



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
May 9, 2023
5:30pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

III. PUBLIC HEARING:

1. An ordinance to amend the code of ordinances relative to abandoned and junked motor vehicles and other provisions relative thereto.

Bobby Mitchell explained the ordinance.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the process.

No Public Comment

2. An ordinance to approve a request by SECO Group LLC to rezone Lot S-1 and Lot S-2 in Block 43 from MX-CBD to MX-C, located at 201 E Robert St. and 306 N Cypress St. per survey by Randall W. Brown & Associates, Inc. dated 12/27/2022, with the following uses prohibited: Social Services, Civic Uses, Parks and open space, Minor utilities, Country Club, Animal Care, Convenience store without gas, Convenience store with gas, All vehicle sales and rentals, All water-oriented sales and services, All light industrial, Bottling plant, Publishing establishment, printing plant, Canning and preserving foods, Lumber yard as part of retail establishment, Contractor's storage yard, Carpentry shop, Any retail or wholesale use not the storage above ground of petroleum and other inflammable liquids in excess of 100,000 gallons, All research and development, All self-storage, All vehicle services, Off street parking, Storage garages and parking lots for use solely by occupants and guests of the premises, Radio and television towers incidental to a permitted use, Tattoo parlor, Major utilities, Commercial parking lots and garages, All outdoor recreation, Sweet Shop.

Lacy Landrum stated this was recommended for approval by Planning and Zoning on April 5th. This is located in District 1.

Councilman Wells entered the meeting.

No Public Comment

3. Introduction of an ordinance authorizing the operation of golf carts on certain streets in the city, prohibiting the use of golf carts on certain streets, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Councilwoman Gonzales explained the ordinance.

No Public Comments



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

May 9, 2023

6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

III. PRAYER: Kip Andrews

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

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of April 25, 2023 Meeting

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Leon** to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2023 meeting.

Vote: Councilman Kip Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Abstain) Motion Approved 4-1

VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance to provide for the permitting of Mobile Food Vendors. (Kip Andrews) **City Council** discussed and approved changes.

Kelly West, 116 Elm Drive had concerns over restrictions on parking in residential areas.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to adopt the ordinance as presented with changes that were made as a result of the public comments, not including restrictions on parking in residential areas.

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

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to amend the code of ordinances relative to abandoned and junked motor vehicles and other provisions relative thereto.

Bobby Mitchell, stated the primary change is to identify the definition of abandon vehicles being those that are in the public right of way, unattended junked and wrecked vehicles on private property, where the code enforcement department can have them removed.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to adopt an ordinance to amend the code of ordinances relative to abandoned and junked motor vehicles and other provisions relative thereto.

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

2. Final adoption of an ordinance to approve a request by SECO Group LLC to rezone Lot S-1 and Lot S-2 in Block 43 from MX-CBD to MX-C, located at 201 E Robert St. and 306 N Cypress St. per survey by Randall W. Brown & Associates, Inc. dated 12/27/2022, with the following uses prohibited: Social Services, Civic Uses, Parks and open space, Minor utilities, Country Club, Animal Care, Convenience store without gas, Convenience store with gas, All vehicle sales and rentals, All water-oriented sales and services, All light industrial, Bottling plant, Publishing establishment, printing plant, Canning and preserving foods, Lumber yard as part of retail establishment, Contractor's storage yard, Carpentry shop, Any retail or wholesale use not the storage above ground of petroleum and other inflammable liquids in excess of 100,000 gallons, All research and development, All self-storage, All vehicle services, Off street parking, Storage garages and parking lots for use solely by occupants and guests of the premises, Radio and television towers incidental to a permitted use, Tattoo parlor, Major utilities, Commercial parking lots and garages, All outdoor recreation, Sweet Shop.

Lacy Landrum stated, this is a rezoning from mixed commercial business district to mixed commercial. It is in alignment with the surrounding area and they agreed to remove the listed options as eligible uses.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked, if anyone came to planning and zoning meeting to voice their opinion.

Lacy Landrum stated, there was no one against it and the people that came were in support of it.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to adopt an ordinance to approve a request by SECO Group LLC to rezone Lot S-1 and Lot S-2 in Block 43 from MX-CBD to MX-C, located at 201 E Robert St. and 306 N Cypress St. per survey by Randall W. Brown & Associates, Inc. dated 12/27/2022, with the following uses prohibited: Social Services, Civic Uses, Parks and open space, Minor utilities, Country Club, Animal Care, Convenience store without gas, Convenience store with gas, All vehicle sales and rentals, All water-oriented sales and services, All light industrial, Bottling plant, Publishing establishment, printing plant, Canning and preserving foods, Lumber yard as part of retail establishment, Contractor's storage yard, Carpentry shop, Any retail or wholesale use not the storage above ground of petroleum and other inflammable liquids in excess of 100,000 gallons, All research and development, All self-storage, All vehicle services, Off street parking, Storage garages and parking lots for use solely by occupants and guests of the premises, Radio and television towers incidental to a permitted use, Tattoo parlor, Major utilities, Commercial parking lots and garages, All outdoor recreation, Sweet Shop.

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

3. Final adoption of an ordinance authorizing the operation of golf carts on certain streets in the city, prohibiting the use of golf carts on certain streets, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated, incorporating the ability of the city to the state law that allows the city to pass an ordinance allowing golf carts.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to adopt an ordinance authorizing the operation of golf carts on certain streets in the city, prohibiting the use of golf carts on certain streets, and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

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

VII. INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 in accordance with the procedures of Section 5-03 of the City's Charter.

Laura Hammett, stated this is the introduction of the FY 2023-2024 budget and gave the date of the budget work session and public hearing date.

Budget Work Session will be scheduled for Friday, June 2, 2023 at 8:30am. The Final Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 5:30pm.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 in accordance with the procedures of Section 5-03 of the City's Charter.

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

IX. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A resolution to Ratify and award bids received 4/27/2023 for "Drainage Improvements [FY2023]" – project no. 420-12307.

Ben Tassin, Spangler Engineering, stated the award was to the lowest bidder Richard Price Contracting Co. in the amount of \$1,797,961.00 and is within budget.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if this was under budget.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to "Ratify and Award bids received 4/27/2023 for "Drainage Improvements (FY2023)"- Project No. 420-12307 to low bidder Richard Price Contracting Co. in the amount of \$1,797,961.00.

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

2. A resolution authorizing Fine Thyme Catering to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for the Cafe that is being run in conjunction with Gnarly Barley.

Kasey Daigle stated that no alcohol will be sold. The café is looking to have the alcohol that's sold at Gnarley Barley to be consumed on their premises during their business hours.

Henry Jackson, 46223 McMoore Rd, was concerned over the operation and the location of the businesses and is not in support of the resolution. He stated they are not in favor of them selling alcohol near their church. He asked the council to explain what the businesses were trying to do.

Councilman Wells asked Kasey Daigle to explain.

Kasey Daigle stated, they are not asking for an alcohol license. They are asking for a waiver for the café that is across the street. There is not going to be any alcohol sold this is giving the option to walk across the street and consume the alcohol on the premises of the café.

Henry Jackson expressed his concerns and stated this is getting out of hand and he believes this is a bad situation and they are totally against it.

Councilman Wells, expressed his concerns.

Zack Carmada, 1511 University Dr, owner of Gnarly Barley, stated Mr. Jackson was at the two previous meeting, to rezone and approval of the alcohol license, when they requested approval of the resolutions.

Councilman Wells, asked if anyone notified the church.

Zack Carmada, stated that it is outside of the 300 foot range that is required by the city and state.

Councilman Wells, stated that it's not and they will need to do a measurement and this is his first time seeing this and he asked Lacy Landrum to clarify whether churches need to be notified when alcohol is being served close to their premises.

Lacy Landrum, stated no and that wasn't a part of any ordinance.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the original variance.

Ron Matthews, stated this came before the planning and zoning prior to him being on the committee. He asked if there was a miss representation as to what was to be built and operated on the property.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated he recalls it was different from when it was first introduced the council.

Ron Matthews, spoke on behalf of the church and he is in opposition of the resolution.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked why is this something the city should approve if it's private property. She stated this is not a license to sell alcohols so why is this before the council.

Andre Coudrain, stated because you have to cross the street.

Lacy Landrum, stated across the street it becomes an open container space and they thought they had to have an approval. Council, Administration and City Attorney discussed open versus closed container and crossing the street.

Chris Grand, 4334 S. Corbin Loop, stated he was the general contractor for the project. He responded to the permitting of the project.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated she looked back at the minutes from the meeting where the zoning happened June 25, 2019 and she read what was noted in the minutes.

Andre Coudrain stated if it is a close container nothing needs to be waived. He stated this was intended to cover an open container being transported from Gnarly Barly across the street.

Councilman Leon, stated this should be removed.

Vernon McGee, stated when they have events the people park on the church grounds and this a bad situation.

Pam, 43502 Robinson Rd, stated that the council should not allow this.

Bryan Poche, owner of Fine Thyme Catering, 39485 Craft Drive Ponchatoula, asking for approval.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to remove the request of Fine Thyme Catering to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for the Cafe that is being run in conjunction with Gnarly Barley.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion Approved 5-0 to remove the resolution from the agenda.

X. REPORTS:

Mayor: City was awarded the Small City in State Award for the 14th year in a row. He congratulated the city and workers. He also congratulated Zach and Carrie of Gnarly Barley for receiving the award of the Louisiana Attraction of the year.

Council:

Councilman DiVittorio, stated on May 31st will be the first Housing Enhance Committee first meeting.

Councilman Leon asked everyone to be safe for graduation, due to the increase in traffic.

XI. ADJOURN:

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Leon** to adjourn. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.