

**Hammond City Council Members**  
**Councilman Kip Andrews - President**  
**Councilman Sam DiVittorio - Vice President**  
**Councilman Devon Wells**  
**Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales**  
**Councilman Steve Leon**

**City Council Clerk, Lisa Cockerham**  
**City Attorney, Andre Coudrain**



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
312 EAST CHARLES STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA  
August 23, 2022  
5:30pm**

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

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

**III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An ordinance to extend the moratorium on the acceptance and processing of subdivision plats, site development plans or zoning amendments for multifamily housing within the city of Hammond for an additional 90 days.

**Sam DiVittorio**, asked if there was anyone present to speak about the above item.

**No Public Comment**

2. In accordance with Office of Justice Programs grant requirements, an ordinance to update Rule XI-6 Information Security of the City's IT Policy and Procedure Manual to include a procedure for reporting an actual or imminent breach of personally identifiable information associated with an OJP-funded program or activity or a federal information system used or operated by the City.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated this was a housekeeping matter the Office of Justice Program which awards funding to our police department requires that we have this policy in place. Because it was originally passed by an ordinance of the council, an ordinance is needed to update it.

**No Public Comment**



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
312 EAST CHARLES STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA  
August 23, 2022  
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

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

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

**III. PRAYER: Kip Andrews**

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

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. Approval of Minutes of the August 3, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to approve the minutes of August 3, 2022.

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

2. Approval of Minutes of the August 9, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio to approve the minutes of August 9, 2022.

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

**VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:**

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to extend the moratorium on the acceptance and processing of subdivision plats, site development plans or zoning amendments for multifamily housing within the city of Hammond for an additional 90 days.

**Sam DiVittorio** stated that they went over this item at the last meeting and he made a proposal to extend the moratorium for 90 days and he makes a motion to approve.

**There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to approve the adoption of an ordinance to extend the moratorium on the acceptance and processing of subdivision plats, site development plans or zoning amendments for multifamily housing within the city of Hammond for an additional 90 days.**

**Councilman Wells enters meeting**

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

2. Final adoption of an ordinance, In accordance with Office of Justice Programs grant requirements, an ordinance to update Rule XI-6 Information Security of the City's IT Policy and Procedure Manual to include a procedure for reporting an actual or imminent breach of personally identifiable information associated with an OJP-funded program or activity or a federal information system used or operated by the City.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve an ordinance, In accordance with Office of Justice Programs grant requirements, an ordinance to update Rule XI-6 Information Security of the City's IT Policy and Procedure Manual to include a procedure for reporting an actual or imminent breach of personally identifiable information associated with an OJP-funded program or activity or a federal information system used or operated by the City.**

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

## **VII. RESOLUTIONS:**

1. A resolution to approve Holy Ghost to hold its annual Parish Fair on October 21, 22, 23, 2022 within the boundaries of Magnolia Street from W. Colorado to railroad track, and NW Railroad Avenue from W. Colorado to railroad track. (Hollie Wootan)

**Hollie Wootan**, presented this item and stated on behalf of Holy Ghost Catholic Church she is requesting to hold its annual Parish Fair.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Steve Leon to approve Holy Ghost to hold its annual Parish Fair on October 21, 22, 23, 2022 within the boundaries of Magnolia Street from W. Colorado to railroad track, and NW Railroad Avenue from W. Colorado to railroad track.**

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

2. A resolution authorizing Holy Ghost Parish Fair Committee to sell alcohol on Friday, October 21, 2022, from 5pm to 11pm, Saturday, October 22, 2022, from 8am to 10pm, and Sunday, October 23, 2022, from 10am to 7pm within the boundaries set.

**Hollie Wootan**, stated they would be checking ID's.

**There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilwoman Gonzales approve Holy Ghost to hold its annual Parish Fair on October 21, 22, 23, 2022 within the boundaries of Magnolia Street from W. Colorado to railroad track, and NW Railroad Avenue from W. Colorado to railroad track.**

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

3. A resolution authorizing Holy Ghost Parish Fair Committee to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for the following dates and times: Friday, October 21, 2022, from 5pm to 11pm, Saturday, October 22, 2022, from 8am to 10pm, and Sunday, October 23, 2022, from 10am to 7pm within the boundaries set.

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews approve Holy Ghost Parish Fair Committee to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for the following dates and times: Friday, October 21, 2022, from 5pm to 11pm, Saturday, October 22, 2022, from 8am to 10pm, and Sunday, October 23, 2022, from 10am to 7pm within the boundaries set.**

**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 Regional Arts Center to sell and serve alcohol on Friday, October 14, 2022 from 4:00pm until 10:00pm for the Brews Arts Festival 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.

**Jordan Kennig**, stated the Brews Arts Festival is one of three major fundraising events. The money raised goes back into the community and they are expecting about four hundred guests and they will have food vendors

**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 Friday, October 14, 2022 from 4:00pm until 10:00pm for the Brews Arts Festival 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**

5. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Friday, October 14, 2022 from 4:00pm until 10:00pm for the Brews Arts Festival 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. (Jordan Kenning)

**Jordan Kennig**, stated this applies to the parking lot area and staff would be present to monitor and keep patrons from leaving and ID's will be checked.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Friday, October 14, 2022 from 4:00pm until 10:00pm for the Brews Arts Festival 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. Hammond, LA 70401**

**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 transfer \$45,000 from Water/Sewer Available Funds (61636000 - 560330) to a new project for new chlorine injector pumps at the South Treatment Plant.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated this was for emergency repairs and although the quote is for \$42,052.14 she is asking for \$45,000 in case there are some unforeseen cost associated with the repairs.

**Councilman Wells** asked her to explain what the injection pump is.  
**Lacy Landrum** explained this puts chlorine into the system.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to approve a resolution to transfer \$45,000 from Water/Sewer Available Funds (61636000 - 560330) to a new project for new chlorine injector pumps at the South Treatment Plant.**

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

7. A resolution to authorize the purchase of 13 Mobile Radios for the 2023 Tahoe's from Two-Way Communications. Total Cost \$31,840.64 State Contract 4400025021

**Chief Edwin Bergeron**, stated these are for the new vehicles. He stated they have been having supply issues but they will go ahead and order them so when they get the vehicles they will have the radios.

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales authorizing the purchase of 13 Mobile Radios for the 2023 Tahoe's from Two-Way Communications. Total Cost \$31,840.64 State Contract 4400025021.**

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

8. A resolution to authorize the purchase of Computer Aided Dispatch/Mobile Computing, Law Enforcement Records Management System and 5 year annual support from Kologik, LLC in the total amount of \$732,175.00

**Chief Bergeron**, stated this is for a new system that takes advantage of new technology. He stated the reasons for moving to Kologik is that it is a better process and better system for the department.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked who do we currently use?

**Councilman Leon** asked if Marcus has anything to do with the selection.

**Chief Bergeron** stated Marcus has been involved since they started.

**Councilman Leon** asked Marcus for his opinion.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that she had a question regarding the proposal. She asked stated this one was not the cheapest and she asked what the benefit and why did they choose this one.

**Chief Bergeron**, stated there were several reasons they chose to go with Kologik; the cloud base system is better and it does several other things like geofencing for crime reports and stats etc.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if there were any representative from the previous and new companies.

**Chief Bergeron** stated that Kologik was not present and he did not ask them to come, but someone from the current vendor PTS was present.

**Scott Fuquay and Jeremy Payne with PTS**, stated it's a matter of opinion on what's better. He stated they were present because they care and if there was something they could do they would try and fix it.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked them about their bid and the big difference in price between them and the other bidder.

**Jeremy Payne**, stated that the RFP did not state a cloud base solution. He stated they asked a question with the RFP process if the city would prefer a cloud base or client server based solution and he stated the response the received was that the city was going to provide the servers and the workstations so they quoted and on-site solution which they currently have. He stated that the RFP did not state that the preference was a cloud based solution. He proceed to explain what was included, what they offered and the cost. He stated that the RFP did not state that a cloud based solution. He stated that they asked the question what was preferred, the response they got back from the city was that the city was going to provide the servers and the workstations so they inferred that being on premise like the currently had. He stated that's how they responded to the RFP.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked how long they have been servicing the City of Hammond.

**Jeremy Payne**, stated since 1999.

**Jana Soileau** stated that the question that he proposed was sent in by Ms. Lawanna Thompson and she proceeded to read from the email she received. Her response to the question was that the vendor provides a cloud based system for full operation of their application, stated it was in writing and she has a copy of the email.

**Marcus McMillian** explained the process and the reason for the price.

**Councilman DiVittorio** asked about what PTS offering is compared to Kologik in comparison to price.

**Chief Bergeron**, stated that PTS cannot do the same things as what Kologik is offering them right now. PTS does not fit the needs of the Hammond Police Department at this time. He proceed to explain the features of Kologik and how they will benefit the Hammond Police Department.

**Marcus McMillian**, explained the price difference and gave a breakdown of the cost. He stated the reason there is a drastic price difference is because the server is being housed by them and services are being done in their data rooms and it's not being done here. The city is only supplying the network connection to reach them. That is what makes the drastic change in the cost.

**Chief Bergeron**, stated PTS is not at the stage where they need to be right now. They cannot offer them what other companies can.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if this came out of the millage.

**Chief Bergeron**, stated yes

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated that the amount is over five years and is it within budget.

**Chief Bergeron**, stated yes.

**Councilman Wells**, left the meeting.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if he thought it was worth it.

**Mayor**, stated the question to you is it worth it

**Chief Bergeron**, stated absolutely it's worth it.

**Marcus McMillian** stated that he evaluated what the chief felt would be best for his department.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon authorizing the purchase of Computer Aided Dispatch/Mobile Computing, Law Enforcement Records Management System and 5 year annual support from Kologik, LLC in the total amount of \$732,175.00.**

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

9. A resolution to authorize the purchase of (4) 2023 F-150 Crew Cab Trucks for the Police Department from Bill Hood Ford. Cost \$157,944.00 Stated Contract 4400023793 (Chief Edwin Bergeron)

**Chief Bergeron**, stated that GMC cut the number of cars they were able to get. He is not sure when the thirteen that they were approved for is coming in. They have a need for these four trucks but they will not be a police package trucks. These will be utilized by the fleet division for moving tires and stuff from the city barn back to the fleet yard as well as the training division for taking things to the range. They will not be patrol truck but will be utilized for going back and forth to range and for the vehicle maintenance division.

**Councilman Wells** returns to meeting.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked, why they need four.

**Chief Bergeron**, stated that it would help them get four units back in patrol and that was the number that was cut from GMC Tahoe's. The truck is the only thing open on state contract.

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman DiVittorio authorizing the purchase of (4) 2023 F-150 Crew Cab Trucks for the Police Department from Bill Hood Ford. Cost \$157,944.00 Stated Contract 4400023793.**

**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 purchase of a Sewer Cleaning Combination Truck from Covington Sales and Services for the Street Department. RFP 23-18 Total Cost \$464,984.00 (Robert Williams)

**Robert Williams, city street supervisor stated** that the money has been allocated for the truck.

**Councilman Leon**, asked if we currently have one.

**Robert Williams** stated the water department has one.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if this is what was discussed a while back and they budgeted the money for.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if this was within budget.

**Councilman Wells**, stated they have issues on Mooney Ave and they have culverts stopped up and will this truck be able to unstop them.

**Robert Williams**, stated as long as there are not roots in the pipes.

**Councilman Wells** stated, he called the after-hours number because Ms. Ann who was present was getting water in her house. He asked what we could do to solve the problem right now. He stated that they told him the Mayor had to give them permission to get sandbags. He asked what they could do to keep this from happening.

**Robert Williams**, stated to send some guys out to open the pipes up and get with the water department truck.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked about AlAida St.

**Robert Williams**, stated that it was all clean. He stated all the culverts are clean.

**Councilman Wells**, asked if the sewer is creating a problem what do they need to do.

**Robert Williams**, stated the sewer is not creating a problem it's just the pipes are stopped up, they got mud in them and it can be cleaned out. He stated some problems they don't see until after it rains.

**Councilman Wells**, stated he saw this problem two weeks ago. He thanked the Mayor for saying let's get it solved right away. He stated we have an issue and a problem that can be easily fixed.

**Mayor** stated they addressed it and Guy had someone go out there and they didn't know if it was a sewer. Guy called Robert and Robert's men went out and they are getting it done. He stated this truck will help with a lot of that, not necessarily this, but he's going to get it taken care of.

**Councilman Wells**, called up Ms. Ann

**Ms. Ann's son** came up and stated that she has been there for many years and this is not an issue that just happened. He talked about the drainage on the east and west side of Mooney Ave. He was glad he was there to help his mother because the water can up to the door. He asked if the council could upgrade the drainage on the east side like the west side.

**Ms. Ann**, stated she has been on the street since 1972 and nothing has changed. She saw the city fix the opposite side of the street. Water is coming in her house and she is a tax payer and wants it fixed. She asked for drainage improvement to get the problem fixed.

**There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells authorizing the purchase of a Sewer Cleaning Combination Truck from Covington Sales and Services for the Street Department. RFP 23-18 Total Cost \$464,984.00.**

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

11. A resolution to authorize the purchase of a 2023 F-150 Truck for the Street Department from Bill Hood Ford. Total Cost \$37,404.00 State Contract 4400023793

**Robert Williams**, stated this is in the budget and is for the employees when on call.

**Councilman Andrews**, asked what the truck would be used for.

**Robert Williams**, stated his right hand person.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked what is he driving now.

**Robert Williams**, stated an old truck.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** left the meeting.

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman DiVittorio authorizing the purchase of a 2023 F-150 Truck for the Street Department from Bill Hood Ford. Total Cost \$37,404.00 State Contract 4400023793**

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

12. A resolution for the approval of solid waste service contract with Waste Pro of Louisiana, Inc.

**Andre Coudrain** stated there was mutual agreement to terminate the Waste disposal contract with Amwaste effective August 31, 2022. This is a contract with a new contractor Waste Pro. It has the same substantive provision, except price, and defers to Lacy on the price changes. He stated he could answer questions on the contract itself.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** returns to meeting

**Councilman Leon**, asked about the pick-up.

**Andre Coudrain**, explained the provision of the current and terminated contract. This contract allows for a mobility impaired resident that is having trouble with getting there garbage to the street they can call the company to make arrangements for them to pick up near their house.

**Councilman Leon**, stated he has a lot of single elderly people in his district and he asked if they had a smaller container they would pick that up.

**Jolene Johnson the Regional Director of the Government Relations for Waste Pro**, was available to answer questions. She stated they are using side loader but they will also have a chase truck that can accommodate that, but they would need a list of those addresses.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked who invited them to come tonight.

**Jolene Johnson**, answered the Mayor

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if people can only put their small container out, will they pick that up.

**Jolene Johnson**, stated that they are going to pick up outside the can as well. If they put a smaller container out they are still going to pick it up.

**Lacy Landrum** stated that she thinks the current contract just specified a minimum of 65, the current container that has everyone uses is 95.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if the current contract opted out of this agreement.

**Andre Coudrain**, stated the current company came to the city with a price increase to increase the price that wasn't provided in the contract or to cut back to one day a week pick up service which led to a bigger discussion that he was not a part of, do we want a new company to pick up garbage and that's what led to the termination of that contract.

**Councilman Wells**, asked how much is currently being charge per unit.

**Lacy Landrum** stated the current charge for Amwaste of \$12.59 and the customer is charged \$14.08 because the city provides the recycling services and have to pay for the time, labor and disposal. She stated they have some options going forward with the services they want to provide customers. Tonight they are actually here to talk about the contract itself, the terms and the agreement.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that under this contract it's \$18.60 per unit. She stated they would have to increase the fee under the new contract and that she understands that is not what they are doing tonight but the council needs to understand.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated that they were going to increase the fee regardless. The minimum fee that was proposed by Amwaste was \$4 per unit so the minimum fee was already going up so it was a matter of who do you want to collect the garbage.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked Andre Coudrain if we were released from the current contract and obligation.

**Andre Coudrain**, stated that under our arrangement in the transition we are allowed to us Amwaste trash cans.

**Jolene Johnson**, stated the plan to have their new cans out before the end of September.

**Councilman Wells**, asked Jolene to explain how they are going to go to homes of the elderly and get their garbage.

**Jolene Johnson**, stated they call it front door/back door service the can is place in a particular space and their employee will go and get it, empty it and put it back. They will be validated.

**Councilman Wells**, asked how they are going to validate.

**Jolene Johnson** stated that they will have some form of disclosure from their doctor or if they are in a wheelchair etc.

**Councilman Wells**, asked if it is in the contract that if a person is not able to put their garbage out that they would go to the door.

**Andre Coudrain**, read from the contract that the contractor shall make reasonable accommodations to retrieve carts from a location near the home for residents with a mobility impairment who has registered with



the contractor. They will have to contact the contractor and register and once it has been checked that there is a mobility impairment, the contract states they will retrieve the carts from a location near the home.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if there was something in the contract that will hold them accountable if there are bad experiences.

**Andre Coudrain**, stated they do have liquidated damages with a per diem penalty for poor service.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked Lacy how much the cost would affect the bill to the citizens.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated that was up to the council and is for a later discussion of what the rate increase would be.

**Councilman DiVittorio** asked if anyone was present from Amwaste, he invited them up.

**Dustin Fortenberry** District manager for Amwaste, was available to answer questions. He stated he started the contract with the city in 2009. He explained the company's position on the price increase and the contract process.

**Councilman Wells**, asked Dustin Fortenberry if he sat down with Andre about the increase.

**Dustin Fortenberry**, stated he hadn't.

**Andre Coudrain**, stated he spoke with their lawyers.

**Tracy Washington Wells**, 1610 Mooney Ave, she talked about how much she was charged and asked about the extra money that is collected.

**Lacy Landrum** stated, originally passed was the additional rate and it was to pay for the recycling services that are offered out at Highway 190 for employee, disposal and recycling. They have always has a slightly higher cost so they would not have to come every year during the five year period to raise the rates on the customers.

**Tracy Washington Wells**, stated to the council that they are being asked to vote on a five year contract and they do not know how it is going to affect citizens/elderly. She stated to them that they do not know what the cost is going to be. She asked, why would they vote for a five year contract and not know how it is going to affect the citizens. She doesn't think this is a good decision to make tonight.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if Amwaste is going to continue picking up trash until something is figured out.

**Dustin Fortenberry**, stated without legal representation present, he said their contract ends Wednesday, but they are not pulling resources. It will take an interim agreement between now and completion of bids, but nothings in place for that.

**Andre Coudrain** stated that our agreement with Amwaste expires at the end of the month, they could extend it. But there would have to be an agreement with them to extend that for some transition period.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that his concern was for his constituents, the price.

**Mayor Panepinto**, stated that we have had problems and the problems haven't been fixed. It's time to make a change and this is the right thing to do. He stated that this was a good company, they checked references and they do a good job. He stated that Andre has worked with the attorney's and this has been a process.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that this is a big decision and they didn't get everything until recently. The concern he has is that they are voting on a decision that is proposed for five years.

**Mayor Panepinto**, stated that none of these companies are going to give a year contract, five years are common.

**Councilman Wells** asked why we they not doing a contract and looking at other options. He asked how many people were proposed for this. He asked about doing proposals.

**Andre Coudrain**, stated that you can but you don't have to because this is for professional services. He stated that he was not engaged in any of other discussion with other contractors. He stated that the Amwaste and Waste Pro contracts are very similar.

**Councilman Andrews** stated that he thought the issue would be the amount of the bill.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked how long it would take to get some options as far as increases.

**Andre Coudrain**, stated that this is the agreement with the contractor, then you would have to decide what you are going to charge back to the citizens.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked it there has been a discussion of what it is going to be.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated that she did not know that they were going to be having this discussion because they were not going to talk about the rates tonight. She stated that when this was proposed everyone had a full

breakdown on a spreadsheet and explained the breakdown, variables and comparison. She stated either way we are looking at a rate increase of a minimum of four dollars.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked what are the options to have trash pickup and take a few weeks to figure out what is the best way to go?

**Andre Coudrain**, stated that we have seven days on the existing contract and they could go back to Amwaste and proposed to the four dollar increase for a short period of time to give the council more time to decide what they want to do in terms of passing on a cost increase to residence, that is depending upon Amwaste agree to that.

**Frank DiVittorio**, 1 Northbrook Circle, asked if this contract was scheduled to last another year and the half and if there was a mutual agreement to terminate the contract one week after this meeting without having a new one in place.

**Andre Coudrain**, stated that there were discussions but the new one was not yet fully negotiated by the time the first one was terminated.

**Frank DiVittorio**, asked, that someone made a decision to terminate the current contract before they put in place contract.

**Andre Coudrain**, stated before the new one was fully negotiated, correct.

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated they could have come to the council with some options, going through the process of having something in place before terminating the existing contract.

**Mayor**, stated the garbage would be picked up on an emergency bases. He stated we had a company that wasn't serving us properly and wanted an increase.

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated that you terminated the contract before you had one in place.

**Mayor Panepinto** state with a contingency plan in place yes.

**Councilman Wells**, asked Andre if this item can be tabled.

**Andre Coudrain** stated you approve, deny or table, you can decide whatever you want to do.

**Ms. Bell, 109 Lizzie Watts Lane**, she stated she was on a fixed income and she states that every month she looks at her bill and it's going higher. She doesn't think they should be rushing.

**Mayor**, stated respectfully to Ms. Bell that the contract has been worked on for a month with the attorney's and it going to go up regardless. We will not be without service and that what they are here tonight for, to vote on it.

**There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to table the approval of solid waste service contract with Waste Pro of Louisiana, Inc.**

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

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

1. Introduction of an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Meshach F. Samuels (owner) to rezone 0.313 acres of land from RS-3 to MX-N, located at 1102 N. Cherry St. per survey by William J. Bodin, PLS dated 2/8/2022: Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-04-00107)

**Lacy Landrum** stated that this item was referred back to planning and zoning and they met and reviewed Mr. Samuels request. He is seeking to rezone this property from RS-3 to be used for his car lot. Planning and Zoning had some discussion on what the car lot would look like. The recommendation that came back from the Planning and Zoning Commission was to do an expanded conditional use which means it only stays with Mr. Samuel while he owns the property. She stated that Mr. Samuels was present if the council needs to speak to him and tonight was for introduction and then a public hearing for more discussion.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked about the fencing and screening of the car lot. She asked about people being able to see the vehicles.

**Mayor Panepinto**, stated that Mr. Samuels said it would be by appointment only and also take care of the residents that don't want to see it and no more than ten cars on the property.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked who is going to enforce this, making sure that there is not more than ten vehicles. She stated this could be an enforcement issue.

**Lacy Landrum** stated that it would be the same as code enforcement.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated that this was in his district and he will let it go through the process of being introduced but he stated for the record that he is not voting for this because it is going into a residential area. He stated that he is totally against it.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells** to introduce an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Meshach F. Samuels (owner) to rezone 0.313 acres of land from RS-3 to MX-N, located at 1102 N. Cherry St. per survey by William J. Bodin, PLS dated 2/8/2022: Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-04-00107)

**VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y), Councilman DiVittorio (N), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 4-1**

**Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday September 13, 2022 at 5:30pm**

2. Introduction of an Ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget to transfer \$66,107 from the General Fund (100) balance to General Administration (10015800) for the funding of nonprofit partners. (Councilman Wells)

**Councilman Wells**, stated the committee went over the budget they had. He is basing his decision on what he heard from the last council meeting. Stated the committee recommend that they transfer out of the budget sixty-six thousand, one hundred and seven dollars. The committee sent it back to them.

**Mayor Panepinto** asked if the sixty-six thousand is going to be given across the board, it's being added to a \$225,000 budget that was given to the committee. He ask who the sixty-six thousand is going to be given to.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated it was going to be put in the non-profit fund and then they would vote on how to award the money.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that they had already increased the non-profits when they had the budget meeting.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that they gave a budget for them to work off of and the proposal were sent back to them over budget. He stated that it would have been nice to have recommendations that were within budget, then a recommendation that gave everyone what they wanted. He stated they did not give them much structure but they gave them a budget to work with that had been increased by twenty three percent from the last year's budget. He stated that if someone is asking for money they should be happy with whatever they are getting if they weren't getting anything beforehand.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated that it is back on them to pick and determine the amounts.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated they could tell the committee to give an option within budget.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that her understanding is that they are done with this year's recommendations. Giving it back to them isn't an option. So she agree that it would be up to them to determine if it's going to be within budget, what the amounts are.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he is looking for the \$66,000.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated that as a point of reference the council has a copy of the spreadsheet and how they were funded in the past two years versus their ask for the current year and that is totaled to show the difference to the budget.

**There was a motion by Councilman Wells to introduce an Ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budget to transfer \$66,107 from the General Fund (100) balance to General Administration (10015800) for the funding of nonprofit partners. There was no second.**

**Council President Andrews stated that this motion dies for a lack of a second.**

## **IX. REPORTS:**

**Mayor:** Mayor Panepinto stated that Hot August Nights will be Friday from 5:30pm to 10pm so come out with your family and friends and enjoy.

**Council:**

**Councilman Wells**, stated that someone from his district wanted to speak about a speed bump and he asked them to come up.

**Bobbi Cade, 103 Lizzie Watts Lane** off 1403 Palmetto Street and she asked about getting a speed bump for Palmetto St. She stated they have vehicles speeding every day. They have children and they are asking to get speed bumps on Palmetto Street and Lizzie Watts.

**Councilman Leon**, stated that there was a process for that. Because he has several in his district he is working on now.

**Councilman Wells**, asked him to explain the process.

**Councilman Leon**, explained the process.

**Councilman Wells**, thanked Councilman Leon and stated that the people in his district has to come to the council meeting to get things done. It's not as easy for the people in his district so he prefers that they come and say what they want.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked for a lights update.

**Mayor Panepinto**, stated that everything is done in Villa West except two underground bores on the back end but all the other lights are working.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated on Roma Ave and a few on Anita Blvd.

**Mayor Panepinto**, he stated they are working on those now, the rain has been hindering them and they have a contractor that's going to come and help them. He is not sure how things are going to go with the rain, but someone is starting tomorrow.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, Asked about the contractor.

**Mayor**, stated Tangi

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked about the light at the corner of Rue St. Martin and Rue De La Paix.

**Councilman Wells** leaves the meeting

**Mayor**, stated that was the boring, they have located where they are going to do it and they are waiting on Entergy care of it.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked for an estimate, besides the rain.

**Mayor**, stated that it is the next thing that they need to do as far as boring.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he has been getting calls about some of the drains and gutters in some of the subdivisions that are filled with grass. He asked whose department is it.

**Mayor**, stated to give them the addresses and they would get Robert to get right on it.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked about the buggies on Hardin and Anderson Drive. He asked if that was code enforcement or Whitney.

**Lacy Landrum** stated, that was Whitney and they picks them up regularly.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked about the demo list and stated there was a house on Anderson that has been there for a while. He asked if that is coming to the council.

**Mayor**, stated that was a Robert or Bobby question.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated that he will be forwarding to information about ditches in his area that needs to be addressed.

**Councilman Leon**, stated that he has sent some things to Lacy and he appreciates her working through some of those issues. He stated that at the entrance of Whitmore, he talked to Buddy and they have resurfaced Whitmore Drive a few times and the entrance it keeps failing. Buddy stated that they are done with it for now asked if we can smooth it out until they can figure it out.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated she will continue to send her list by email instead of using the council reports.

## **X. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Andrews** to adjourn the meeting. **Motion Approved 4-0**

## **CERTIFICATION OF CLERK**

I LISA COCKERHAM, CLERK OF COUNCIL DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE

AND FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS  
TRANSACTION AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD AUGUST 23,

2022

BEING 10 PAGES IN LENGTH

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LISA COCKERHAM  
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

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PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS