



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
September 26, 2023
5:30pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Kip Andrews

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

III. PUBLIC HEARING:

1. An ordinance to extend and modify 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 180 days.

Councilman DiVittorio, explained the ordinance.

Debrorah Swinson, 12 Raven Wood St, District 5 at large member for the Woodbridge Homeowners Association, stated she is in favor of extending the moratorium.

2. An ordinance directing the clearing of Right-Of-Ways.

Councilman DiVittorio, explained the ordinance and stated there are a lot of tree issues in the city as well as in District 4 on the city servitudes that need to be attended to. He stated there needs to be a clear understanding on the process of getting some of the dead and fallen trees cleared out.

Councilman Wells enters meeting

Joe Mier, 906 CM Fagan Dr, asked for an update on what has been done in planning and zoning and about the final language and also about the moratorium.

Councilman Wells, asked him to reach out to the Housing Enhancement Committee.

Sal Nicolosi, 3607 Highway 190 west, District 4, stated trees are down in the right a way and he is asking the city to take the ordinance serious.

Councilman Wells expressed his concerns and stated the rules should be in black and white where he can see on a map or find the information.



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
September 26, 2023
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Kip Andrews

II. ROLL CALL: Carlee Gonzales (P), Kip Andrews (P), Steve Leon (P), Devon Well (P), Sam DiVittorio (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 September 12, 2023 Meeting
There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve the Minutes of September 12, 2023.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (abstain) Motion approved 4-0

VI. Presentation: Thomas Pearce, Lending Coordinator, South Central Planning Development Commission, Restore Louisiana Small Business Loan Program.

Tom Pearce introduced, **Cullen Curall** who discussed the Restore Louisiana Small Business Loan Program.

VII. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to extend and modify 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 180 days.

Sal Nicolosi 3607 Hwy 190 West stated they should keep it to a minimum of town houses.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells to adopt an ordinance to extend and modify 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 180 days.

Vote: Steve Leon (N), Devon Wells (Y), Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (N), Motion approved 3-2

2. Final adoption of an ordinance directing the clearing of Right-Of-Ways. (Councilman DiVittorio)

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells to amend the ordinance as introduced to remove adjacent owner and adding shall not supersede any existing ordinance relating to the removal of live oak trees and storm water management.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee Gonzales (N), Steve Leon (N), Devon Wells (Y) Motion approved 3-2

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells to adopt as amended the ordinance directing the clearing of Right-Of-Ways.

Vote: Devon Wells (Y), Carlee Gonzales (N), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (N), Kip Andrews (Y), Motion approved 3-2

VIII. INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget to transfer \$23,893.00 from General Administration –TBD Nonprofit Partners (10015800-560100) to be returned to the General Fund (100) balance.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated this is a follow-up from the last meeting to remove the remaining non-profit fund balance to close out the fund.

Brandi Jones, 811 Mooney Ave, (Urban Market Experience), stated they should keep the money in the budget and last year with the funding they received they supported five businesses. She asked the council to consider funding her organization.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Wells to introduce an ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget to transfer \$23,893.00 from General Administration –TBD Nonprofit Partners (10015800-560100) to be returned to the General Fund (100) balance.

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

Public Hearing – October 10, 2023

IX. RESOLUTIONS: OLD BUSINESS

1. Resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with ARRCO Company Services for Preventative Generator Maintenance and Repair Services. Total Annual Preventive Maintenance amount of \$65,560.00 and repair services hourly rate of \$119.00. RFP 24-14. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, explained how the RFP was prepared

Tom Sanders, President of ARRCO, present for questions, described the company

David Foster, 45331 Pinehill Rd, asked for fairness and wanted to see the numbers.

Devon Wells, Had questions and concerns about the process.

Pam, 7 Blank, asked about the committee and the if it was normal to have a husband and wife team on the committee.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with ARRCO Company Services for Preventative Generator Maintenance and Repair Services. Total Annual Preventive Maintenance amount of \$65,560.00 and repair services hourly rate of \$119.00. RFP 24-14.

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

RESOLUTIONS: NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution to appoint a member to the Hammond Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board for a three year term to end on July 29, 2026, will be filling the vacancy after Celeste Shields. (Kip Andrews) **Kip Andrews**, stated two people met the qualifications and Michael DuBois was one and is willing to serve.

City Attorney Andre Coudrain stated that after checking with the Office of State Examiner, this term will end on July 29, 2025.

Michel DuBois, 43464 Freret St, was present for questions.

There was a motion by **Councilman Leon** and second by **Councilman Andrews** to approve the appointment of Michael DuBois to the Hammond Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board for a three year term to end on July 29, 2025.

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

2. Resolution to approve Legends Sports Bistro & Billiards located at 1306 S. Morrison Blvd Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain an alcohol permit for a restaurant. The owner is TJAX LLC.

Lacy Landrum, stated this is a name change, owner Lindsey Latino is buying into this company. The owner is still TJAX LLC. Lindsey Latino was present to answer questions.

Lindsey Latino, 47812 Milton Rd, Tickfaw, stated she bought into TJAX LLC she was already part owner, but when they decided to make the change, she invested more money.

Councilman Wells, asked about the age group allowed.

Lindsey Latino, stated all ages, family friendly.

There was a motion by **Councilman DiVittorio** and second by **Councilwoman Gonzales** to approve Legends Sports Bistro & Billiards located at 1306 S. Morrison Blvd Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain an alcohol permit for a restaurant. The owner is TJAX LLC

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

3. Resolution to authorize the purchase of (2) 2023 Dodge Ram 1500 Regular Cab trucks for the Building Department from Premier Dodge Total Cost \$57,976.50 State Contract 4400023795

Lacy Landrum, stated approved in last year's budget was the authority to purchase three vehicle for \$105,000. One vehicle was purchased but due to vehicle shortages they were not able to complete the purchase of the other two vehicles. These two vehicles are available, and will be used by code enforcement and is within budget.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to authorize the purchase of (2) 2023 Dodge Ram 1500 Regular Cab trucks for the Building Department from Premier Dodge Total Cost \$57,976.50 State Contract 4400023795

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

4. A resolution 1) accepting a \$533,740 grant from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) and 2) authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement with LA DOTD for improvements at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport. This grant represents the State's 10% match of costs to reconstruct the south end of Runway 18/36 (City Project 22401). A previously approved grant from FAA will cover 90%. There is NO City match requirement.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the council previously approved the grant from the FAA that covers 90 percent of this runway rehabilitation. She stated the purpose of the rehabilitations is to improve the traction on this runway and other issues. There is no match required.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to approve 1) accepting a \$533,740 grant from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) and 2) authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement with LA DOTD for improvements at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport. This grant represents the State's 10% match of costs to reconstruct the south end of Runway 18/36 (City Project 22401). A previously approved grant from FAA will cover 90%. There is NO City match requirement.

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

5. A resolution to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond’s Open Container Law for Railroad Roar event on Tuesday, October 10th, 2023 from 5:00PM to 8:00PM. The event takes place in Railroad Park - 106 NW Railroad Ave.

Michelle Kendall, stated they are partnering with Southeastern for Railroad Roar, they will have several activities and are asking for an open container waiver.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond’s Open Container Law for Railroad Roar event on Tuesday, October 10th, 2023 from 5:00PM to 8:00PM. The event takes place in Railroad Park - 106 NW Railroad Ave.

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

X. REPORTS:

Mayor: State they don’t see color at city hall and they work with everyone.

Council: Councilman DiVittorio, ask that BJ Couvillion from Entergy give an update on Villa West poles on Rue Simone.

BJ Couvillion stated those poles belong to ATT/Bell South, he stated the contacted them and are waiting on their engineers, once they set their poll they transfer their equipment to the poles. He doesn’t have a status yet but he will reach out and follow-up

Councilman Wells, thanked Planning and Zoning for recording their recent meeting, Shelita in the water department, Desiree and Charles and Mr. Mike for working in the park. Asked for an update on the name change for Carolina Street. Councilman Wells apologized to the Mayor.

Lacy Landrum gave an update of the status for the change.

Councilman Andrews, October 2nd at 5:30 will be hosting a town hall meeting at council chambers

XI. 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
TRANSACTIONED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD SEPTEMBER

26, 2023

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.