



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES  
312 EAST CHARLES STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA  
June 13, 2023  
5:30pm**

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

**II. ROLL CALL: Kip Andrews (P), Sam DiVittorio (P), Carlee Gonzales (P), Steve Leon (P), Devon Wells (Absent)**

**III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An ordinance to increase the monthly garbage fee from \$14.08 to \$20.98.

**Lacy Landrum** stated this has been discussed on and off since the contract was accepted last fall. Garbage contracts are usually for four to five years. She stated the current rate is \$14.08 and that is what the customers has been charged even after the new rate was approved in the contract. They did not pass that on the customer. She stated the new rate that is being considered is increasing the \$14.08 to \$20.48 which would be a \$6.40 increase that will be eliminating the single point of recycling at Highway 190. If the single point of recycling at Highway 190 is included then the total new rate would be \$20.98 then the total new rate would be \$20.98 which is an increase of \$6.90. In comparison she gave an overview of the cost of garbage pick-up in other cities. She stated that garbage costs have escalated everywhere.

**Councilman Wells** enters the meeting

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked about the cost to the city and stated it would need to be in the new budget.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated if the city covers the increase of the cost it is probably around \$400,000 to \$500,000, depending on which month and how many customers they have for that month.

**Councilman Wells**, asked about the estimate of the cost to the city as of today to the end of the year.

**Lacy Landrum** stated that is a rough estimate because the cost is based on per customer per month.

**Councilman Wells** asked for a rough estimate of how much the city has paid on the contract this for since the day it was signed up to today.

**Lacy Landrum** stated that she would have to go back and look at what date that was, but she could get that information for him.

**Councilman Wells** asked about the rates of the surrounding cities e.g. Ponchatoula, He would like comparisons done around the city.

**Sal Nicolosi**, 3607 Highway 190 West, stated he is concerned about the cost and stated that he was against an increase. He asked the council to consider the people on fixed incomes and are not wealthy.

**Tracey Washington Wells**, 610 Mooney Ave, stated in speaking for District Three the increase may not be a lot for some but in her district seven dollars is a lot and should not be passed on to the citizens. She asked that the council consider their constituents.



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

**June 13, 2023**

**6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

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

**II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Kip Andrews (P), Councilman Sam DiVittorio (P), Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales (P), Councilman Steve Leon (P), Councilman Devon Wells (P)**

**III. PRAYER: Councilman Andrews**

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

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of May 23, 2023 Meeting**

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve the Minutes of May 23, 2023.**

**Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (abstain)  
Motion approved 5-0**

**VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE:**

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to increase the monthly garbage fee from \$14.08 to \$20.98.

City Council discussed the recycling options, the garbage increase and how it will affect the budget.

Councilman Wells, expressed his concern that everything the council does affect the tax payer. They have to be considerate of the tax payer when they vote. He stated District Three has a lot of poor people.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated they are discussing a poor decision that was made by others.

Maria Huack, 14032 Country Manor Rd, state that was her old address and she did not want to give her new address. She asked about the causes and conditions of the increase.

Ronald Dangerfield, 314 Wilbert Dangerfield Dr, stated they are coming up short and he told his councilman that he would work with him. The council is in a hard spot.

Councilman Wells, stated the councilman controls the budget.

Sandra Weary, stated the cost of everything has gone up and there is nothing we can do about it and she voiced her concern about the city council.

Pete Drake, 2100 West dale Ct, he asked why the garbage run twice a week and why can't they cut it down to once a week.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that was a valid point but there are several others with large families need it twice a week, but they had to make a decision whether it be once or twice a week.

Council discussed contract changes, senior citizen rate and tabling until they get more information.

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells to table the adoption of an ordinance to increase the monthly garbage fee from \$14.08 to \$20.98.**

**VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y)**

**Motion approved 5-0**

**IX. INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE: NONE**

**X. RESOLUTIONS:**

**1.** A resolution to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to Northshore Families Helping Families for the 3rd Annual NFHF Walk Run & Roll 5K & 10K event, being held on Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 6:00am to 11:00am at Cate Square Park. Actual service of alcohol would be from 7:30am to 11:00am. The Event boundaries are W Charles St, N Magnolia St, W Robert St, and N Oak St. (Heather St. Amant)

**Heather St. Amant**, she stated the open container was just for beer. She stated they provide resources and services to children and adults with developmental disabilities and this was their biggest fundraiser of the year and she is asking the council for their consideration.

**There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to Northshore Families Helping Families for the 3rd Annual NFHF Walk Run & Roll 5K & 10K event, being held on Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 6:00am to 11:00am at Cate Square Park. Actual service of alcohol would be from 7:30am to 11:00am. The Event boundaries are W Charles St, N Magnolia St, W Robert St, and N Oak St.**

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

**2.** A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of The City of Hammond with BFI Waste Services, LLC DBA Republic Services of Baton Rouge in the estimated amount of \$65,377.19

**Jana Soileau**, stated this was for the annual front-end loading dumpster services for the buildings. She stated the current contractor BFI declined to renew at the last years rate so they put out a new RFP and they received four proposals and they came in as the lowest bidder. She is asking for council's approval to move forward.

**Councilman Wells**, asked Jana about the locations of the dumpsters and proceeded to go down the list and address each item and asked that they explain those he didn't understand.

**Lacy Landrum**, explained the items and partnerships

**Councilman Wells**, expressed concerned with giving funds to the non-profits and being responsible for picking up their trash. He asked about the alley way dumpsters,

**Lacy Landrum** stated they are reimbursed from the business owners. The business owners throughout Morrison Alley pays for the dumpster through their water bills.

**Tracy Washington Wells**, 610 Mooney Ave, stated if the city is going to pay for Tangi Food Pantry and the Council on Aging, they should take into consideration that would cover nine hundred and fourteen residents as it relates to the seven dollar increase in the garbage cost.

**Council and Administration discussed** how to address changes to non-profits and non-city entities.

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells to approve a resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of The City of Hammond with BFI Waste Services, LLC DBA Republic Services of Baton Rouge in the estimated amount of \$65,377.19 , with the city to collect the costs of service from all non-city entities to be included on the water bill.**

**Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y)**

**Motion approved 5-0**

**3.** A resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Daily Star as the official journal for the City of Hammond, LA from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023

**Jana Soileau** stated that this is the designation that is done every year and is required by the state stating that this is the official journal for the City of Hammond.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to approve a resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Daily Star as the official journal for the City of Hammond, LA from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023**

**Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y)  
Motion approved 5-0**

4. A resolution 1) accepting a \$25,000 grant from the AARP Community Challenge to transform Morrison Alley and its pocket park into a vibrant public space; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated this was brought to the council at the end of February and they received word that they will be receiving the grant. They originally applied for \$50,000 but because this was a very competitive grant they were only awarded \$25,000. They will focus on using for the pocket park at the end of Morrison Alley off of Cypress. There is no match requirement.

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman DiVittorio to approve a resolution 1) accepting a \$25,000 grant from the AARP Community Challenge to transform Morrison Alley and its pocket park into a vibrant public space; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.**

**Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y)  
Motion approved 5-0**

5. A resolution authorizing the purchase of 26 bulletproof vests for Hammond Police officers from RSG Wholesale at a cost of \$27,841 under State Contract 4400025826. The purchase will be made with \$23,690.97 in Bulletproof Vest Partnership grant funds and \$4,150.03 in Police Department funds.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated most of the vest are to replace the vest that were purchased in 2018. They are on a five year replacement cycle.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio authorizing the purchase of 26 bulletproof vests for Hammond Police officers from RSG Wholesale at a cost of \$27,841 under State Contract 4400025826. The purchase will be made with \$23,690.97 in Bulletproof Vest Partnership grant funds and \$4,150.03 in Police Department funds.**

**Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y)  
Motion approved 5-0**

## **XI. REPORTS:**

**Mayor:** Lacy Landrum gave an update on the Mayors wife. She also stated on Friday city offices will be closed for Juneteenth which is in alignment with the state offices. June 27<sup>th</sup> they will be discussing the budget. There will be fireworks on July 4<sup>th</sup> at Zemurray Park around 5:00 p.m.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked Lacy if the budget will be adjusted with an amendment showing the removal of the revenue for the garbage collection.

**Lacy Landrum**, answered yes

### **Council:**

**Councilman Wells**, stated his concern for the young people and their protections. He stated they need to sit done with the various city organizations to address the killings in the community. The gun violence is out of control. The people needs to sit down and talk. He stated we have to be responsible for the kids in our communities.

**Councilman Divittorio**, asked that Lacy check on the speed bumps that were submitted on Barnes a few months back.

## **XII. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and 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  
TRANSACTIONED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD June 13, 2023  
BEING 4 PAGES IN LENGTH

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LISA COCKERHAM  
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

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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.