections.

Councilman Wells, asked where the money was coming from.

Jana Soileau, stated that it is budgeted in the streets department account.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she wasn’t sure if it was budgeted under consultant or rail fees.
Jana Soileau, stated that it came out of consultant fees.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of the City of Hammond with Rail Technical Services in the estimated amount of $28,170.00.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion approved 5-0

13. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with Pointer Smith Contracting for Railroad Track Repairs in the amount of $29,452.00. (Jana Thurman Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this the lowest bid received. The inspection report revealed that there were twenty five cross tie, ten switches at different locations that are in need of repair as soon as possible and they are asking for council’s approval to go forward with the contract for repairs.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Pointer Smith Contracting for Railroad Track Repairs in the amount of $29,452.00.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion approved 5-0

X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com. (Jana Soileau)

1. WOODS 6 FOOT FINISHING MOWER- MODEL# PRO 7200- SERIAL# 128382- AIRPORT
2. UNIT# 1060 KUBOTA 4 WHEEL DRIVE TRACTOR- MODEL# 14630- SERIAL# 35978- AIRPORT
3. UNIT# 1057 GRAVELY ZERO TURN MOWER MODEL #1602 SERIAL# 008148- AIRPORT
4. MEN’S SILVER WEDDING RING
5. ASSORTED WALLET- 25 DIFFERENT COLORS AND STYLES
6. LARGE LEVEL
7. ASSORTED MEN’S WATCHES- 9 DIFFERENT BRANDS
8. BOX OF ASSORTED CLOTHES, NIKE BAG WITH CLOTHES, NIKE SHOES, CAMERA BAG WITH CLOTHES, PAIR SLIPPERS, CREW SOCKS, MESH BOOK BAG WITH CLOTHES, JACKET & COAT.
9. ASSORTED GUN HOLSTERS- 5 DIFFERENT COLORS AND STYLES
10. ASSORTED CD’S AND BAG
11. NINTENDO
12. ASSORTED CAMERA ITEMS. CAMERA BAG, CAMERA, KIE & PHONE, CAMERA CASE, SHARPER IMAGEDIGITAL CAMERA, AND CANON CAMERA
13. ASSORTED PURSES- 10 DIFFERENT COLORS AND SIZES
14. FISHING POLE
15. 6 CONTAINERS OF GAIN DETERGENT AND 3 BOTTLES OF JAC DANIELS AND 1 BOTTLE OF GATORAID.
16. LEXMARK COMPUTER
17. PORTABLE DVD PLAYER
18. BINOCULARS
19. SOCKET SET
20. NYLON BAG, SAINTS BAG
21. BRINKS HOME SECURITY LOCK BOX
22. ASSORTED RADIO PARTS- RADION FACE PLATE, PARTS AND FACE PLATES, CAR STERE(ROUGH)
23. ASSORTED T-SHIRTS, AND BOXERS
24. WINNIS THE POOH BACKSACK
25. ASSORTED OIL AND SOAP
26. 4 PORT CABLE GATEWAY ROUTER
27. ASSORTED VEHICLE PARTS-VEHICLE PARTS, VEHICLE PARTS WITH STEREO EQUIPMENT
28. DOG BED
29. USED SILVER CLIPBOARD
30. DE-WALT TOOL BAG AND TOOLS
31. 50 PCS STUBBY TOOL SET GREAT NECK BRAND
32. HATCHET, AND HAMMER WITH BLACK HANDLE
33. SKILL DRILL BIT SET IN BLACK CASE
34. DEWALT DRILL AND FLASHLIGHT 20V MAX
35. CRAFTMAN UNIVERSAL TOOL SET
36. BATTERY
37. ASSORTED MAG: 2 GLOCK 22, 1 SIG 9MM PISTOL MAG CONTAINING 4 ROUNDS, MAG BULLET, 2 BLACK MAG
38. MULTI PURPOSE TOOL IN A NYLON CASE
39. BLACK BAG W/CLAW HAMMER, AND MISC ITEMS
40. 1 BOX OF 9MM LUGE-R AMMO (MONARCH)
41. ASSORTED ELECTRONICS ITEMS
42. BLACK BAG CONTAINING AN ENVELOPE, PICK TOOL AND REMOTE
43. SOLID COLOR BACK PACK
44. ASSORTED HAND TOOLS, TOOLS IN GREEN BOX, AND RUSTY HAND TOOLS
45. DEWALT TOOLS, AND DEWALT AIR POWERED NAILGUN.
46. ASSORTED PERFUME AND SEAN JOHN AND GUCCI COLOGNE
47. DRUM & SYMBOL IN A BLACK BAG
48. ASSORTED BAGS OF CLOTHING

Jana Soileau, asked that the three bottles of Jack Daniels be removed from item # 15, and a Vizio Television be added which would be item # 50.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to amend item number 15 to remove three bottles of Jack Daniels and add the Vizio TV.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion approved 5-0 to amend

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce the ordinance as amended to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below on to sell on Govdeals.com.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion approved 5-0

Public Hearing will be scheduled for April 26, 2022 at 5:30pm

2. Introduction of an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 30’ right of way agreement with Entergy for electrical service to the treatment plant expansion on Fagan Drive. (Webb Anderson)

Webb Anderson, stated that the have been working with Entergy and this is an existing project that they have had going on and it’s to get the service from Fagan Drive to the plant.

Councilman Wells, asked where they are getting the service from now.

Webb Anderson, stated they have an existing service to the plant by the Head Works and one by their offices, but this is the service for the new blowers they put in for the new aerators.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 30’ right of way agreement with Entergy for electrical service to the treatment plant expansion on Fagan Drive.

Public Hearing will be scheduled for April 26, 2022 at 5:30pm

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion approved 5-0

XL REPORTS:

Mayor: No Report
Council:
- Housing Committee Report
Karen Walston, 404 S. Cherry St gave a report of the Housing Committee, stated they selected the consultants for the housing study. They are working with CIVIX and they were able to get them to reduce the price of the study, they signed the contract and are working on a kick off day for April 22, 2022. She invited the city council to attend.

Lemar Marshall, thanked the council for giving them the responsibility and funding.

Councilman Wells, thanked the whole committee.

- Charter Review Committee Report
Frank DiVittorio, Chair of the Charter Review Committee, handed out a written report of the committee to the administration and council. He proceed to explain the written report and the committees finding.
Lemar Marshall, asked about department head evaluations and stated that they serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.
Frank DiVittorio, stated that balances could be changed in the charter.
Arlene Knighten, stated that the evaluation would be for the benefit of the community.
Councilman Wells, asked about the debt on number one related to bond debt
Frank DiVittorio, stated the council and the city cannot just incur debt, they would have to have an election as it relates to a bond.
Tracey Wells, stated that it was a pleasure working with the committee.
Councilman Leon, thanked the committee and stated that we should get the document archived because of the amount of work that went into it.
City Council members, thanked everyone for working on the committee for no compensation and doing a good job and it's important to have residence that want to improve the city.
Councilman Wells, thanked the city council, that they have made him a better person. Thanked Pastor Jackson and Mr. Showers for coming out. Thanked the representatives for presenting the information about street lights. He stated that they have a problem with getting ditches and streets cleaned. He stated Pastor Andrews and Pastor Showers are a part of his report.
Pastor Jackson, thanked God for the community and council and he wants to see everyone come together he stated it all comes down to love and it doesn't matter who you are and where we come from, we are one Hammond and that's what we should work toward.
Michael Shower, President Greater Tangipahoa Parish NAACP, stated he was here to clarify some comments that were made in the Daily Star and the last City Council meeting concerning the booking room incident. Stated from the NAACP perspective, what happened in the booking room was wrong and that people need to be held accountable. He stated there were two meeting and they talked about what happened in the booking room and they wanted the Mayor to know the sentiments of the community and they offered solutions. He stated that the expert offered recommendations and he asked has any of those recommendations been taken or acted upon. He stated that the easiest recommendation that he thought should have been addressed is that the Hammond Police Department should ensure that its organizational chart is accurate and up to date. He also stated that the Daily Star posted an article with comments he did not make and they could have called and verified the comments but they did not. He wanted to clear the record regarding what was printed in the newspaper stated he did not say what they printed. He stated that the community is looking for accountability and the city must restore public trust with the police department and city government.
Councilman Wells, Asked Mr. Showers if he met with the Mayor two weeks ago regarding the booking room. Mr. Showers, stated he meet with the Mayor two years ago when this first came to the NAACP knowledge and has not met with the Mayor since.
Councilman Wells, stated that the reason he asked, was because he wanted it to go on the record because people were thinking that he and others met with the Mayor about a month ago. He Stated that he wanted him to say that it's been two years ago. They did install one new camera in the jail and he is still lost and confused and would like questions answered. Thanked him for coming and apologized that he had to stay so long
Councilman Andrews, Stated that there will be an Easter Egg Hunt from 10am at Martin Luther King Park. He stated that he is still receiving phone calls on water bills not being read and accurate.
Lacy Landrum, stated that any time someone thinks that they have an inaccurate bill they need to report it.
Councilman Wells, asked what happened to the electronic meter reading devices that they purchased and spent over a about a half million dollars on. He stated that they cannot keep coming up with these misreads meters. He asked about the equipment.
Lacy Landrum, stated that you did not spend $500,000 on new equipment, you spent money to update the software. She stated that there were 1500 out of 7100 meters that are radio electronically.
Councilman DiVittorio, stated a lot of money was spent paying a contractor so it was brought in house. We should have just keep the contractor, because we are not doing it well in-house. He is still getting calls about the bills.
Mayor, stated that when there is problem we address them.
Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the policy regarding replacing lights with Entergy from regular light to the LED light.
Lacy Landrum, stated we do not have a policy on that.
Mayor, stated the Robert Morgan generally handles that.

X. ADJOURN:
There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and a second by Councilman Andrews to Adjoin.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion approved 5-0 and the meeting was adjoined

CERTIFICATION OF CLERK
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.