



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
June 27, 2023
5:30pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Kip 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. PUBLIC HEARING:

1. 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 final adoption of the budget and she gave a recap; introduced on May 9 and the council received their budget binders at the budget work session on June 2, 2023. On that day the council spent the day discussing the budget and came up with amendments which has been added to a spreadsheet and is up for discussion and public hearing.

Councilwoman Gonzales, discussed changes in addition to those on the spreadsheet: under Capital Project- Page 64 item #1- W. Morris (Linden-Spruce) for \$132,000, move to FY 2024-2025, and Page 65 item #7- Green lawn (w. end), \$61,000 and move drainage project up from FY 2024-2025 to FY 2023-2024.

Council Members discussed and reviewed each item on the spreadsheet.

Police Chief Bergeron, stated CASA does forensic interviews for the police department for abused children and they use the information in court.

Lieutenant Jamie Hawk, Hammond Police Department, she stated CASA is imperative and she explained the reasons why. She ask that they not take away the funding.

Council discussed the remaining funds for nonprofits and the committee.

Lieutenant Daniel Boudreaux, he wanted to address a pay increase for the radio room dispatchers. He asked if there was a way to bring them even with the jailers.

Mayor, stated they did the study and the determined that the salary adjustment was not there because they were already being paid what other municipalities, city and parishes were paying.

Lacy Landrum stated there was one more suggestion that was not on the spreadsheet, she and Councilman Wells spoke about and she wanted to make sure it was listed in the public hearing.

He would like to move \$150,000 on P.65 Item #20 with the drainage improvements. South Magnolia from Phoenix Square to 2nd Avenue, it will be moving the \$150,000 from FY 2025 to FY 2024 which is coming into this current year.



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

June 27 2023

6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

I. CALL TO ORDER: Kip 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: Kip Andrews

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

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of June 13, 2023 Meeting

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Wells to approve the Minutes of June 13, 2023.

**Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (absent), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y)
Motion Approved 4-0**

Council President Andrews announced a change to the meeting agenda and moved to introduction of Ordinances.

VI. INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to approve a request by Hammond's Best LLC (owner) and Jady Klein (applicant) to rezone 207 South Cherry Street per survey by Max Bodin, Inc. dated 4/25/23 from RM-2 to MX-CBD. (District 2)

Lacy Landrum, stated this was a rezoning request and was unanimously approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission. She gave an overview of the request.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to introduce an ordinance to approve a request by Hammond's Best LLC (owner) and Jady Klein (applicant) to rezone 207 South Cherry Street per survey by Max Bodin, Inc. dated 4/25/23 from RM-2 to MX-CBD. (District 2)

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

2. Introduction of an ordinance to approve a request by Mimi McKee Catherall (owner) to rezone 207 South Holly Street per survey by Clifford Webb dated 2/21/1962 from RM-2 to MX-C with the allowed use of light industrial prohibited. (District 2) (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated this was a similar request to the previous one, gave an overview of the request and stated Planning and Zoning Unanimously recommended approval. She stated the owners who are requesting the change does not have a clearly defined business plan yet for what they want to use the space for.

Councilman Andrews stated that it needs to be clear regarding what they want to do and it needs to be put in their wording before it comes back for a final vote.

Lacy Landrum, stated that one of the tools the council and planning and zoning has is an expanded conditional use or a restricted conditional use, in this regard they would be kind of agreeing to some restriction about the expanded zoning they are requesting. She explained the uses and possible options.

Council discussed this item

Andre Coudrain address the questions and concerns of the council and explained the possible options and outcomes.

Lacy Landrum explained the packet.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to approve a request by Mimi McKee Catherall (owner) to rezone 207 South Holly Street per survey by Clifford Webb dated 2/21/1962 from RM-2 to MX-C with the allowed use of light industrial prohibited. (District 2) (Lacy Landrum)

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

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to renew a service agreement with Mission Communications for software services in the amount of \$25,130.37.

Guy Palermo, stated that this was their mission control and they monitor all the sewer stations, water wells and plants. If anything breaks or if there is a loss of power this service notifies them. They have had this for several years.

Council discussed

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to authorize the Mayor to renew a service agreement with Mission Communications for software services in the amount of \$25,130.37.

Councilman Kip Andrews (Y), Councilman Sam DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales (Y), Councilman Steve Leon (Y), Councilman Devon Wells (Y) Motion Approved 5-0

OLD BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to accept the proposal for recycling services at the 190 facility.

Lacy Landrum asked the council to table this item and the garbage discussion of the fee. They are still waiting on the price point to come back for once a week service so that they are able to look at all available options.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilman DiVittorio** to table a resolution to accept the proposal for recycling services at the 190 facility.

Councilman Kip Andrews (Y), Councilman Sam DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales (Y), Councilman Steve Leon (Y), Councilman Devon Wells (Y) Motion to Table Approved 5-0

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

OLD BUSINESS:

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

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

Councilman Kip Andrews (Y), Councilman Sam DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales (Y), Councilman Steve Leon (Y), Councilman Devon Wells (Y) Motion to Table Approved 5-0

2. Final adoption 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 final adoption of the FY 2023- FY 2024 Budget.

She stated they needed to vote on the spreadsheet with three additions on 1.) P. 64 moving W. Morris (Linden-Spruce) sidewalks to FY 2024- FY 2025 pushing \$132,000 to next year's budget. 2.) P.65 #7 under drainage, moving Greenlawn (w. end) to FY 2023-FY2024, increasing \$61,000 in this current budget. 3.) P. 65 # 20, under drainage, S. Magnolia (Phoenix Square to 2nd Ave), move up into FY 2023-2024 budget and that will increase \$150,000.

She stated if all of the changes are approved the ending fund balance general fund \$243,402, the ending sales tax balance would be \$788,193, if all the budget items are approved.

1. Capital Project, p. 64 item # 2 Natchez (Corbin to Live Oak) becomes Harrell (Natchez to Mooney): \$146,000 remains in FY 2024 (not moving to FY 2025) - No change
There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to amend the budget and approve the above item.
Vote: Councilman Kip Andrews (Y), Councilman Sam DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales (Y), Councilman Steve Leon (Y), Councilman Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0
2. Capital Project, P. 65 Item # 3a N Cherry (E Mich to W2-L6 Ponch Creek): split into \$175k for FY2024 and \$250k for FY 2025 (Will be difference of \$425k decreasing to \$175k from originally proposed budget since splitting. Total impact of -\$250k for FY2024)
3. Capital Project, P. 65 Item # 8 Timberlane (rear lot): Move forward \$95,000 from FY 2026 to FY 2025 (No change to FY 2024)
Capital Project, P. 65 Item # 9 Lato Lane: Move forward \$180,000 from FY 2026 to FY 2025 (No change to FY 2024)
4. Capital Project, P.65 Item # 13 First Avenue @ Mary's Alley: Keep \$157,000 in FY 2024 (as showing in originally proposed budget).
5. Capital Project, P. 65 Item # 16 Mooney (Mississippi St to Palmetto St): Reduce cost and place \$250,000 in FY 2024 (no funds in FY 2025)
6. Capital Project, P. 65 Item # 18 Woodbridge north outfall: Move forward \$180,000 from FY 2026 to FY 2025. (No change to FY 2024)
7. Capital Project, P. 65 Item # 22 Palmetto (Mooney – S. Morrison Blvd): Move Forward \$575,000 from FY 2026 to FY 2025. (No change to FY 2024)
8. Capital Project, P. 65 Correct numbering on the projects after 21b: #22 Palmetto (Mooney-S. Morrison Blvd). #23 Haskins (North of White St), #24 Miscellaneous Drainage Improvements, and #25 cover lateral between W. Robert & W. Charles St. (No \$\$ impact)
9. Capital Project, P.67, Add # C4, connecting Caroline to Top Hat for \$80,000 in FY 2024, Sales Tax Fund.
10. Capital Project, P. 67 #C3. Natchez Street Extension (W. Thomas St-CM Fagan) Move Forward \$900,000 from FY 2026 to FY 2025. (No change to FY 2024)
There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to amend the budget items #2-#10 as listed on the spreadsheet.

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

11. General Administration, P.20, TBD Nonprofit Partners, making three changes to line item A.)\$25,000 to CASA, B.)\$11,107 to Crime Stoppers, C.) Zero remaining funds in this line item. (Decreasing from \$180,000 -\$25,000- 11,107 = \$143,893, removed from FY 2024.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Wells** to amend the budget and approve nonprofit funding to CASA in the amount of \$25,000 and Crime Stoppers in the amount of \$11,107.

Vote: Councilman Kip Andrews (Abstain), Councilman Sam DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales (Y), Councilman Steve Leon (Y), Councilman Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 4-0

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Leon** to amend the budget to leave the remaining \$143,893 of nonprofit funding in the account.

Vote: Councilman Kip Andrews (Y), Councilman Sam DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales (Y), Councilman Steve Leon (Y), Councilman Devon Wells (N). Motion Approved 4-1

12. Remove funding for Parish Animal Control and handle with city staff and Tangi Humane Society partnership. May move funds as placeholder in Tangi Humane Society.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and a second by **Councilman Wells** to amend the budget to remove funding for Parish Animal Control and handle with city staff and Tangi Humane Society partnership. May move funds as placeholder in Tangi Humane Society

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

13. Add \$20,000 to Election Expenses for possible charter revision election.

There was a motion by **Councilman DiVittorio** and a second by **Councilman Andrews** to amend the budget to add \$20,000 to the election expenses.

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

14. Add \$20,000 for City Planner base salary on feedback from head hunter (Total cost of \$27,659)

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and a second by **Councilman Wells** to add \$20,000 for City Planner base salary on feedback from head hunter (Total cost of \$27,659).

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

15. Add \$15,000 for sidewalks for a total of \$40,000—same amount as last year

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and a second by **Councilman Wells** to amend the budget to add \$15,000 to sidewalks for a total of \$40,000—same as last year.

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

16. Capital Project, P. 67 Item # B2 Industrial Park Road: Move \$250,000 from FY 2024 to FY 2026 to finish the roundabout prior (impact of -\$250,000 for FY 2024)

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and a second by **Councilman DiVittorio** to amend the budget to move \$250,000 from FY 2024 to FY 2026 to finish the roundabout prior (impact of -\$250,000 for FY 2024)

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

17. Capital Project, P.64 Item # 1, W. Morris (Linden to Spruce) move to FY 2024 from FY 2025

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and a second by **Councilman Andrews** to amend the budget to move W. Morris (Linden to Spruce) to FY 2024 from FY 2025.

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

18. Capital Project, P. 65 Item # 7, Greenlawn (west end) Move up to FY 2023 from FY 2024

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and a second by **Councilman Andrews** to amend the budget to move Greenlawn (west end) Move up to FY 2023 from FY 2024.

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

19. Capital Project, P. 65 Item #20 S. Magnolia Street (Phoenix Square to Second Ave) Move up to FY 2023 from FY 2024.

There was a motion by **Councilman Wells** and a second by **Councilman DiVittorio** to amend the budget to Move up to FY 2023 from FY 2024 Magnolia Street (Phoenix Square to Second Ave).

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

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and Second by Councilman Andrews to adopt the budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 as amended.

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

IX. REPORTS:

Mayor: Stay safe, 4th of July fireworks in Zemurray Park

Council:

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about speed humps and railroad track sidewalks.

Councilman Andrews, asked about speed humps and lighting and ask that they pray for the city and the people.

Councilman Wells, asked about abandoned cars and said to be careful how we treat people.

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.

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 June 27, 2023
BEING 5 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.