**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**

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**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**MINUTES**

**312 EAST CHARLES STREET**

**HAMMOND, LOUISIANA**

**October 11, 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: NONE**

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**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL**

**REGULAR SESSION MINUTES**

**312 EAST CHARLES STREET**

**HAMMOND, LOUISIANA**

**October 11, 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.

**Council President Andrews,** asked everyone to be respectful and govern themselves accordingly.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of the September 27, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to approve the minutes of September 27, 2022

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

Presentation: Gabby Johnson and Schendlyn Payton of Face to Face Enrichment described the services they provide in Hammond at COPE Center.

Councilman Wells enters the meeting

Council President Andrews presented a certificate of recognition to Olivia Bender, Hammond High Magnet School JROTC Cadet. She was also presented with an award from the Department of Army.

VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: NONE

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

1.A resolution to appoint Kyle Johnson to the Hammond Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board for a three-year term ending on July 29, 2025.

**Kip Andrews,** recommended Kyle Johnson for the appointment.

**Kyle Johnson** was present and he stated he will accept the position.

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales** to approve a resolution to appoint Kyle Johnson to the Hammond Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board for a three-year term ending on July 29, 2025.

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

2. A resolution to “Ratify and Award bids for “Sewer Rehabilitation [FY2022-23]” (Chuck Spangler)”

**Chuck Spangler,** stated there were six bidders and he presented bid results and recommends the award to S & P Liner the low bidder for $1,990,911.00. He discussed the work order and contract.

**Tracy Wells,** Mooney Ave, asked about the direction of the work and if any of this was a duplication of work from grants.

**Chuck Spangler,** responded no and explained that these were new leaks.

**Ron Matthews,** 905 Del Mar, stated it was good to have preventive maintenance on the sewer. He asked if the problem was from the grease traps from the fast food businesses.

**Chuck Spangler**, answered yes.

There was a discussion on regulating the discharge of grease from businesses into the sewer system.

**There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews** to “Ratify and Award bids for “Sewer Rehabilitation [FY2022-23]”.

**Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y)**

3.  A resolution 1) accepting a $19,965 grant from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase portable radios for the Hammond Police Department; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

**Charles Borchers,** stated this was originally presented back in July and they have received the award notification and they are asking the council to approve the acceptance of the award. There is no match requirement and these are federal dollars that are allocated annually based on crime statistics and demographics. The radios are a high priority for the police department.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews** to approve a resolution 1) accepting a $19,965 grant from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase portable radios for the Hammond Police Department; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

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

4. A resolution to authorize the purchase of (4) 2023 Ram 1500 SSV Crew Cab 4 x 4 for the Police Department from Community Motors, LLC Total Cost $148,117.16. Stated Contract 4400023795 (Jana Soileau)

**Jana Soileau**, stated these vehicles will replace the order for the Ford 150’s that were place with Ford. The order was not accepted because Ford met their maximum of what they were accepting. The police department has found the dodges and they are wanted to move forward with the purchase. If the resolutions is passed they will cancel the Purchase order for the F-150’s and proceed with this order.

There was a discussion on the differences in cost and use of the vehicles.

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales** authorizing the purchase of (4) 2023 Ram 1500 SSV Crew Cab 4 x 4 for the Police Department from Community Motors, LLC Total Cost $148,117.16. Stated Contract 4400023795

**VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y),**

**Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion Approved 5-0**

5. A resolution to authorize the purchase of 2022 Ram 1500 Tradesman Quad Cab for the Street Department from Community Motors, LLC. Total Cost $35,713.00 (Jana Soileau)

**Jana Soileau**, stated this is the same situation as the previous and the street department came before the city council asking for approval for a truck that was approved in the budget. Ford did not accept that order. This truck is on the lot and they will be able to get in as early as Thursday and she is asking the council’s approval to proceed with the order.

**Lin Matthews,** 703 MC Moore Rd, asked what the vehicles are being used for.

**Mayor Panepinto**, explained what the vehicles would be used for and that this would replace the truck and it usually goes to surplus/auction.

**Jana Soileau**, stated this is a truck that needs to be replaced.

**Jacqueline Taylor,** stated that she has seen a lot of police cars parked at homes and they should be used. She expressed her concerns about cars being driven home and parked.

**Denise Haynes** 43502 Robinson St, asked what is an adequate number of police cars?

**Assistant Chief Monistere,** stated that their fleet is between 85-88 vehicles. He explained the use, need and process for cars. He stated they are still waiting on the SUV that were previously approved and ordered.

**Steve Jackson**, 36 Clinton Court, asked about the vehicle for the streets department.

**Mayor Panepinto**, stated that the assistant/director of the department needed a vehicle because the vehicle he uses is worn down and that’s why the vehicle is being purchased.

**Steve Jackson** asked about police take home cars for officers living out of town. He expressed his concern for the cost to tax payers with the fueling of the vehicles.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon** authorizing the purchase of 2022 Ram 1500 Tradesman Quad Cab for the Street Department from Community Motors, LLC. Total Cost $35,713.00.

**VOTE:** Councilman Andrews(Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y),

Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (N), Motion Approved 4-1

VIII. REPORTS:

Mayor: Stated they are looking good on the budget with sales tax. $163,000 over budget for the year on sales tax.

Council:

There was a discussion with Bobby Mitchell code enforcement officer on the demolition list and the process for demolitions.

**Robert Devance**, 100 White Street, expressed his concern about the cost of the garbage, unclean water and infrastructure of plumbing. He is concerned about the cost to the citizens.

**Lacy Landrum** stated the water is not contaminated and asked him to bring her a copy of any letter he received about the water.

**Denise Haynes**, read something regarding the utility bill in Ponchatoula and how much they charge for their service,

**Councilman Andrews,** stated the first meeting in November falls on Election Day and the chamber will be used as a polling site so he recommends they cancel that meeting and he will send out dates for another meeting. He stated that they will be looking at another appointment for Civil Service Board another person is coming to the end of their term.

IX. ADJOURN

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to adjourn the meeting. Motion Approved 5-0 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 October 11, 2022 BEING 4 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.