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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA January 11, 2022 5:30pm

# I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

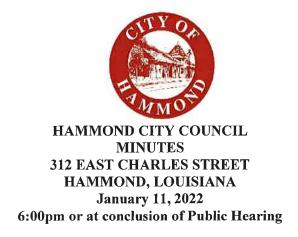
II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (P), Councilman DiVittorio (P), Councilwoman Gonzales (P), Councilman Leon (P), Councilman Wells (P)

# **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

An Ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Rashetta Williams (owner) and Joseph Williams (applicant) to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 7A Rose Hill Park Subdivision; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2021-11-00095) the Zoning Commission Recommended approval with conditions 1) this approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Rashetta Williams or Joseph Williams, and 2) the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger, City Planner stated that this item was introduced at the meeting on December 14, 2021 and the commission recommends approval.

There was no public comment.



# I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

**III. PRAYER:** Pastor Patricia Bell, New Life Outreach Ministries

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

### V. Election

### A. Election of President of City Council for 2022

There was motion by <u>Councilman Devon Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to elect <u>Councilman Kip</u> <u>Andrews</u> to the position of City Council President for year 2022.

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

### B. Election of Vice President of City Council for 2022

There was motion by <u>Councilman Devon Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Kip Andrews</u> to elect <u>Councilman Sam</u> <u>DiVittorio</u> to the position of City Council Vice President for year 2022. Motion Approve 5-0

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

### VI. REPORTS:

**Mayor:** Stated he didn't have anything to report at this time and ask that Doctor Rob Peltier from North Oaks come up and let us know what is going on in our community.

**Dr. Robert Peltier,** Chief Medical Officer, North Oaks Health System came forward and gave a presentation on Covid in the community. He stated that we were in another wave of Covid and gave several statistics.

**Councilman Wells,** asked the doctor his recommendation about wearing a mask.

**Dr. Peltier,** stated to wear a mask when close to people, and to spread out and social distance. He stated that everything we have done in the past, has proved to work. He explained the purpose and types of masks.

John Hatcher, 44016 Parker Blvd, asked about passing the peak of Covid cases

**Dr. Peltier**, stated that this was a Washington state model that had us peaking on January 8th or 9<sup>th</sup> and according to their model we passed the peak. He stated that it was a good educated guess based off of data.

John Hatcher, asked the doctor to explain how are passed the peak when students are coming back from the holiday break.

**Dr. Peltier,** stated yes that is an issue and it's not his model and he began to explain the model. He stated that there were some benefits to the model and not some benefits of that model and he explained some of the variables.

Council President Andrews, thanked the doctor for coming out and keep us informed.

Council:

**Councilman Wells**, asked the administration for an update on sidewalks and drainage that was approved in July. He stated that he emailed Mr. Chuck to let him know that he would be asking this question.

**Mayor,** stated that we have already started on some projects, the projects that the council has approved. He also stated that they are hoping to have all the projects finished. Asked what particular projects he is asking about.

Councilman Wells, stated the sidewalk on Coleman St., drainage on Mooney Ave, Mississippi St., Reed St.

Lacy Landrum, stated that those were all in this fiscal year and was approved in July and are under design, unsure of the date that they will be coming out for bid, but she can get that to him.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he also talked to Mr. Chuck about not putting all the jobs under one contractor. He also asked for an update on the railroad spur. How much have we collected since we started picking up the fund?

Lacy Landrum, stated she does not have that number off the top of her head, but she can look it up and give it to Councilman Wells tomorrow.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that the park was coming along and he thanked the Mayor and the administration for the work on Mooney Park.

Councilman Wells, stated that they have had two deaths and he would like to find out what's going on.

Chief Bergeron, stated that the coroner's office does an autopsy to determine the cause of death.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked Lacy that when she check on Councilman Wells request can she check on Lincoln Park, purchase of picnic table, upgrades and resurfacing.

### VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the minutes of December 14, 2021

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

#### **VII. RESOLUTIONS**

#### A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

#### **B. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. A resolution from the Charter Review Committee to request an extension until March 31, 2022, to deliver the committee's report. (Frank DiVittorio)

Frank DiVittorio, Chair of the Charter Review Committee stated that he was asking for an extension to the deadline due to hurricane and other factors.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve a resolution from the Charter Review Committee to request an extension until March 31, 2022, to deliver the committee's report.

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

**2.** A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, presented this item and stated that this was the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Art of the Cocktail, they will have two types of tickets and there will be wrist bands and carding for age.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401.

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

3. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum presented this item and stated that this was the same as the resolution before it. This is a waiver of open container.

Councilman Wells, asked why didn't she put the two together?

Lacy Landrum stated, you are doing two separate things, one is for serving alcohol and one is for waiver of the open container ordinance. This is how the State wants the special events permits to come to them. They like to see that you are authorizing the sale of alcohol which is one versus the open container, which is the second resolution. The State prefers that they be separate.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> authorizing the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401

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

4. A resolution to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks.(Joseph Dominick)

Joseph Dominick of 43 Pine Square presented this item and stated that he was a member of the Hammond Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club. He also stated that this is their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off and it is a fundraising event and all the funds will be donated to local charities.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks.

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

5. A resolution to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks. (Joseph Dominick)

Joseph Dominick presented this item,

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks.

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

6. A resolution to approve the appointment of Cassie Ragan, representing the Mayor's seat, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. (Chelsea Tallo Little)

Chelsea Tallo Little, presented this item and stated that these three are re-appointments and that Cassie was unable to be here tonight and that this was the Mayor's seat and he nominated her.

Mayor Panepinto, stated that Cassie is a local merchant and is a big participant in our community and is an asset to the board and he recommends her approval.

Councilman Wells stated he will vote for this appointment but stated all persons nominated should be present at the meeting.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio to</u> approve the appointment of Cassie Ragan, representing the Mayor's seat, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023.

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

7. A resolution to approve the appointment of Frank DiVittorio, representing the Eastside Business and Property Owners, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. (Chelsea Tallo Little)

Chelsea Tallo Little, presented this item and stated Frank is another re-appointment for a second consecutive term and he is present tonight.

Frank DiVittorio, stated he has been on the Downtown Development Board and he enjoys being on the board and he would appreciate another term.

Councilman Wells, thanked Frank for showing up.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the appointment of Frank DiVittorio, representing the Eastside Business and Property Owners, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023.

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

8. A resolution to approve the appointment of Elsbet Hollywood, representing the Tangipahoa Chamber of Commerce seat, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. (Chelsea Tallo Little)

Chelsea Tallo Little, presented this item and stated this is the Tangipahoa Chamber of Commerce appointment and they get three appointments. This is a re-appointment and they recommend that she continues to represent the Chamber.

Elsbert Hollywood stated that she has had the pleasure of serving for the past two years and it has been her pleasure to serve and she would like to continue.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon to</u> approve the appointment of Elsbet Hollywood, representing the Tangipahoa Chamber of Commerce seat, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023

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

### VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

# A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

### **B.NEW BUSINESS:**

Final adoption of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Rashetta Williams (owner) and Joseph Williams (applicant) to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 7A Rose Hill Park Subdivision; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2021-11-00095) the Zoning Commission Recommended approval with conditions 1) this approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Rashetta Williams or Joseph Williams, and 2) the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger, City Planner, stated the zoning committee approved unanimously a recommendation and was presented to the City Council on December 14, 2022, for approval with condition that were just stated. This is in the proposed district for mobile homes and meets all the other requirements of the UDC.

Councilman Wells, asked what district this was in.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated District four.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to adopt an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Rashetta Williams (owner) and Joseph Williams (applicant) to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 7A Rose Hill Park Subdivision; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2021-11-00095) the Zoning Commission Recommended approval with conditions 1) this approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Rashetta Williams or Joseph Williams, and 2) the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards. Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING: NONE

X. ADJOURN: there was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to adjourn. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned. 5-0 to adjourn

# **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 JANUARY 11, 2022 BEING 6 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.

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



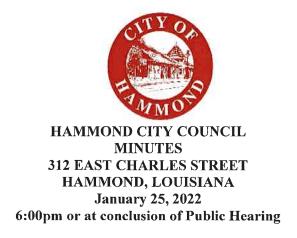
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA January 25, 2022 5:30pm

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

а.

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

**III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE** 



### I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

# III. PRAYER:

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

# V. REPORTS:

### Mayor Reports:

**Mayor** stated that the tree and trash debris pick-up final debris pass will be February 18, 2022, this does not include stumps. Mayor stated that rainbow trout is coming to Zemurry Park Pond.

Mayor invited Mr. Vince Starwood to come forward.

**Vince Starwood**, 216 Choctow Rd, Lafayette, LA, stated that he had been denied approval on his request and others have been given permission. He wanted to know where the consistency is. He asked why his item was removed from the agenda, when another item identical to his item was placed on the agenda. He doesn't know why his item was removed and he wanted to know.

Councilman Andrews, asked the Mayor to repeat the information about the final debris pickup.

Mayor, stated that the final pass for debris pickup will be February 18, 2022 and that does not include stumps.

**Councilman Wells**, asked if the debris pick was still under FEMA and the parish and when will it go up under the city.

**Mayor**, when they decide to quit picking up and they have done all that they could do and the parish agrees then it will be on the city.

Councilman Andrews, asked if they still needed to provide addresses.

Mayor, stated yes and to continue to send in addresses.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked that information could be put on Facebook and the city's page.

Mayor, stated to just give us addresses.

Councilman Wells, stated he has an address on Brent St, off of Mississippi St.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked about a follow-up to the lighting on Timber lane and when the boring contract is going to start.

Lacy Landrum, stated she would check on it.

### **Council Reports:**

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if there was an update on the salary study.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they had a meeting with the consultants and they are coming on February 4, 2022 to meet with all the department heads to review job descriptions and structures within those departments as well as talk about recruiting, retaining and employee challenges within the departments. They already reviewed the employee job descriptions and structures within the department. They are making progress and she is hoping to have a draft of a report by the end of February or early March.

Councilman Leon, asked about the re-districting.

Lacy Landrum, stated that it was one of the items for tonight and that Mr. Blair would like to meet with each of them. She thinks he's trying to have everything in place by April because May 8<sup>th</sup> is the deadline.

# Booking Room Report:

Attorney Michael Adams, stated that it's been almost two years and tonight they are submitting the final report and no one has seen it before tonight. He explained what the council was receiving and he introduced Seth Stoughton.

**Seth Stoughton**, Mr. Stoughton delivered a written report to the Council and made a presentation on his report. He explained his findings and made recommendations. **Councilman Wells**, stated we have an issue protecting the citizens of Hammond. He asked if those officers involved were still working for the City of Hammond.

Mayor, answered, yes they were.

**Councilman Wells**, asked Seth Stoughton if he could recommend steps we need to take, recommendations on what to do next. He stated that we have a real problem, being a black male, I'm scared. He stated that it doesn't matter when it comes to color. He asked for recommendations so this will not happen again in this area.

Seth Stoughton, thanked Councilman Wells for the question and stated he is limited in his ability to provide specific recommendations, not being the legal counsel. He referred him back to the recommendations in the executive summary.

**Councilman Wells,** stated at this time, he asked Andre and Council President about adding two resolutions to the agenda.

**City Attorney Andre Coudrain**, stated he would need to tell the council what those resolutions are and he stated we are still under reports, but he could see no reason why he couldn't make that motion now. Andre stated that whatever the agenda item is, it would call for a unanimous vote of the council to add an item to the agenda.

Councilman Wells state, "I would like to make a resolution that the City Council make a formal request to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Louisiana State Police, Louisiana Attorney General Office and any other agency recommending the Civil Service Right by the City Attorney to investigate the this report." Councilman Wells asked what would be the next step.

City Attorney Andre Coudrain, stated you would have to make a motion to add that item to the agenda and we need a second.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to add this item to the agenda.

**VOTE:** Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (N), Councilman Wells (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (N) Motion denied 3-2

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that we have just been given a hundred something page report and she does not think it's appropriate to add a resolution before she has had a chance to read it and she would be happy to put it on the next agenda so that they could properly discuss it. She further stated that she believed they once talked about referring the issue to some of those authorities and that did not happen, and they got an expert instead and she just wants a chance to review the report.

**Councilman Leon,** stated it took almost a year for them to put the report together and in thirty minutes they get presented with it and then they are asked to make a decision. He stated he is not against making a decision or against the resolution but he needs some time to process it and would like to take the material read over and process it. He stated he does not think tonight is the appropriate time to vote on it.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated for the record that she asked to see a copy of the report last week, but she understood that they were all going to get it at once. Had she gotten the report a week ago and had a chance to read it, she may have been able to give some thought to the resolution to amend the agenda and maybe the next one.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he wanted to make clear that anyone that watches the video that has been around a while is disturbing. He stated that he supports law enforcement, good law enforcement. He stated that watching that video, there shouldn't be much else to see that it is uncalled for disgusting video that we watched. He stated then to promote a guy, the administration to recommend his promotion after knowing this and bringing it to them when they first got in, it's very sad to know that. He also stated that they did not have this information and he want to make that clear. The video was disturbing and disgusting.

**Councilman Wells**, stated December 2017 is when this took place and here it is 2022. He stated it's not fair to the citizens of Hammond for this to take place. He stated he doesn't know Mr. Ratcliff and he voted for the chief based on what he was told. He stated that the Mayor rushed the vote to approve the chief. Councilman Wells asked to make another resolution.

**Councilman Andrews,** stated that Councilwoman Gonzales did ask for a copy of the report. He stated that the last meeting he had with the attorneys, it was decided that this report would be given at one time to everyone at the same time. No information was given to him and Councilman DiVittorio on the phone call. The decision was made

to present this tonight, in public to the council and everyone seated at the table to make sure they got a hard copy in their hand.

**Councilman Wells** stated that he would like to make another resolution "I would like to make a resolution based upon the use of force expert and the lawyer that the City Councilman formally request that the Mayor fire Chief Bergeron immediately."

Councilman DiVittorio, seconded that motion

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that again this is a motion to amend the agenda not a vote on the resolution because that is not actually on the agenda. She stated she just wanted to make that clear. Councilman Wells, answered, yes

**VOTE:** Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (N), Councilman Wells (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (N) Motion denied 3-2

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated that she also wanted to make it clear that the language of both of those resolutions were prepared ahead of time, which if you want something on the agenda she urged council members to put it on the agenda so that it is before them, giving them time to think about it and find out all of the relevant information before they vote on it instead of amending the agenda after it's been posted.

**Councilman Wells,** stated this for the record, "Now you all get a chance to see what he actually go through, the first guy that comes in here was Starwood on the Mayor report and the attached was toward him, not what the city did but towards him." He stated all that was a distraction, pay attention to the votes. For the record, he's running for office again, pay attention to what's going on. He is running for office again. Make this time when you go vote, make the right decision.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated that her statements are not underlying statements and there is a reason we have an agenda. It is so people who care about the things we vote about know what is coming before them and it is properly advertised, so that anybody that wants to speak about it can come up here and talk about it. If it's not on the agenda, they don't know about it and that's not fair to the people we represent.

**Councilman Leon,** stated if you want to talk about citizenship, when we do something like this you are leaving the citizenship completely out of the loop. You put it on the agenda, you advertise it, you inform the citizenship and then we make an informed decision, that's the process, that's what we do.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked who's in charge of the Calendar on the City's Website.

Lacy Landrum, stated there are several people.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated it was wrong, it had the wrong date for this meeting.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the agendas have been posted correctly and that was a mistake that was made and when it came to their attention, it was corrected.

### **VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of minutes of the January 11, 2022 meeting.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve the minutes of January 11, 2022

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

### **VII. RESOLUTIONS**

### A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

### **B. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. A resolution authorizing the purchase of Playground equipment and installation for Jackson Park improvements from Planet Recess for a total of \$59,204.00. (Chris Mouswaswa)

**Chris Mouswaswa**, Assistant Director of Recreation stated that Desiree Dotey was unable to attend the meeting and he was filling in for her. Chris asked to move forward with the process and was seeking approval.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the plans for other projects.

Chris Mouswaswa, stated once they get done with this, they would begin to look into other items.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to a resolution authorizing the purchase of Playground equipment and installation for Jackson Park improvements from Planet Recess for a total of \$59,204.00.

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

### VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: NONE

# IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING: NONE

1. Introduction of an Ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City's single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated that this was just an introduction and it was the same ordinance that Mr. Bill Blair went over when he talked about the process. She stated that he would like to speak with each of them to go over the information.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City's single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

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

### Public Hearing will be scheduled for February 8, 2022 at 5:30

2. Introduction of an Ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubdivide 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2 (Jeffery Leuenberger)

**Jeffery Leuenberger,** stated this is a right of way revocation and the zoning commission recommended approval at their January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. They are seeking approval

**Councilman Wells**, asked Jeffery how long the process has been going on or when the application was first put in.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that he wasn't sure but he thinks it was before he started

**Councilman Wells,** stated for the record, he asked Jeffery if there was any way he could locate that information, this has been going on for years.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated he could go back to see how long this has been going on, assuming from when they put in an application.

Councilman Wells, stated they were here and he called up Mr. Adrien Wells.

Adrien Wells, 811B Mooney Ave,

**Councilman Wells** stated that Adrien was his cousin and for the record he told him if there's anything he is trying to do to go talk to the community. If the community doesn't want what he is trying to do, he is not going to vote on it.

Adrien Wells, stated he tried to get this done about five or six years ago and was told he could not get it then he was told he needed a survey.

#### Councilman Wells, thanked Adreian Wells

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated he wanted to ask and clarify if the gentleman that came up earlier was talking about the same thing or was he talking about getting a variance. He stated that the gentleman was saying that this was the same thing and he wanted to make sure. He asked if that was correct.

Jeffery Leuenberger stated partially, he stated he came in with two requests and one was for the variance and the other was for the right of way revocation.

Councilman DiVittorio, the same thing here

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated yes the exact same thing. He stated that the variance was not recommended by the planning commission but the right of way was recommended.

**Councilman Wells,** stated to Jeffery that when he came to his office he told him that if you are going to approve something in district three he would like for you to ride out and look at it.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to introduce an ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubdivide 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Abstain) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 4-0

# Public Hearing will be scheduled for February 8, 2022 at 5:30

3. Introduction of an Ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A (Jeffery Leuenberger)

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated that planning and zoning recommended approval. This is more of a cleanup because it is a smart parcel of land that wasn't rezoned.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked Jeffery Leuenburger to review the area to see other if other cleanup is need.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A

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

# Public Hearing will be scheduled for February 8, 2022 at 5:30

4. Introduction of an Ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated this was a request received from the council to the planning and zoning commission. There was a discussion in the January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, recommending a change to require parking on hard surfaces or driveway with allowance for a seven day temporary storage.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, talked about changes to the ordinance and may be able to reduce to three days.

Andre Coudrain, stated that the council may want to make changes

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers.

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for February 8, 2022 at 5:30

Stephen Quinn, citizen, stated issues about police force still exist and should not prolong this.

X. ADJOURN: there was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> 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 ABOVEAND FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS TRANSACTEDAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD JAN. 25, 2022

**BEING 9 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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA February 8, 2022 5:30pm

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

**III. PUBLIC HEARING:** 

1. Introduction of an Ordinance establishing a temporary 365 Day Moratorium on the acceptance and processing of subdivision plats, site development plans or zoning amendments for multifamily housing within the City of Hammond, providing for variances and providing a severability clause.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated this was introduced at the last meeting in December and it was postponed to this meeting to give people time to review it, planning and zoning and the housing committee. He asked if anyone had any input on the matter.

Joe Meir, 4065 High Oaks Trail, asked about the posted document.

Andre Coudrain, stated that as a result of the discussion there were some concerns about the language dealing with the housing committee and based on that, he stuck through most references to the housing committee. There are no substantive changes. The only changes are to the whereas sections.

Joe Meir, stated that he had sent the ordinance to the housing committee and asked for feedback about the ordinance. The consensus of the housing committee was that they had nothing to do with the ordinance as it was developed. He stated that under the proposed moratorium there are a number of issues: length of moratorium; has the city considered the impact on development cost; impact on vested rights; undue hardship on existing property owners; lack of clear and objective standard of what is happening with the moratorium, what the plan and how it's going to take place; he stated that the council controls changes, so the moratorium is not needed; He stated a yearlong moratorium is not justified at this point if the city is concerned about potential negative impacts on family developments on neighboring single family neighborhoods; consider adopting a limited moratorium that directly address the concerns that applies only to multifamily developments on lots that directly abuts to single family properties. He stated the due process is impacted by this, if developers or property owners have already purchased property with plans of developing the property. The moratorium is not clear on how it's going to affect the property owner's rights.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked to hear what planning and zoning had to say and one of the reasons it was extended was to see what planning and zonings input was.

**Jeffery Leuenberger,** on January 6 the planning and zoning had a discussion and their recommendation was, instead of doing 365 days the recommendation was to reduce it to 120 days with the city council having an option to extend after that.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated that this was presented to help the housing committee when they are doing a study to hire consultants, a moratorium would allow a pause while the housing committee is doing its study. Stated they are trying to improve and better the city. It's was intended plan, help work together, plan ahead and growing smart.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated that she was at the planning and zoning meeting and a shorter period would show that something is being done. She thought that 120 days was the planning and zoning compromise.

**Councilman Divittorio**, stated that this was an introduction and we introduce it for a year. It is a starting point and it is not infringing on property rights. If someone has an issue they can still come before council with a variance and that would allow project to be approved.

**Councilman Wells**, stated there is a lot of infrastructure going on in District 3. His district has sewer issues and it's now spilling over into Councilman Sam's District. A study is needed to look at the problems and he would like to slow down the process.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that these are high density developments, he has had a lot of supportive feedback.

**Steve Leon**, stated that this encompassed smaller developments as well and that is a concern. There is no sense of urgency. He suggest that they agree to back down on the 365 day and have some type of movement every 60 days.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated that this was a big decision and rushing is not a good idea. As far as a timeframe of a year, it's going to take some time to get a study, review it and get some policies in place. He stated that he is open to making it 180 day with an option to extend. We are moving in the right direction and it's going to take time.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked for clarification on the size of building.

Andre Coudrain, explained the ordinance, wording and property rights. He stated the right he is concerned about is those that has already submitted and application.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked Jeffery Leueberger about permits that were submitted to him.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that everything that has be provided to him is what has been applied for.

Andre Coudrain, stated make it clear so that there are no misunderstanding in the public. In final adoption, consider to make a direct statement that the moratorium does not apply to existing applications.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that when people buy property the need to make sure they know what it is zoned for.

2. Introduction of an Ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City's single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

Lacy Landrum, stated this is a housekeeping formality issue. This is required by the redistricting process. We do not have the right demographics in some of the districts. She state there are too many in some districts and not enough in others according to the new census data. As we are beginning the redistricting plan, she hopes to have this completed by April or May.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked when the exact cut off is.

Lacy Landrum, stated May 8th,

3. Introduction of an Ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubdivide 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated that this was a Right of Way Revocation and the Zoning Commission heard this on January 6<sup>th</sup> and they recommended approval.

4. Introduction of an Ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that this was also a rezoning case and the rezoning was to conform to the surrounding area. The Zoning Commission recommended approval.

### 5. Introduction of an Ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers.

**Jeffery Leuenberger,** stated this was brought to the Planning and Zoning Commission on January 6 to get their recommendation on boats on a trailer. The recommendation was to amend 6.1.1 of the UDC to strike boats on a trailer boats on a trailer will not be included in this prohibition. To strike that language and include that trailers must be on a hard surface and to allow seven day exemption for temporary storage.

# Councilman Wells, asked Jeffery Leuenberger where he lived.

# Jeffery Leuenberger, stated Baton Rouge

Councilman Wells, asked Andre Coudrain what the charter says?

Andre Coudrain, stated section 4.01 states that department heads must live in the city or within five mile radius of the nearest point of the corporate limits.

Lacy Landrum, stated the Jeffery is not a department head, he in the building department and Robert Morgan is the department head.



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA February 8, 2022 6:00 pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

**III. PRAYER:** President Andrews

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

### V. REPORTS:

Mayor: Thank the Citizen and reports that the city is 1.3 million over budget for sales tax.

### **Council:**

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that Chick fila had their ribbon cutting this morning and will open tomorrow. He thanked the parish and administration.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that keep Hammond Beautiful will be in Clark Park at 10 a.m. this Saturday.

Councilman Leon, asked about the final cleanup of debris

**Mayor Panepinto,** stated the final clean-up will begin February 18, and he asked that they continue to submit addresses. After the final debris pick up, stumps will be picked up.

**Councilman Wells**, gave several addresses for debris pickup and stated that city workers should ride out looking for debris.

Lacy Landrum, state they already go out and she does as well.

Councilman Wells, asked why the new restrooms at Mooney Park were locked.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she did not know why the doors were looked but they had to reroute the electrical system.

Councilman Wells, asked when the old restrooms will be torn down.

Lacy Landrum, stated she wasn't sure, they are focused on getting the new restrooms up and running, before they come in and demo.

Councilman Wells, asked for an update on the drainage and sidewalk improvements in district 3.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they were under design and any day they will be coming out for bid.

Councilman Wells, stated that this was passed in July.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they focused on the sewer issues first. The project was designed and has gone out for bids. That was the first priority and the next priority is the sidewalk & drainage and the other priority is the improvements at Jackson Park.

Councilman Wells, asked when they started on the sewer job.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she believes that they have already started they did the SSES, which is a survey of all of the work that had to be completed before some of the rehab could start.

Councilman Wells, asked for an update on the stop signs on Phoenix and Spruce Streets.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they pulled the crash data and that there has been three accidents there in the last three years. There needs to be a meeting between the engineer, the Mayor and police to discuss that location of a stop sign.

Councilman Wells, stated that there are wrecks there all the time that is not being report.

**Councilman Wells**, asked about the retention pond on Natchez. He stated it had an awful smell. He asked what they can do about that.

Lacy Landrum, stated they are working on the other pond, but doesn't know if that is going to change the smell.

Councilman Wells, asked if the water meters are being read from month to month.

**Mayor Panepinto,** stated yes they are but after the storm they did an average for a couple of months because of a shortage of workers. When there were misreads they have gone back out and did a reread of the meter. Since the storm and due to covid they haven't charged any late fees.

Councilman Wells, stated that the customers are telling him that they are not reading.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the Utility Supervisor said today that the meter is being read.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he has had several incorrect bills in his district. He doesn't think they may be reading the meters and that's something they may want to check into.

Councilman Andrews, stated that he also receive a lot of calls on water bills as well.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he was at a function and had an issue with police officers and if this continues he is not going to internal affairs, he will personally get the Department of Justice involved. He has been stopped several times by the police department.

**Councilman Andrews,** stated that on February 22, we will have our Wilbert Dangerfield Awards. He also ask about the hours for construction on Medline. He has gotten some call that they been working after the hours of 7pm.

Andre Coudrain, stated it's an enforcement issue and they can be issued a citation for working beyond the hours of the agreement.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked Lacy about Timberlane boring.

Lacy Landrum, stated the started with Rue St. Martin, but don't think they started on Timberlane yet.

### VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting.

# There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to table the January 25, 2022 minutes.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0 to table

**VII. RESOLUTIONS** 

### A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

**B. NEW BUSINESS:** 

1. A resolution to direct special counsel Michael R. Adams to refer the 2017 booking room incident to the District Attorney's Office for the 21st Judicial District, the Office of the Louisiana Attorney General, the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), for criminal investigation and potential prosecution, based upon the report received from Mr. Seth W. Stoughton.

**Councilman Wells**, read a typed statement on his experience with the information regarding the booking room incident, police department and raises for police and city workers. He thanked the council and he stated the City Council and the Mayor has made him a better person.

**Jermaine Luckett**, 515 Claudia Lane, stated he believes the issue should be addressed quickly and he asked, what kind type of leader are you? He asked and what side of history will you be on.

**Kendrick Ratliff**, 43511 stated that it was not about black or white, it's about love. He asked why it was covered up and been pushed to the side like he's not a human being. He hopes that a resolution be found and that they come to an agreement and he hopes for justice, peace and equality.

**Earnestine Scott**, 407 White St, stated that she doesn't think that the police department is trained and she's concerned about the way they handled them. She stated she thinks they should try and find jobs for young people. She stated she doesn't like when the police target our people, instead of trying to help them. They need to be trained.

Stacy Watson, 204 George Perkins Sr Dr., She asked, if something is happening to you or someone, is it not ok to ask an officer, what did I do?

Lt. Scivique, stated that it was according to the situation.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that he has nothing against good police officers and bad police do not need to be working for the city of Hammond.

**Mandy Franks Braywick**, stated that they should schedule something to have officers get to know the areas better. She suggested inviting police officers to the community to meet and talk. She said she knows the police force and there are a lot of good officers and don't hurt good officers because of bad officers.

**Councilman Wells**, stated for the record that he has nothing against the police department and they deserve a raise.

Kendrick Ratcliff, stated he believed he was racially profiled based on the area he was in.

Carolyn Harrell, 220 Cherry Dr, stated that the city needs to try and equip the department.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that the report has about seventeen recommendations and number two is to refer the report to different entities. She stated that the American Civil Liberties Union was not recommended in the report and she doesn't think that the American Civil Liberties Union has any power for criminal investigations or prosecution. There are so many good things in the report, it not just about the booking room incident, but how can things be changed and where they are falling short. She suggested that they go past this resolution and come up with some other things. She also stated that some things that are recommended in the report are already implemented.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to direct special counsel Michael R. Adams to refer the 2017 booking room incident to the District Attorney's Office for the 21st Judicial District, the Office of the Louisiana Attorney General, the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), for criminal investigation and potential prosecution, based upon the report received from Mr. Seth W. Stoughton.

VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam Divittorio (Y), Carlee white Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y).Motion Approved 5-0

2. A resolution to authorize the Hammond BBQ, Inc. to sell Beer on the City's property lying within the boundaries of S.W. Railroad Ave. from 100 yards South of Coleman Street to West Thomas Street; Coleman Street from Cate Street to S.W. Railroad Avenue, for the hours of 06:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Thursday, March 24, 2022; 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2022; and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022 (Brian Shirey)

**Brian Shirey**, stated that they were a 501c3 and they have given over half million dollars to charities over the years. He stated that this was a two day event and they will not have any professional teams this year, locals only.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated he was glad they were back

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked about the Chicken Little section where the kids can cook.

**Councilman Wells**, thanked Brian for having the event and stated that he reached out to him and he appreciated him for doing that.

Councilman Andrews, thanked Brain Shirey, for putting the event together and for getting people back out and involved again

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Hammond BBQ lnc. to sell Beer on the City's property lying within the boundaries of S.W. Railroad Ave. from 100 yards South of Coleman Street to West Thomas Street; Coleman Street from Cate Street to S.W Railroad Avenue, for the hours of 06:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Thursday, March 24, 2022; 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m on Friday, March 25, 2022; and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022.

# VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam Divittorio (Y), Carlee white Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y).Motion Approved 5-0

3.A resolution to authorize the Hammond BBQ, Inc. to obtain a Waiver of the Open container Law on the City's property lying within the boundaries of S.W. Railroad Ave. from 100 yards South of Coleman Street to West Thomas Street; Coleman Street from Cate Street to S.W. Railroad Avenue, for the hours of 06:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Thursday, March 24, 2022; 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2022; and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022 (Brian Shirey)

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to authorize the Hammond BBQ, Inc. to obtain a Waiver of the Open container Law on the City's property lying within the boundaries of S.W. Railroad Ave. from 100 yards South of Coleman Street to West Thomas Street; Coleman Street from Cate Street to S.W. Railroad Avenue, for the hours of 06:00 pm to 11:00 pm on Thursday, March 24, 2022; 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2022; and from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022 (Brian Shirey)

# VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam Divittorio (Y), Carlee white Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

4. A resolution supporting the submission of a \$25,000 grant application to the State Farm Neighborhood Assist Program for improvements to Clarke Park Playground.

Charles Borchers, stated, that this was to repair hurricane damage and improve the park.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated that the storm took out some of the structures.

Councilman Wells, asked if the city was coming up with some of the money.

**Charles Borchers**, stated that the recreation department has about \$25,000 to \$30,000 in their budget for the projects and that there was no match.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to a resolution authorizing the purchase of Playground equipment and installation for Jackson Park improvements from Planet Recess for a total of \$59,204.00.

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

# VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

# A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Introduction of an Ordinance establishing a temporary 365 Day Moratorium on the acceptance and processing of subdivision plats, site development plans or zoning amendments for multifamily housing within the City of Hammond, providing for variances and providing a severability clause.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that it was right for the community and to let the study's come in, review it and make plans for smart growth. Stated he would like to amend the 365 days to 180 days with an option to extend. He asked Andre what would be the correct way to do that and to make sure it is written correctly.

Andre Coudrain, stated you would make the motion to amend from 365day to 180 days, he stated that there was already a provision that talked about the option to extend.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked that it be clear, that the items the housing committee did not want was taken out. She didn't think it was clear.

Andre Coudrain, stated that the only thing that would change is the number. He circulated changes to address the comments that were made at the introduction to remove much of the language, just in the whereas section and not the details of it. Just removing reference of details of the Housing Advisory Committee to say that the council created a Housing Advisory Committee and the committee is expected to make recommendations regarding single family housing and that the city will change if unlimited growth happens before the city can review and consider recommendations of the Housing Advisor Committee, that is the only reference to the Housing Advisory Committee and everything else would be stricken through. He stated that if that is the wish of the council, you could make a motion to make that change as well.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to amend the Ordinance to a 180 day moratorium, not a 365 day moratorium. Motion Approve 5-0

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to amend to strike paragraph 3 of the Ordinance regarding extensions.

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Divittorio</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to amend the ordinance to state it does not apply to existing applications.

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to adopt the ordinance as amended. Establishing a temporary 180 Day moratorium on the acceptance and processing of subdivision plats, site development plans or zoning amendments for multifamily housing within the City of Hammond, providing for variances and providing a severability clause.

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

**Joe Mier**, Chairman of Housing Committee, gave an update on the housing committee and stated that they receive four proposals and they would be meeting on this Thursday to review them.

Councilman Wells left the meeting

### **B.NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City's single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to adopt an Ordinance to declare the malapportionment status of the current districting plan of the City's single member election districts of the City of Hammond utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

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

2. Final adoption of an Ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubdivide 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2.

Jeffery Leuenberger, zoning commission recommend approval

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to adopt an Ordinance by Adrien & Vanessa Wells & Lillie Scott to revocate a portion of Kansas Street right of way, and resubdivide 2 lots in Block 5 into Lots 14A & 26A, Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 707 and 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2.

# VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Abstain) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 4-0

3. Final adoption of an Ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated the rezoning will conform to the surrounding area and the zoning commission recommends approval.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to adopt an Ordinance by Richard and Deborah Siems & Doris Wingfield (owner) and Humberto Mata (applicant) to rezone a portion of Lot 3A2 to conform with existing zoning of 3A1 & 3A2 as shown on a survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 7/12/2017 from RS-11.A to MX-C, located at 2405 Old Baton Rouge Hwy; RS-11.A d 809 Mooney Ave in accordance with survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; zoned RM-2.

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

4. Final adoption of an Ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers.

**Jeffery Leuenberger,** stated this was an amendment asked by the council to give a recommendation on boats on a trailer. The recommendation was to amend 6.1.1 of the UDC to strike boats on a trailer boats on a trailer will not be included in this prohibition. To strike that language and include that trailers must be on a hard surface and to allow seven day exemption for temporary storage.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated he thinks seven days is a long time. Stated he would like to make an amendment to change from seven days to one day.

**Councilman Leon**, asked if it was realistically enforceable. Stated the need to make sure the resolutions don't override subdivision HOA.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to remove the temporary seven day allowance in the ordinance.

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to adopt as amended Ordinance TA-2021-04-00022 Text Amendment to UDC Ord#14-5364 Article 6.1.1 Residential Single-Family to revise description in regards to boats on trailers.

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

# **IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:**

**1.** Introduction for an Ordinance by Starwood Management Co., LLC and Alice Sheridan to revocate a portion of George Perkins Sr. Dr. right of way and resubdivide 3 lots in Block 5 and Block 6 of Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 609 Mooney Ave. and 701 Mooney Ave., in accordance with a survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; Zoned RM-2.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that planning and zoning on voted on January 6, 2021 and recommended approval of the Right of Way Revocation.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to introduce an ordinance by Starwood Management Co., LLC and Alice Sheridan to revocate a portion of George Perkins Sr. Dr. right of way and resubdivide 3 lots in Block 5 and Block 6 of Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 609 Mooney Ave. and 701 Mooney Ave., in accordance with a survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; Zoned RM-2.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Abstain), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approve 4-0

# Public Hearing will be scheduled for February 22, 2022 at 5:30

2. Introduction of an ordinance to rename Mooney Park to Gibson Memorial Park.

Councilman Wells, stated that he is requesting to rename the park and would like to honor the pioneers of the community.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to introduce an ordinance to rename Mooney Park to Gibson Memorial Park.

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for February 22, 2022 at 5:30

X. ADJOURN: there was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> 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

TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD FEBUARY 8,

2022

**BEING 9 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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA February 22, 2022

# I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

# **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An Ordinance by Starwood Management Co., LLC and Alice Sheridan to revocate a portion of George Perkins Sr. Dr. right of way and resubdivide 3 lots in Block 5 and Block 6 of Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 609 Mooney Ave. and 701 Mooney Ave., in accordance with a survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; Zoned RM-2.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that the zoning commission recommended approval.

Marion Sheridan, Alice Sheridan's daughter, 606-609 S. Mooney Ave, stated that they are not interested in the revocation of 609 S Mooney Ave.

**Councilman Wells**, stated for the record, that her mother was deceased and the community doesn't want this to take place.

### 2. An Ordinance to rename Mooney Park to Gibson Memorial Park.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that they were looking for a name for the park and once they found out they could rename the park he began to move ahead with the process. He stated that the community was divided 50/50.

**Robin G. Chapman**, 112 Mississippi St, stated that she has lived in Hammond all of her life. She stated that she commends Mr. Wells, her councilman for all the work that he has done in their community but she is not in favor of the name of the park being changed. She further stated that she doesn't think they should name the park just because people are deceased, but for people that have a history with contributing to that park or community. She stated that if that is a conversation, it should be had with the whole community and not a selected few.

Lacy Landrum, stated the name Mooney comes from the first mayor of Hammond.

**Councilman Wells**, called up Marion Sheridan and stated for the record that her grandfather sold the land to the city to build the park and he spoke with her and she stated that she did not have a problem with it but some of the family members might. He stated to city attorney Andre Coudrain that he would like to take the item off the agenda until they have further discussions in the community.

Andre Coudrain, stated that we were in the public hearing and that it could take place when we get to the final adoption. He stated that the council could remove, table, vote for or against the item.



# HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA February 22, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

III. PRAYER: President Kip Andrews

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

### V. REPORTS:

Mayor: Lacy Landrum stated that the Mayor would not be present tonight due to illness.

### Council:

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated she was having a town hall meeting tomorrow night February 23 at 5pm in council chambers, for district two to address some crime issues, HPD and Crime stoppers will be there.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that on Sunday the new bathrooms in Mooney Park were locked all day. He stated the old bathrooms need to be tore down and the new bathrooms are locked and they are not serving a purpose. The time was 1:30pm he was in the park.

Councilman Wells, asked about the status of the stop signs on Phoenix and Spruce.

Lacy Landrum, stated they have to have a committee meeting to discuss the different perspective of that along with first responders. They are looking at data and asked for information on accidents that have not been reported.

Councilman Wells, called Ms. Cox forward stating that she is one of the people that requested the stop signs.

**Joyce Cox**, 404 Phoenix Square, stated that cars are racing, 18 wheelers are coming through knocking down wires, and cars are parked on the street and sidewalks. She stated she always calls to make reports to send some on out to slow traffic down. She stated they need a stop sign to slow down traffic and they need assistance.

Stacy Watson, stated that she lived on Phoenix for over seventeen years and she stated that the speed coming through there is unbearable and a stop sign is needed.

Lena Harrison Martin, 504 Phoenix Square, stated they need stop signs as well as signs for the eighteen wheelers. She stated that her wires have been knocked down more than once. She stated she saw racing.

**Councilman Wells** stated that he was going to go out and pick out some streets in the good community where he doesn't see any of these issues taking place and he wants the same data. He stated this was his second time in three years asking about a stop sign, it took two years to get the first stop sign.

Lacy Landrum- stated she appreciates everyone speaking and it helps them to hear the different perspectives. She stated that multiple people are involved in the decision, first community responders, City civil engineers, and the streets department director. She stated the information received tonight is important.

Councilman Wells, stated that he wanted to see the same data from other neighborhoods.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked, what do we have as a policy on stop signs, the process of getting one and is there something in writing and who's all involved

Lacy Landrum, stated that's what she just described, the city engineer, street department director, usually the council person from that district, the mayor, fire, police and Acadian Ambulance. She stated it was similar to what a speed hump is.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked is that an ordinance.

Lacy Landrum, stated it was not an ordinance to her knowledge.

Councilman Andrews, Called up Mr. Dennis Wise of Recyclops for a presentation.

**Dennis Wise**, 619 Mill Street, Raleigh, NC, made a presentation on recycling, they are an online subscription service and there is no cost to the city.

Council President Andrews, congratulated officers who were promoted in the Hammond Police Department.

# VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to approve the January 25, 2022 minutes.

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

Approval of Minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to approve the February 8, 2022 minutes.

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

### **VII. RESOLUTIONS**

### A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

### **B. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Civix for \$88,415 to conduct a housing and<br/>residential areas strategic growth study (RFP 22-16). See pages 33-34 for cost details. (Lacy Landrum)<br/>Element 1, Housing Inventory & Enhancement Area Identification, \$26,385<br/>Element 2, Enhancement Areas Need & Opportunity Assessment, \$44,210<br/>Element 3, Review, Research & Recommendations\$44,210<br/>\$17,820<br/>\$88,415

Lacy Landrum, stated there were two attachments, they received several proposals back and they were reviewed by the housing committee and sub-committee. They have made a recommendation to enter into a contract with Civix and at this time would like to make that contingent upon council appropriation. They are going to go into further discussion and negotiations with Civix, upon your approval, they are the selected consultant to see what they can get in terms of best pricing.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that members of the committee spoke highly of the Civix Company.

**Lemar Marshall**, 1104 Rue Chalet, committee member, stated they graded each RFP and the group they chose was the best group. They already voted in a committee to do the process.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Civix subject to negotiation on price to conduct a housing and residential areas strategic growth study and subject to appropriation (RFP 22-16).

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

2. A resolution to approve Kangaroo #553 located at 1200 S Morrison Blvd Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is MM CS Services, LLC. (Kasey Daigle)

Kasey Daigle, stated this was a change of ownership and owners have met all the requirements.

Michael Joiner, representative for the company was present

Councilman Wells, thanked him for his business and welcomed him to the community

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to approve Kangaroo #553 located at 1200 S Morrison Blvd Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is MM CS Services, LLC.

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

3. A resolution for the Hammond City Council to accept the recommendations from Seth W. Stoughton's report and initiate developing a request for proposals to solicit information from private entities that will conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations. (Councilman Wells)

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to table a resolution for the Hammond City Council to accept the recommendations from Seth W. Stoughton's report and initiate developing a request for proposals to solicit information from private entities that will conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations.

# VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y).Motion Approved 5-0 to table

4. A resolution supporting the submission of a \$45,000 application to the Traffic Safety Grant Program for Impaired Driving, Occupant Protection, and Juvenile Underage Drinking Enforcement. (Charles Borchers IV)

Charles Borchers, stated that there was no match requirement and this was an overtime based grant to be used to cover overtime, DUI check points and juvenile underage drinking.

# There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve supporting the submission of a \$45,000 application to the Traffic Safety Grant Program for Impaired Driving, Occupant Protection, and Juvenile Underage Drinking Enforcement.

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

5. A resolution approving the purchase of an emergency generator for Lift Station 51 (located on Hipark Boulevard in District 3) in the amount of \$44,624.83 under Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program Grant 58562A (City Project 32102).(Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers**, stated that this was a purchase from ARCCO, and is under state contract pricing, and the funds will be coming out of the project cost account.

Councilman Wells, stated that there were issues in other areas that need emergency generators for sewer.

Lacy Landrum, stated that projects for sewer on Mississippi and Mooney has already begun.

**Councilman Wells,** stated sewer issues in his area needs immediate attention and all the sewer from other areas are coming through District 3 and this should be a priority. He stated they have a major problem. He stated he wants the same things for district 3 that other communities have. Let's get the sewer out of the people houses in District 3.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if this was a grant and if this was within budget.

Charles Borchers, answered yes.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> approving the purchase of an emergency generator for Lift Station 51 (located on Hipark Boulevard in District 3) in the amount of \$44,624.83 under Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program Grant 58562A (City Project 32102)

**Councilman Wells,** asked Lacy Landrum for the data on the stop sign and sewer and he's going to give them the data on everyone that has gotten sewer in their houses.

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

# VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

### A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

### **B.NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance by Starwood Management Co., LLC and Alice Sheridan to revocate a portion of George Perkins Sr. Dr. right of way and resubdivide 3 lots in Block 5 and Block 6 of Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 609 Mooney Ave. and 701 Mooney Ave., in accordance with a survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; Zoned RM-2. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

**Jeffery Leuenberger**. Planning and Zoning recommended approval, he also stated that this was a pending case when he started.

**Councilman Wells**, asked, did he get a legal opinion regarding Adrien Well and Lillie Scott. He also stated that he wanted the same for every person and be fair to everyone.

Earnestine Scott, 407 White St. stated it was out of order to mention her deceased mother.

**Councilman Wells**, asked Earnestine Scott if she approved of what the city wants to take place for Starwood.

Earnestine Scott, she stated she did not know what they were trying to do.

Councilman Wells, state that they were trying to give him property.

**Claude Sims**, stated his homestead is at 806 S. Mooney Ave, and that the area is for single family property dwellings and don't think the property should be given to Mr. Starwood to make any other type of development. He stated he was appalled to hear talk of his auntie Ms. Lillie Scott with regard to the property and her death.

Councilwoman Gonzales, wanted clarification on what was going on.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that duplexes are allowed in that area and the lot sizes are issues.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated, the intention would be to make the lot bigger and therefore meet the requirement and not need a variance. She asked if he doesn't have the lot made bigger he would need a variance for a duplex.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated the he's making a lot bigger but wasn't approved to do a duplex

**Sam DiVittorio**, stated the lot is zoned for duplexes, but asked, right now does the minimum square footage to build a duplex or does he need the additional land from the city street that's abandoned to add to that lot.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that he doesn't have enough room for a duplex.

**Ron Matthews,** 905 Del Mar, Planning and Zoning Commissioner, stated that it's in the council's hand, it's up to the city to decide what to do. He asked city attorney Andre Coudrain, if a landowner doesn't want a portion of the revocation what do you do?

Andre Coudrain, stated that if the property is revoked, the landowner can do what they want with the property and he stated the state law that if revoked, the property is split down the middle to the adjoining landowners.

**Jacqueline Taylor,** 809 S. Chestnut, stated when you get a permit, should you ask the people in the neighborhood do they want to allow complexes etc. She stated that FEMA was putting trailers in the neighborhood in the city limits.

**Lacy Landrum** stated that the council passed an emergency ordinance it is for a limited time and must be permitted through the building permit office. She asked Jacqueline if she have any that they need to look at they would be happy to go out and see if they moved in without permission.

Jacqueline Taylor, also stated that they needed to clean the out the canals.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to deny an Ordinance by Starwood Management Co., LLC and Alice Sheridan to revocate a portion of George Perkins Sr. Dr. right of way and resubdivide 3 lots in Block 5 and Block 6 of Colonial Place Subdivision, located at 609 Mooney Ave. and 701 Mooney Ave., in accordance with a survey by William J. Bodin, PLS; Zoned RM-2.

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

**2.** Final adoption of an Introduction of an ordinance to rename Mooney Park to Gibson Memorial Park. (Councilman Wells)

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he was going to take this item off the agenda and go back to the community and decide on what to name Mooney Park.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to remove an introduction of an ordinance to rename Mooney Park from the agenda.

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

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an Ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated that this is an amendment that is done after the audit is completed. All they are doing is changing the beginning fund balances to match the actual balances. She stated this would add money to the budget to give flexibility for projects. She also stated that the city is running ahead on the sales tax revenue. They are requesting the addition of four million dollars to be added into the sales tax revenue line item.

Carlee Gonzales, Asked about the salary study.

Lacy Landrum, stated that we will be getting the numbers by the end of this month.

**Councilman Wells**, asked that information on meeting with the salary study consultant be posted one everyone's check.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022

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

### Public Hearing will be scheduled for March 8, 2022 at 5:30

2. An Ordinance to Amend the Hammond Unified Development Code to Add the Suburban Highway Overlay District. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated that planning and zoning commission gave a recommendation to amend. The report outlines everything and he included a map that outlines the areas.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked, have the affected property owners been give notice.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that state law states, when you are doing a large rezoning such as this, it's almost impossible to notify the property owners that it is taking affect and by state law you do not have to notify all the individual property owners when you are doing a major changing in zoning like this. The answer is no.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked it was possible to reach out to the media so that it's put in the newspaper, so that people would know that it's happening

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, state that we could do a press release and he would get the report on the website to make sure all the information is out there

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to introduce and ordinance to amend the Hammond Unified Development Code to Add the Suburban Highway Overlay District.

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for March 8, 2022 at 5:30

X. ADJOURN: there was a motion by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to adjourn. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned. 5-0

# **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 FEBUARY 22,

2022

**BEING 7 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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA March 8, 2022

# I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

# **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An Ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022. (Laura Hammett)

Laura Hammett, stated that they were amending the beginning fund balance based on actual numbers and not just estimates, and once the audit from last year is completed they have final numbers and generally come before the council in March. She stated that anything that changes more than 5% must come before the City Council. She discussed the actual line items to be amended, items with more than a 5% variance.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if the money in the Department of Motor Vehicles is being moved over to the general fund.

Laura Hammett, stated yes.

Lacy Landrum, stated that that move is not reflected yet on the consolidated budget because they have not closed that fund. The closure of the fund will happen in the next budget.

**Councilman Wells**, asked about the request that was made previously by Councilman DiVittorio regarding a breakdown of the city's finances. He asked when the information would be available.

**Laura Hammett**, stated that they just finished closing the books for February and she haven't had a chance to do an analysis on that yet, but she can have it for the next meeting.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they already provided the report that was requested.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that they asked for a breakdown of where the money is being moved to and what's going on with the accounts.

Laura Hammett, stated that she has an open door policy and if they have any questions they can give her a call.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked about the workers comp. line item.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they did not spend as much as what was budgeted.

**Laura Hammett**, stated that sales tax for the year is at \$5 million above what they budgeted. They are asking for a \$4 million dollar increase to the budget in sales tax revenue. They are not appropriating the funds, they are just recognizing that revenue.

Lacy Landrum, explained the sales tax process. She stated it takes about a month to receive the sales tax.

**Laura Hammett**, stated that they were asking to add funds for the housing study. They already had the \$50,000 set aside for it but the proposal has come in at the \$88,000, so they are asking for an addition \$38,415, so they can move forward with the housing study.

**Ron Matthews,** stated that the \$88,000 from the original proposal may be reduced. He stated they had a zoom meeting with Civix and their getting closer to \$50,000.

# 2. An Ordinance to Amend the Hammond Unified Development Code to Add the Suburban Highway Overlay District. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

Jeffery Leuenberger, City Planner stated that the planning commission met on February 3, 2022 and recommended this.

He also stated that there was one change to correct the street name. The name on the other side of I-12 to show Veterans Ave. The Unified Development Code was to change setbacks and built to lines. He stated that this has been discussed for a long time.

Councilman Andrews, asked if this had been published in the newspaper

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated not in the paper and that notices to individuals would be expensive.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that they had previously talked about doing a press release. She was interested in a general notice by press release to notify the public of the changes.

Jeffery Leuenberger- stated that this was a unanimous vote of Planning and Zoning.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that they should find a way to give notice to the people and property owners. He stated that there were a lot of people in the Historic District. He stated that everyone needs to know and he asked why it this came up now.

Lacy Landrum, stated that Planning and Zoning had a lot of variances and this would minimize the variance request and give better direction to Planning and Zoning and property owners.

**Ron Matthews**, Planning & Zoning Commissioner, stated that he thinks this is a good thing. He recommend that it be advertised in the paper and he stated that this is in line with the city's master plan and it's a good thing throughout the city.

Councilman Wells, asked that it be put on hold.

**Beezie Landry**, 802 W. Thomas, stated he was with Stirling Properties and this is welcomed progress. He also stated that in retail development, he thinks 60ft is too small and they would still need a variance because 60ft is only for parking, but does not account for sidewalks and landscaping.

**Councilman Wells**, thanked Mr. Landry and for coming up and his suggestions would be taken into consideration.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that he agreed with Mr. Landry and he would go back and work on it.



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA March 8, 2022

### I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

### **III. PRAYER: Ron Matthews**

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

#### V. REPORTS:

#### Mayor:

**Mayor**, stated this was a great week for LHSSA top 28 ladies. He congratulated Ponchatoula and Amite. He thanked Tangi Tourism and SLU and Chamber of Commerce and the many volunteers. He mentioned the USPCA K-9 competition taking place at Chappapeela Sports Park. He also stated that on March 28<sup>th</sup> the pond at Zemmuray Park will be stocked with catfish. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be an Easter Egg Hunt at Clark Park from 12pm-4pm. There will be an Easter Camp from April 18-23 The final Hurriagna Debria pick up has begun

The final Hurricane Debris pick-up has begun.

### Council:

Council President Andrews recognized Albert Cusimano

**Albert Cusimano,** 39744 Reba Ln, Ponchatoula, stated he wanted to speak about making Hammond a Purple Heart City. It would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Purple Heart City in the state of Louisiana. He stated that Ponchatoula was the first and he explained the process. He stated that it doesn't cost anything and the city would receive a proclamation and can put up a sign if they choose, stating that they are a Purple Heart City.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated that the 1<sup>st</sup> Veterans Breakfast will be on April 28<sup>th</sup> and that there would be an Easter egg hunt on April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 12-4 pm in Clark Park.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked for an update on street lights.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she did not have an update, but city personnel went out to do an assessment and Entergy said they have been doing assessments.

Councilman Leon, stated that lights were out city wide.

Lacy Landrum, stated that that city personnel went out to do an assessment and will provide an update at the next meeting.

Councilman Wells, asked about the concrete behind the splash park and the bathroom at Mooney Park.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the city needed to get quotes and look at the appropriations in the budget.

**Councilman Wells**, asked about getting bleachers in the park and stated that there were problems with lights and he asked about stop signs and thanked the Mayor and the community for the stop sign on Spruce St.

Councilman Andrews, stated that on April 16<sup>th</sup> there will be an Easter egg hunt in Martin Luther King Park.

### VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the February 22, 2022 meeting.

# There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to approve the February 22, 2022 minutes.

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

### **VII. RESOLUTIONS**

# A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

### **B. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. A resolution authorizing 1) application for \$400,000 in "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program funds for improvements to Martin Luther King and Zemurray Parks; 2) local funds/match for design, engineering, and/or administrative costs, if incurred; 3) Grants Department staff to administer the City's "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program; and 4) the Mayor to sign related documents. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers,** stated that the application was previously approved by the council and this include more specific information which was requested by the State. He stated that there is no match. He stated that the grant would cover new equipment, a walking trail around the park, new surfaces under the equipment, bleachers and outdoor grills in Martin Luther King for a total of \$218,000. In Zemurray Park, they will put in new equipment, replace some equipment, picnic pavilions, expand the dog park and re-do the privacy wall and improve the sidewalks for a total of \$182,000.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> authorizing 1) application for \$400,000 in "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program funds for improvements to Martin Luther King and Zemurray Parks; 2) local funds/match for design, engineering, and/or administrative costs, if incurred; 3) Grants Department staff to administer the City's "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program; and 4) the Mayor to sign related documents.

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

2. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Tangipahoa Parish Government to overlay the following streets: North Wilson Street, Western Avenue, Natchez Street, Mooney Avenue, South Elm Street, Fern Street, East Merry Street, West Green Street, East Green Street, and Celia Street.(Lacy Landrum)

**Lacy Landrum**, stated that this was a standard agreement and is covered under the Tangipahoa Parish Government. She state that there was no cost to the city and the Parish will overlay the streets. She stated that they have asked for more coordination of the priorities that the council, streets department and the Mayor and city engineer have so that they could all be on the same page.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated he was concerned about some streets that were not included and are in worse condition with potholes on several roads. He would like to see something improved and we need to get a better handle on the process.

Lacy Landrum stated that they have had meeting with parish leadership to try and get a better process.

**Councilman Wells**, stated they need a better understanding and better communication with City Council Members.

**Councilman Leon**, stated that he has had conversations with Buddy Ridgel and that a lot of these plans are more than five years out and they have their system. He stated they all have streets within their districts that are bad.

Lacy Landrum, stated that this was already bid before they received the contract.

Mayor, stated if the roads are bad we should take them on in next year's budget.

Lacy Landrum, stated we can appropriate funds, think up your top five streets in each District that needs work and think in terms of priority and look at cost.

Councilman Wells, asked that it be known that they are talking about asphalt and not concrete.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Tangipahoa Parish Government to overlay the following streets: North Wilson Street, Western Avenue, Natchez Street, Mooney Avenue, South Elm Street, Fern Street, East Merry Street, West Green Street, East Green Street, and Celia Street.(Lacy Landrum)** 

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

3. A resolution for the Hammond City Council to accept the recommendations from Seth W. Stoughton's report and request the Mayor to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit information from private entities that will conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations. (Councilman Wells)

**Councilman Wells,** stated they agreed on an investigation and that the city has the report and it is only right for the council to request the Mayor to develop an RFP to review the Hammond Police Department operations.

**Councilman Leon**, stated that they ask for a report to be done and the report was done and the administration was given a copy of the report and he doesn't think the city needs to go further.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he and his community is asking for it. He stated that the city needs to do something about this, people who something wrong should not be promote. Councilman Wells asked the Mayor if he read the report.

Mayor, stated that he read the report and listened to the man give his report and he was taking the word of the suspect and that there is a distorted view.

**Councilman Andrews**, asked about some of the recommendations that were made inside of the report, he stated that if they could get some of the information; current copy of the booking room policies and procedures, training, proper handcuffing, current copy of the use of force procedures, current copy of the policies on securing prisoners in the jail and the booking room, including the dates and times of the training. He thinks that that would help him in his review, he stated that he couldn't speak for anyone else.

Lacy Landrum, stated that some recommendations are under review or have already been done.

**Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales,** stated that some recommendations are based on testimony or old information. She stated that she thinks it's appropriate to get something in writing on the status of recommendations in the department. She stated that she still has a problem with this resolution.

Councilman Andrews, stated that the information he is requesting is a place to start.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he doesn't think his community is safe with the current chief and he thinks the Mayor is turning the city into rotten fruit and he should fix it.

Councilman Andrews, proposed to make an amendment to the resolution

**Tracy Wells**, 610 Mooney Ave, stated that she that what's on the agenda is asking for an RFP for recommendation number one. She stated that recommendation number one states that the City of Hammond should conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations. She stated that these do not fall under policies and procedures as stated; agency culture, employee morale, retaliation (real or perceived) against Hammond Police Department employees and former employees, favoritism etc. She stated that there is a problem with Hammond Police Department operations. She stated that there is an over reach between the Mayor and department and the police department should be above and beyond reproach. There's no delineation between the department and the Mayor's office and people in her community are afraid to call the police.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that the video is clear, stated that the department does have issues and they need to be addressed and fixed the right way. We need to do what's right.

**Nana Minimar,** 52 Whitmore Dr, stated that there are two parts to the resolution 1) acceptance of report, 2) Issue RFP. She asked how we can make the department better and safe for everyone and a critical self-analysis is sometimes needed to help us get better.

Mayor, stated that the chief, assist chief and some of the officers are involve in reviewing the policies.

**Denise Palmer**, 43502 Robertson Rd, stated that the council represents Hammond as a whole. She spoke of a situation happened to her regarding the Hammond Police Department. She told the council that they need to do the right thing.

**Tracy Wells**, stated that there is a difference in professionalism between the different departments in the city. Some are well trained in customer service and some are not and she stated that it was a systemic issue.

**Councilman Andrews**, proposed a substitute motion that the Mayor give a written report to the council, this is an amendment to the resolution.

There was a motion by **<u>Councilman Andrews</u>** and second by <u>**Councilman DiVittorio**</u> to add a report by the Mayor to the Council to the resolution.

VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y),), Carlee White Gonzales (N), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (N), Devon Wells (Y).Motion Approved 3-2

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Hammond City Council to accept the recommendations from Seth W. Stoughton's report and request the Mayor to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit information from private entities that will conduct a comprehensive review of the Hammond Police Department and its operations and for the Mayor to issue a report to the Council.** 

VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y),), Carlee White Gonzales (N), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (N), Devon Wells (Y).Motion Approved 3-2 as amended

### VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

#### A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

#### **B.NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Final Adoption of an Ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022. (Lacy Landrum)

**Laura Hammett**, stated that they were amending the beginning fund balance, recognizing \$4 million dollars in sales tax and moving \$38,000 to consultant services for a housing study.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to adopt an Ordinance to amend the budget for Fiscal Year 2021 - 2022.

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

**2.** Final Adoption of an Ordinance to Amend the Hammond Unified Development Code to Add the Suburban Highway Overlay District. (Jeffery Leuenberger)

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Leon</u> to amend the ordinance as recommended to correct the street names.

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

There was a motion to by Councilwoman Gonzales and a second by Councilman Andrews to table this item and have it advertised in the Daily Star, Advocate and Action News as amended.

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

# **IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. Introduction for an Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated the planning and zoning unanimously recommended it.

Councilman Wells, stated that the application was not complete

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated the he would get the application updated.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to Introduce an Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)** 

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

2. Introduction for an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02-00098)

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated that the applicant wants to put a duplex on the property that would allow for a salon on one side and living on the other. He stated that duplexes are allowed and this is a conditional use for business and this was in District 3.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02-00098) (Jeffery Leuenberger)

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

X. ADJOURN: there was a motion by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to adjourn. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned. 5-0

# **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 March 8, 2022

BEING 7 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.

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



### HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES PUBLIC HEARING 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA April 12, 2022

# I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

## **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**1**. An Ordinance to Amend UDC #8 to add a Suburban Highway Overlay District (SH) to allow for new development to fit within the context of the proposed overlay district. (Z-2019-11-00015)

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, the planning commission wanted to come up with a better solution to minimize variances. On March 3, 2022 the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval. It was introduced and there was a press release and advertising for public comments. The received public comments.

The plan is to increase the build to line from 0-15 feet to 0-85 feet. A developer will be allow to set their building back 85ft. They are proposing an overlay district that will cover all lots fronting major arterials in the city. Developers will be allowed to set their building back up to 85ft and be further away from the street for safety and required them to maintain the landscaping.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if this was for all C-H zoned properties.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that this was for all zoned property that are within that overlay district.

Councilman Wells, asked if he had spoken to the realtor who had attended a previous meeting.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she thinks that was Beezie Landry and she thinks that what he was to increase it from 65 to 85ft.

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated at first it was 65ft which gave room for parking and landscaping, but by increasing it to 85ft that would allow them to preserve some of the right away along the road and a little landscaping along the front of the building.

**Councilman Wells**, asked about the meeting being opened to the public and he asked how many people attended. He wants to make sure the public was aware.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that no one came to speak for or against it.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if any concerned citizens reached out to him.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated he had a couple of concerns but nothing formally submitted. He had a few concerning pedestrian ability.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that she appreciated the press release and wanted to let the public know that this does not affect downtown.

2. An Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02-00098)

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated that duplexes are allowed in this zoning. The applicant wants to have a family member live in one side of the duplex and run a hair salon in the other side of the duplex. This requires an Expanded Conditional Use to do it and by granting an Expanded Conditional Use it expires at the change of ownership, at that time it will revert back to a duplex.

**Councilman Wells,** asked what district this request was in and he said that he spoke to Mr. and Mrs. Cox. He ask Jeffery if he went over the area to take a look and asked if he saw the new house that the Cox's built. **Jeffery Levenberger** answered yes.

**Councilman Wells,** thanked Mrs. Cox's and her husband for all that she has been doing in the community. He stated that the area needs to be cleaned up and he supports Mrs. Cox for what they are trying to do in the community.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that the planning and zoning commission recommended this 3-0 Joyce Cox, 404 Phoenix Sq. stated that she is requesting the duplex and one side will be residential and the other side for a beauty salon. The salon will operate by appointments only. She stated she spoke with several neighbors, she presented signatures from community members, a drawing of the plans and pictures. She stated they are trying to clean up and beautify the community.

**Donald Burton**, 311 Cedar Lane, Ponchatoula, La, stated that he is the son of Joyce and Anthony Cox. He supports the Expanded Conditional Use and he stated that they are trying to plant a seed into the community. He came behalf of his parents to say that he is standing in the gap with them to make a better place one establishment at a time.

**Nicole Labbee**, 16167 Blue Bayou St, Ponchatoula, stated she will be operating the salon and Joyce and Anthony Cox are her parents. Stated she grew up in the community and this would be good for the community. **Jacqueline Taylor**, stated that this was her family and she was proud of her family and they are doing a good job cleaning up the neighborhood. She also thanked the city for putting up the stop sign.

3. An Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated this was another annexation request that came from planning and zoning meeting on March 3, 2022 and the recommended approval was 3-0. They are wanting to annex a portion of property in the rear of existing property to complete what their business plan is for that sight plan.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that it's always good to welcome in business, especially when it's sales tax generating.

**Councilman Wells**, asked what district it was in. **Councilman DiVittorio**, answered District Four



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA April 12, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

#### **III. PRAYER: Pastor Andrew Jackson**

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

#### V. ISSUE OF PROCLAMATION:

Albert Cusimano, was presented with a proclamation from City Council President Kip Andrews and Mayor Pete Panepinto making the City of Hammond a Purple Heart City. He in turn presented the Mayor and City with a plaque.

Mayor Pete Panepinto presented a proclamation to the Hammond Rotary Club members in honor of the Rotary Clubs 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

#### VI. PRESENTATION:

#### • Entergy update- Al Galindo

Al Galindo of Entergy provided a recap of the damages from Hurricane Ida and gave a recovery update. He stated that their first priority was to restore power, then repair damage, they are still in restoration mode; transitioned to street light repair at the end of 2021. They brought in additional resources; they have added contractors to help with the repair work; He estimates that all repairs will be completed by Mid-May. He stated street light credits

have been issued and to let them know of anyone that has been affected and are in need of a bill credit. LED lights will be installed at Mooney Park and new service for the concession stand. Entergy is replacing non LED to LED this is currently in their engineering group. He also stated that if there were any issues in the council district to let them know.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated that Mr. Galindo made a comment about the pricing of LED compared to the Non LED, he asked when they are going to finish the valuation and if the cost is going to go down.

Al Galindo, stated that their regulatory team is starting this summer. He's anticipating they should have an answer on rate restructuring for LED light by the end of the year.

Councilman Wells, asked are residents with lights out, are they getting a credit.

Al Galindo, stated the do not know if lights were out on the customer's property unless they report it. Customers need to report it and it can be done through the website and credits will be issued based on when the light was repaired.

**Councilman Wells**, asked about increased costs because of storm damage and how much would be added on to the bills per month.

Al Galindo, stated there will be an added cost of about \$8 dollars per month and that's due to the Stafford Act. Councilman Wells, stated that he has a lot of elders in his community and he's concerned about their bills.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if there were policy changes since the storm on the removal of tree limbs and vegetation.

Al Galindo, stated that they have a full time vegetation crew that go out and observe areas that need to be trimmed back. He asked Chris Hammond if they had any feedback, stated that they could provide more specific information about what they are doing in Hammond from their vegetation supervisor.

**Councilman Wells,** asked who is responsible for the removal of hanging cables that's still hanging from the poles. **Al Galindo,** stated that they have had others send pictures, but if he would let them know than they could share the information with their partners, AT&T and the cable companies to get those things taken care of. Pictures usually help them better understand who to call.

Councilman Wells, asked who he contacts.

Al Galindo, stated that he should contact Chris the local Entergy customer service manager.

## Kushner LaGraize, LLC- City's Audit Report

**Michelle Treschwig**, presented a summary of the city's financial statement she stated that it was a great year for the city. The audit has been reviewed and approved by the Legislative Auditor and is available for public inspection on their website. The type of report issued on the basic financial report was an unmodified opinion, which is the best that can be given. There was one finding, which was a significant deficiency to the financial reporting in accordance with General Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB). She stated this is a standard finding with government entities.

Councilman Wells, asked if they did this or if they hired someone else to do it.

**Michelle Treschwig** stated that the MD&A or Management Discussion Analysis, she stated that Lacy Landrum with assistance writes out the financial highlights, information on the variances and anything like that. **Councilman Wells**, asked how much do they charge per year to conduct the audit.

Michelle Treschwig, stated that they normally charge around \$50,000 for the audit and some additional items. Councilman Wells, asked when their contract would be ending.

Michelle Treschwig, stated that the contract was up and that this was the last year on the current contract.

Councilman Wells, asked how long have they been working for the City of Hammond.

Michelle Treschwig, state that they started in 2011.

**Tracy Wells,** 610 Mooney Ave, she read a statement from page 110 in the document and she said to Michelle that she mentioned that there was a significant deficiency but she didn't elaborate. She asked her to expound.

**Michelle Treschwig**, she explained the importance of financial statement being prepared in accordance with GAAP (General Accepted Accounting Principles). The city's financial statements were not prepared in accordance with GAAP. She stated that the finance director resigned and new personnel are now undergoing that training and she believes eventually by next year or so, they will have that knowledge to be able to review the financial statements and report in accordance with GAAP. She stated it is a significant deficiency and a lot of entities have this finding and it's a very common finding.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he had met with her before and he doesn't trust people when it comes to the tax payer's money. He stated he requested financial information on a quarterly basis and still have not received any, taxpayers need to know where their money is being spent.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they did provide the budget to actual report to council. It shows what has been spent and it matches your budget binder. She stated what was requested earlier were some very detailed reports and those have been provided as requested.

# **VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of Minutes of the March 8, 2022 meeting

# There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to approve the March 8, 2022 minutes.

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

# **IX. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:**

#### A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE B.NEW BUSINESS:

1. Final Adoption of an Ordinance to Amend UDC #8 to add a Suburban Highway Overlay District (SH) to allow for new development to fit within the context of the proposed overlay district as recommended by the city planner. (Z-2019-11-00015)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that this is the final adoption that has been discussed in the public hearing.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to adopt an Ordinance to Amend UDC #8 to add a Suburban Highway Overlay District (SH) to allow for new development to fit within the context of the proposed overlay district as recommended by the city planner with 85' build line.** 

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

2. Final Adoption of an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02- 00098)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that this is consideration for final approval.

**Councilman Wells**, asked about the parking and if it was adequate. He stated that it was brought to his attention about the parking and he spoke to the planning commissioner and he stated that there was more than enough parking.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells to</u> adopt\_an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) on a lot being 0.407 acres in accordance with a survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 2/9/2022 requested by Anthony and Joyce Cox located at 1106 South Pine Street. (Z-2022-02-00098)

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

3. Final Adoption of an Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated this is consideration for final approval from the public hearing.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to adopt\_an Ordinance to annex Farris Family, LLC property being a 0.181 acre portion of Tract A-1 per survey by David Patterson, PLS dated 2/2/2022 located at 2307 W. Thomas St to be zoned C-H and is in City Council District 4 (Z-2022-02-00099)

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

# **VIII. RESOLUTIONS**

# A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

# **B. NEW BUSINESS:**

# 1. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to renew insurance coverage for the City of Hammond for the period of May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023. (Don Stiel)

**Don Stiel**, stated that this was a renewal and there was a cost increase on some coverages. Travelers Insurance will be used for commercial, liability, law enforcement and fire units. He proposed the move to Midwest Indemnity for Workers Comp, airport liability, blanket bond, property and equipment.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> authorizing the Mayor to renew the insurance coverage for the City of Hammond for the period of May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023 in accordance with the recommendation of Mr. Stiel.

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

2. A resolution to ratify and award bids received 4/7/2022 for "Canal Improvements [FY2022]" –project no. 420-12206. (Webb Anderson).

Webb Anderson, stated that they had received three bids for the canal improvements at Natchez and Skinner. The lowest bid came in from Carey R. Contractor, LLC. He recommends award to Carey R Contractors. He explained the total project budget is \$565,000.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked how much is budgeted for this project.

Lacy Landrum, stated that \$250,000 is budgeted for it total. She stated if you want to award the base bid only you will only need to award contingent on moving money to fund the remainder of the project. If you wanted to fund just the base bid of the total contract for the construction contract and the engineering you will need to move \$45,000 from the fund balance. If you want to fund the entire project which is the base plus the added alternate for the extra work, then you're going to need to move \$315,000 from the fund balance.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked Webb Anderson to explain the alternate and why it is needed.

Webb Anderson, stated originally the project was to extend it, a year later they looked at it and a metal pipe underneath Natchez is deteriorating and Councilman Wells requested that they put it in, so they did it as an alternate.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if it was a drainage pipe.

Webb Anderson, answered yes it is and stated that two existing metal pipes will be replaced with a concrete. Councilman Wells, stated that they looked at it and decided that they all needed to be replaced.

Lacy Landrum, stated that originally \$100,000 was appropriated for Natchez-Skinner and \$150,000 was appropriated for Arnolds Creek. These were billed as canal improvements as a total project. Councilman Wells requested as he just stated that the other parts come out so they can be replaced with the additional improvements. Webb Anderson, stated the numbers started going up because of the larger area.

Councilman Wells, asked if the total cost of the project was \$565,000.

**Webb Anderson,** stated the total project budget, but if you were going to move for the base bid and the alternate you would be awarding for \$469,221.62 contingent on moving money.

Lacy Landrum, stated to Councilman Wells that he was correct and that the total project budget for the construction and the engineering is \$565,000. She stated that's why they need to move \$315,000. Stated to the council that they will be voting to award the construction contract and it will be contingent upon the approval of moving money from the fund balance into the project. So under introduction of an ordinance we will amend the agenda if that's the council's pleasure. Then at the next meeting we would have a public hearing and final adoption if we are moving money from the fund balance into a project.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated she is trying to understand. The original project was in the plan and in the budget, but a little bit over. She doesn't understand the alternate and she asked how dire that is because there are a lot of other things in the city that needs work, \$315,000 worth of work. She wants to know how necessary it is. **Webb Anderson**, stated that it would start causing problems with the street and the right time to do it would be while you are doing the other work because it all will tie in together.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that while they are in the area he is going to recommend they do they work. **Mayor,** stated he agrees and while they are out there and the equipment is there and it's needed. We have the funds we should do it.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> recommend to award to the low bidder KCR Contractors, LLC. on the base bid and the alternate for \$469,221.62 contingent upon moving the \$315,000 from the fund balance to this project for "Canal Improvements [FY2022]" -project no. 420-12206.

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

3. A resolution 1) accepting a \$400,000 grant from the "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program for improvements to Martin Luther King and Zemurray Parks; 2) authorizing in-kind match in the form of project/program design, engineering, and/or administration by Grants Department staff; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers,** stated that a few council meeting back he presented a housekeeping resolution related to this application. On March 30<sup>th</sup> he received an award letter indicating that we had received \$400,000 with no cash match involved to make these improvements in the parks and he's asking the council to accept this award.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> 1) accepting a \$400,000 grant from the "Love Louisiana Outdoors" program for improvements to Martin Luther King and Zemurray Parks; 2) authorizing in-kind match in the form of project/program design, engineering, and/or administration by Grants Department staff; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

VOTE: Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y),

Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews(Y). Motion Approved 5-0

4. A resolution 1) accepting a \$225,000 grant from the Capital Outlay Program for roadside drainage improvements in the Ruth-Mitchell-Pine Drive subdivision (in District 1) and along Old Covington Highway between Range Road and Fern Street (in District 2); 2) approving a cash match of \$75,000 from the Grant Match Fund; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers,** stated that the request went in, late 2020 and they have been waiting for a while for the grant contract to arrive. They found out last year around July/August that they were approved for funding but they have been waiting since then for the grant contract which they have just received. He is asking the council to accept this and there is a \$75,000 cash match which will come from the grant match fund, it's a 25% match of the total project cost of about \$300,000.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if this money is ready to be given to us.

**Charles Borchers**, answered that we have waited for the last year or so and yes it is being given to us. **Councilman Leon**, asked once the funding is accepted, how long you have to start the project. **Charles Borchers**, stated capital outlay is expected to take a while so it can be a long process. Once the contract is executed it could take a month or more. It's kind of a slow process and possibly be started within six months.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> 1) accepting a \$225,000 grant from the Capital Outlay Program for roadside drainage improvements in the Ruth-Mitchell-Pine Drive subdivision (in District 1) and along Old Covington Highway between Range Road and Fern Street (in District 2); 2) approving a cash match of \$75,000 from the Grant Match Fund; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

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

5. A resolution supporting the submission of a grant application for \$23,000 to the Community Water Enrichment Fund for automatic water monitoring/treatment equipment for City water wells. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers,** stated we have been able to apply every year and our allocation is \$23,000 which is the city's portion of what the parish receives. This grant will be used to install automatic monitoring equipment for water wells testing.

**Councilman Wells**, asked who is monitoring the equipment.

Charles Borchers, answered, the water and sewer department.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> supporting the submission of a grant application for \$23,000 to the Community Water Enrichment Fund for automatic water monitoring/treatment equipment for City water wells.

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

6. A resolution supporting the submission of a grant application for \$23,000 to the Local Government Assistance Program to purchase security cameras for City parking malls, parks, and other public spaces. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers**, stated that they apply for these funds every year and equipment is an eligible category. Cameras are considered equipment and they are proposing to use these funds.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked what parks are included, how will it be allocated.

**Charles Borchers**, stated that how the money is allocated is yet to be determined.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked that he make sure that Jackson Park get some cameras.

**Councilman Wells**, asked when was the grant applied for.

**Charles Borehors**, stated that it has not been applied for *y* 

Charles Borchers, stated that it has not been applied for yet.

**Councilman Wells**, stated he been asking for cameras in District 3, He thanked Charles for getting the cameras downtown and for all the parks.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated to be clear \$50,000 was already allocated in the budget, so this would be a supplement to that.

Charles Borchers, answered yes

Councilman Well, stated he wants the park covered and he wants the park to be safe.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> supporting the submission of a grant application for \$23,000 to the Local Government Assistance Program to purchase security cameras for City parking malls, parks, and other public spaces.

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

7. A resolution authorizing the purchase of a KX040-4R1AP Excavator for \$65,279.53 for the Water and Sewer Department. State Contract # 4400017852 (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this was approved originally in the water and sewer budget for this year Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if this was within budget.

Jana Soileau, answered yes

Tracy Wells, 610 Mooney Ave, asked what an excavator is used for.

Mayor, stated for cleaning ditches

**Tracy Wells**, stated that the ditches are not being cleaned and they are not getting the services of ditches being cleaned on a regular basis.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that the ditches are about a month and half behind in being cleaned in District Three. **Lacy Landrum**, stated that there was an earlier question and the amount was \$70,000 that has been budgeted.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> authorizing the purchase of a KX040-4R1AP Excavator for \$65,279.53 for the Water and Sewer Department. State Contract # 4400017852.

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

8. A resolution authorizing the purchase of a Tow-behind Carlton SP 7500 Series Stump Cutter from Ditch Witch of Louisiana for the Total of \$73,750.00 RFP 22-21 (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this was another item that was approved in this year's budget and Ditch Witch was the only company that submitted a proposal.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked how many stumps we have that needs to be grinded.

Robert Williams, answered about 32 stumps

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the maintenance, who's going to use it and why not sub this out.

**Robert Williams**, stated that there's more than that since the storm, trees are being cut and sometimes it's needed when ditches are cleaned.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, state that the math doesn't add up and he ask whose going to run it, and there are some liabilities issue and a lot of maintenance. We could lease one when needed and return it back.

**Councilman Wells**, asked if Mr. Williams reached out to someone about pricing for the grinding, then he stated he was concerned about safety and the lack of staff. He asked if a tracking device was going to be on the stump grinder. It belong to the city and needs to be used by city workers when they are at work and not for their personal

jobs. He stated new equipment needs to have a tracking device. He also stated that we were behind on cleaning the ditches.

Lacy Landrum stated, that's how equipment is currently used and that's how it is stated in the policy.

**Mayor**, stated that we do sub-contract the stump grinders to come in when we need them. He further stated that the department has asked for this piece of equipment for a long time. It's been asked for and budgeted and needed. **Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that it doesn't make any financial since.

**Councilman Wells**, asked Jana Soileau if the stump grinder has a tracker on it. He asked that she get a tracking device on the equipment

Jana Soileau, stated that she didn't thank it had one, but it could possibly be added.

**Councilman Andrews**, asked Jana if the item is approved can she check on the tracking device and if that would change the price of the item.

Jana Soileau, stated that she did not thinks so and a tracking device did not have to come from that company.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> authorizing the purchase of a Tow-behind Carlton SP 7500 Series Stump Cutter from Ditch Witch of Louisiana for the Total of \$73,750.00 RFP 22-21

**VOTE:** Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (N), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (N). Motion Approved 3-2

9. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement between the Industrial Development Board of the City of Hammond, Inc and the City of Hammond for the use of the police training center at 47038 Conrad Anderson Boulevard. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated that the police training center is at this building and has been occupied by the police department for many years. She stated that it came to their attention through the city attorney that the Industrial Development Board owns the building and they are discussing whether to transfer the entire building over to the police department. In the interim they are asking for the council's approval of the cooperative endeavor agreement for the city to formalize the arrangement. She state that the other benefit to this item is that the sheriff office also uses that building for training as well. The Hammond Police Department has primary use and the sheriff office has secondary use and they agree to split the cost of replacing the roof with the City of Hammond 50/50, which is the next item.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked if the amount on the next item is the full price. They would be covering half of that.

Lacy Landrum, stated that was correct.

Councilman Wells, asked who was on the board.

Lacy Landrum, proceeded to answer and explain.

Councilman Wells, asked when the last time the board had a meeting was and if they were a non-profit.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the Industrial Development Board was a non-profit.

**Councilman Wells**, asked the City Attorney, would it be an issue if you are on a board and they are asking for money, is he allowed to vote on it.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, stated yes, as long as you or members of your immediate family don't have a personal interest. Because you are a member of a non-profit board that does not automatically disqualify you. Lacy Landrum stated for clarity that the Industrial Development Board is not receiving any money. The do not charge the City of Hammond or the Hammond Police Department any rent.

Councilman Wells, he asked about the utilities and who pays for them and why five years.

Lacy Landrum, asked why five years for the arrangement and said that was standard and she asked the city attorney.

Andre Coudrain, stated that the city has had free use of the building and now they are putting money into it and you would want to be sure that you capitalize on what the expense of the roof is. He stated five years is not automatic and it could be a different number.

Councilman Wells, stated he is concerned for the next city council.

Andre Coudrain, stated that under this agreement the city can terminate this on a ninety days' notice. The five years was to protect the city and capture the investment of the roof, but it can be cancelled but h City within ninety days.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he is against it because he doesn't want to do five years and he feels like they are cheating the next city council and he doesn't understand why they are not using their own budget.

Mayor, stated that the Assistant Chief can provide input on how long they have had and use the building.

Assistant Chief Monistere, stated that the training center is in use almost every day and they offer classes for Hammond Police Department and other agencies and training.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, states that splitting the roof is a good deal. She would rather see the building come to the city and she state we had done a lot to the building and we should get ownership. She also asked if they had insurance and who does the maintenance on the building. She asked the city attorney if we had insurance and will we get insurance and whey why it didn't cover the roof.

Councilman Wells, asked if the nonprofit is active

Lacy Landrum, stated that they are, they are paying for half.

Robert Williams, stated that the streets department uses the building for training.

**Tracy Wells,** asked how you can pay insurance and utilities on a building that the city does not own and not come before the council. How can you use taxpayer money to pay insurance on a building that the city does not own? **Mayor,** stated that we use the building and it has been given to us to use for about thirty years. The tax payers are getting training out of this building for their police officers, fireman and other departments.

**Tracy Wells**, ask Mr. Coudrain, City Attorney, can money be used legally to pay an entity that has no contract in place with the city.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, stated yes because the City has an insurable interest in the building. He stated we want to have something in writing and that is why they are proposing this agreement.

**Tracy Wells**, stated that if this is the Industrial Development Board at 1515 Martin Dr. Suite 136, she stated that this non- profit have not been active with the state of Louisiana was May 17, 2021. The last report filed for this entity was April 10, 2018.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, stated that they do have record title for that property.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the cooperative endeavor agreement between the Industrial Development Board of the City of Hammond, Inc and the City of Hammond for the use of the police training center at 47038 Conrad Anderson Boulevard, pending the board getting their status in good standing with the Secretary of State.** 

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

10. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Partin Roofing, LLC for \$125,900.00 to remove and replace the existing roof at the Police Training Center. RFP 22-17 (Jana Soileau)

**Jana Soileau,** stated that they put an RFP out and Partin Roofing was the lowest proposal. She closed this bid out on January 31<sup>st</sup> and have had to ask for one extension and they granted the extension. They gave them until the 13<sup>th</sup> to give them the answer of approval.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated that the sheriff department is paying for one half of the bill. **Councilman Wells**, asked if the sheriff department is splitting the bill, why we have to pay \$125,000. **Jana Soileau**, stated that we are going to pay that and they are going to refund the city.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the city will invoice the funds.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Partin Roofing, LLC for \$125,900.00 to remove and replace the existing roof at the Police Training Center. RFP 22-17

**VOTE:** Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Abstain). Motion Approved 4-1 (abstain)

11. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of the City of Hammond with DPC Enterprises in the estimated amount of \$59,472.00. ((Jana Soileau)

**Jana Soileau**, stated that this was a re-bid of the past contract of the chlorination of our or water wells and asking for approval to move forward on the bid from DPC Enterprises.

There was a motion by <u>**Councilwoman Gonzales</u>** and second by <u>**Councilman Wells**</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of the City of Hammond with DPC Enterprises in the estimated amount of \$59,472.00.</u>

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

12. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of the City of Hammond with Rail Technical Services in the estimated amount of \$28,170.00. (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this was another contract that came to an end and this is a re-bid of the past contract. This is for our monthly and annual inspections.

Councilman Wells, asked where the money was coming from.

Jana Soileau, stated that it is budgeted in the streets department account.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she wasn't sure if it was budgeted under consultant or rail fees.

Jana Soileau, stated that it came out of consultant fees.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract on behalf of the City of Hammond with Rail Technical Services in the estimated amount of \$28,170.00.

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

13. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with Pointer Smith Contracting for Railroad Track Repairs in the amount of \$29,452.00. (Jana Thurman Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this the lowest bid received. The inspection report revealed that there were twenty five cross tie, ten switches at different locations that are in need of repair as soon as possible and they are asking for council's approval to go forward with the contract for repairs.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Pointer Smith Contracting for Railroad Track Repairs in the amount of \$29,452.00.

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

# X. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

**1**. Introduction of an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com. (Jana Soileau)

- 1. WOODS 6 FOOT FINISHING MOWER- MODEL# PRO 7200- SERIAL# 128382- AIRPORT
- 2. UNIT# 1060 KUBOTA 4 WHEEL DRIVE TRACTOR- MODEL# 14630- SERIAL# 35978- AIRPORT
- 3. UNIT# 1057 GRAVELY ZERO TURN MOWER MODEL #1602 SERIAL# 008148- AIRPORT
- 4. MEN <sup>1</sup>S SILVER WEDDING RING
- 5. ASSORTED WALLETS- 25 DIFFERENT COLORS AND STYLES
- 6. LARGE LEVEL
- 7. ASSORTED MEN'S WATCHES- 9 DIFFERENT BRANDS
- 8. BOX OF ASSORTED CLOTHES, NIKE BAG WITH CLOTHES, NIKE SHOES, CAMERA BAG WITH CLOTHES, PAIR SLIPPERS, CREW SOCKS, MESH BOOK BAG WITH CLOTHES, JACKET & COAT.
- 9. ASSORTED GUN HOLSTERS- 5 DIFFERENT COLORS AND STYLES
- 10. ASSORTED CD'S AND BAG
- 11. NINTENDO
- 12. ASSORTED CAMERA ITEMS. CAMERA BAG, CAMERA, KIE & PHONE, CAMERA CASE, SHARPER IMAGEIGITAL CAMERA, AND CANON CAMERA
- 13. ASSORTED PURSES- 10 DIFFERENT COLORS AND SIZES
- 14. FISHING POLE
- 15. 6 CONTAINERS OF GAIN DETERGENT AND 3 BOTTLES OF JACK DANIELS AND 1 BOTTLE OF GATORAID.
- 16. LEXMARK COMPUTERx83
- 17. PORTABLE DVD PLAYER
- 18. BINOCULARS
- 19. SOCKET SET
- 20. NYLON BAG, SAINTS BAG
- 21. BRINKS HOME SECURITY LOCK BOX
- 22. ASSORTED RADIO PARTS- RADION FACE PLATE, PARTS AND FACE PLATES, CAR STEREO(RUSTY)
- 23. ASSORTED T-SHIRTS, AND BOXERS
- 24. WINNIS THE POOH BACKSACK
- 25. ASSORTED OIL AND SOAP
- 26. 4 PORT CABLE GATEWAY ROUTER
- 27. ASSORTED VEHICLE PARTS-VEHICLE PARTS, VEHICLE PARTS WITH STEREO EQUIPMENT
- 28. DOG BED
- 29. USED SILVER CLIPBOARD
- 30. DE-WALT TOOL BAG AND TOOLS
- 31. 50 PCS STUBBY TOOL SET GREAT NECK BRAND
- 32. HATCHET, AND HAMMER WITH BLACK HANDLE
- 33. SKILL DRILL BIT SET IN BLACK CASE
- 34. DEWALT DRILL AND FLASHLIGHT 20V MAX
- 35. CRAFTMAN UNIVERSAL TOOL SET
- 36. BATTERY

- 37. ASSORTED MAG: 2 GLOCK 22, I SIG 9MM PISTOL MAG CONTAINING 4 ROUNDS, MAG BULLET, 2 BLACK MAG
- 38. MULTI PURPOSE TOOL IN A NYLON CASE
- 39. BLACK BAG W/CLAW HAMMER, AND MISC ITEMS
- 40. 1 BOX OF 9MM LUGE-R AMMO (MONARCH)
- 41. ASSORTED ELECTRONICS ITEMS
- 42. BLACK BAG CONTAINING AN ENVELOPE, PICK TOOL AND REMOTE
- 43. SOLID COLOR BACK PACK
- 44. ASSORTED HAND TOOLS, TOOLS IN GREEN BOX, AND RUSTY HAND TOOLS
- 45. DEWALT TOOLS, AND DEWALT AIR POWERED NAILGUN.
- 46. ASSORTED PERFUME AND SEAN JOHN AND GUCCI COLOGNE
- 47. CELL PHONE
- 48. DRUM & SYMBOL IN A BLACK BAG
- 49. ASSORTED BAGS OF CLOTHING

Jana Soileau, asked that the three bottles of Jack Daniels be removed from item # 15, and a Vizio Television be added which would be item # 50.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to amend item number 15 to remove three bottles of Jack Daniels and add the Vizio TV.

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce the ordinance as amended to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below on to sell on Govdeal.com.

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

## Public Hearing will be scheduled for April 26, 2022 at 5:30pm

**2.** Introduction of an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 30' right of way agreement with Entergy for electrical service to the treatment plant expansion on Fagan Drive. (Webb Anderson)

**Webb** Anderson, stated that the have been working with Entergy and this is an existing project that they have had going on and it's to get the service from Fagan Drive to the plant.

Councilman Wells, asked where they are getting the service from now.

Webb Anderson, stated they have an existing service to the plant by the Head Works and one by their offices, but this is the service for the new blowers they put in for the new aerators.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 30' right of way agreement with Entergy for electrical service to the treatment plant expansion on Fagan Drive.

# Public Hearing will be scheduled for April 26, 2022 at 5:30pm

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

#### **XI. REPORTS:**

Mayor: No Report Council:

#### • Housing Committee Report

**Karen Walston,** 404 S. Cherry St gave a report of the Housing Committee, stated they selected the consultants for the housing study. They are working with CIVIX and they were able to get them to reduce the price of the study, they signed the contract and are working on a kick off day for April 22, 2022. She invited the city council to attend.

Lemar Marshall, thanked the council for giving them the responsibility and funding.

Councilman Wells, thanked the whole committee.

#### • Charter Review Committee Report

**Frank DiVittorio,** Chair of the Charter Review Committee, handed out a written report of the committee to the administration and council. He proceed to explain the written report and the committees finding.

Lemar Marshall, asked about department head evaluations and stated that they serve at the pleasure of the Mayor. Frank DiVittorio, stated that balances could be changed in the charter.

Arlene Knighten, stated that the evaluation would be for the benefit of the community.

Councilman Wells Asked about the debt on number one related to bond debt

Frank DiVittorio, stated the council and the city cannot just incur debt, they would have to have an election as it relates to a bond.

Tracey Wells, stated that it was a pleasure working with the committee.

Councilman Leon, thanked the committee and stated that we should get the document archived because of the amount of work that went into it.

**City Council members,** thanked everyone for working on the committee for no compensation and doing a good job and it's important to have residence that want to improve the city.

**Councilman Wells,** thanked the city council, that they have made him a better person. Thanked Pastor Jackson and Mr. Showers for coming out. Thanked the representatives for presenting the information about street lights. He stated that they have a problem with getting ditches and streets cleaned. He stated Pastor Andrews and Pastor Showers are a part of his report.

**Pastor Jackson**, thanked God for the community and council and he wants to see everyone come together he stated it all comes down to love and it doesn't matter who you are and where we come from, we are one Hammond and that's what we should work toward.

**Michael Shower, President Greater Tangipahoa Parish NAACP**, stated he was here to clarify some comments that were made in the Daily Star and the last City Council meeting concerning the booking room incident. Stated from the NAACP perspective, what happened in the booking room was wrong and that people need to be held accountable. He stated there were two meeting and they talked about what happened in the booking room and they wanted the Mayor to know the sentiments of the community and they offered solutions. He stated that the expert offered recommendations and he asked has any of those recommendations been taken or acted upon. He stated that the easiest recommendation that he thought should have been addressed is that the Hammond Police Department should ensure that its organizational chart is accurate and up to date. He also stated that the Daily Star posted an article with comments he did not make and they could have called and verified the comments but they did not. He wanted to clear the record regarding what was printed in the newspaper stated he did not say what they printed. He stated that the community is looking for accountability and the city must restore public trust with the police department and city government.

**Councilman Wells**, Asked Mr. Showers if he met with the Mayor two weeks ago regarding the booking room. **Mr. Showers**, stated he meet with the Mayor two years ago when this first came to the NAACP knowledge and has not met with the Mayor since.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that the reason he asked, was because he wanted it to go on the record because people were thinking that he and others met with the Mayor about a month ago. He Stated that he wanted him to say that it's been two years ago. They did install one new camera in the jail and he is still lost and confused and would like questions answered. Thanked him for coming and apologized that he had to stay so long.

**Councilman Andrews,** Stated that there will be an Easter Egg Hunt from 10am at Martin Luther King Park. He stated that he is still receiving phone calls on water bills not being read and accurate.

Lacy Landrum, stated that any time someone thinks that they have an inaccurate bill they need to report it. Councilman Wells, asked what happened to the electronic meter reading devices that they purchased and spent over a about a half million dollars on. He stated that they cannot keep coming up with these misread meters. He asked about the equipment.

Lacy Landrum, stated that you did not spend \$500,000 on new equipment, you spent money to update the software. She stated that there were 1500 out of 7100 meters that are radio electronically.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated a lot of money was spent paying a contractor so it was brought in house. We should have just keep the contractor, because we are not doing it well in-house. He is still getting calls about the bills.

Mayor, stated that when there is problem we address them.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked about the policy regarding replacing lights with Entergy from regular light to the LED light.

Lacy Landrum, stated we do not have a policy on that.

Mayor, stated the Robert Morgan generally handles that.

# X. ADJOURN:

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to Adjourn.

**VOTE:** Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) 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 ATRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS

TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD APRIL 12,

2022

**BEING 12 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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA April 26, 2022 5:30pm

# I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

# **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**1**. An Ordinance of an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com.

- WOODS 6 FOOT FINISHING MOWER- MODEL# PRO 7200- SERIAL# 128382- AIRPORT
- UNIT# 1060 KUBOTA 4 WHEEL DRIVE TRACTOR- MODEL# 14630- SERIAL# 35978- AIRPORT
- UNIT# 1057 GRAVELY ZERO TURN MOWER MODEL #1602 SERIAL# 008148- AIRPORT
- MEN<sup>1</sup>S SILVER WEDDING RING
- ASSORTED WALLETS- 25 DIFFERENT COLORS AND STYLES
- LARGE LEVEL
- ASSORTED MEN'S WATCHES- 9 DIFFERENT BRANDS
- BOX OF ASSORTED CLOTHES, NIKE BAG WITH CLOTHES, NIKE SHOES, CAMERA BAG WITH CLOTHES, PAIR SLIPPERS, CREW SOCKS, MESH BOOK BAG WITH CLOTHES, JACKET & COAT.
- ASSORTED GUN HOLSTERS- 5 DIFFERENT COLORS ANDSTYLES
- ASSORTED CD'S AND BAG
- NINTENDO
- ASSORTED CAMERA ITEMS. CAMERA BAG, CAMERA, KIE & PHONE, CAMERA CASE, SHARPER IMAGEIGITAL CAMERA, AND CANON CAMERA
- ASSORTED PURSES- 10 DIFFERENT COLORS AND SIZES
- FISHING POLE
- 6 CONTAINERS OF GAIN DETERGENT AND 1 BOTTLE OF GATORAID.
- LEXMARK COMPUTER**X83**
- PORTABLE DVD PLAYER
- BINOCULARS
- SOCKET SET
- NYLON BAG, SAINTS BAG
- BRINKS HOME SECURITY LOCK BOX
- ASSORTED RADIO PARTS- RADION FACE PLATE, PARTS AND FACE PLATES, CAR STEREO(RUSTY)
- ASSORTED T-SHIRTS, AND BOXERS
- WINNIS THE POOH BACKSACK
- ASSORTED OIL AND SOAP
- 4 PORT CABLE GATEWAY ROUTER
- ASSORTED VEHICLE PARTS-VEHICLE PARTS, VEHICLE PARTS WITH STEREO EQUIPMENT
- DOG BED
- USED SILVER CLIPBOARD
- DE-WALT TOOL BAG AND TOOLS

- 50 PCS STUBBY TOOL SET GREAT NECK BRAND
- HATCHET, AND HAMMER WITH BLACK HANDLE
- SKILL DRILL BIT SET IN BLACK CASE
- DEWALT DRILL AND FLASHLIGHT 20V MAX
- CRAFTMAN UNIVERSAL TOOL SET
- BATTERY
- ASSORTED MAG: 2 GLOCK 22, I SIG 9MM PISTOL MAG CONTAINING 4 ROUNDS, MAG BULLET, 2 BLACK MAG
- MULTI PURPOSE TOOL IN A NYLON CASE
- BLACK BAG W/CLAW HAMMER, AND MISC ITEMS
- 1 BOX OF 9MM LUGE-R AMMO (MONARCH)
- ASSORTED ELECTRONICS ITEMS
- BLACK BAG CONTAINING AN ENVELOPE, PICK TOOL AND REMOTE
- SOLID COLOR BACK PACK
- ASSORTED HAND TOOLS, TOOLS IN GREEN BOX, AND RUSTY HAND TOOLS
- DEWALT TOOLS, AND DEWALT AIR POWERED NAILGUN.
- ASSORTED PERFUME AND SEAN JOHN AND GUCCI COLOGNE
- CELL PHONE
- DRUM & SYMBOL IN A BLACK BAG
- ASSORTED BAGS OF CLOTHING
- VIZIO TV
- HISENSE TV
- TV
- BOLT CUTTERS
- GOLD WEDDING RING
- CLASS RING

Jana Soileau, stated that the first three items were are in poor condition and the rest are items that are in good condition and some of the items were used as evidence and all the items are no longer needed. She is asking for approval to sell as surplus on Govdeal.com.

## No public comment

2. An ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 30' right of way agreement with Entergy for electrical service to the treatment plant expansion on Fagan Drive.

Webb Anderson, stated that this was discussed at the last meeting and it is for service to a new blower.

# No public comment

**3**. An ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget to transfer \$315,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "FY 2022 Canal Improvements" (Project 12206).

Lacy Landrum, stated that the new consolidated budget was linked with the agenda and what they are proposing to do is take the money from the sales tax fund balance and transferring the \$315,000 out of that and putting it into the canal project. This is to make that project go, because there were some additional things put into that project.

# No public comment



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA April 26, 2022 6:00 pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

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

# III. PRAYER: Pastor Ron Matthews

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

## **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of Minutes of the April 12, 2022 meeting

# There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the April 12, 2022 minutes.

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

#### VI. Presentation - Salary Study Presentation, HR Nola- Jacob Dufour

Lacy Landrum, Director of Administration presented the salary study to the council.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked about the study and stated that the report shows a lot of people that were under paid. She stated that she would like to see the raises go into effect by July 1.

Jacob Dufour, HR Nola, stated that he was working with the administration for the cost to implement.

Lacy Landrum, stated that it is going to cost about \$5 million dollars for full implementation. She stated that they are working on a plan for the budget and this is the first part of the process.

Councilman Wells, asked Mr Dufour, how many employees had he spoken to

**Jacob Dufour**, stated that he did not know the number but does recommend an increase for almost every position. **Councilman Wells**, asked that the city council get a full report of everything that has been sent to the city. He stated that he wants it to be fair for everyone.

This item will be added to the Tuesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> agenda for further discussion.

## VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an Ordinance to adopt a redistricting plan for the City of Hammond. (Bill Blair)

**Bill Blair,** provided a presentation on redistricting for the City of Hammond and it is required by State and Federal Law. He stated that the plan must be adopted by May 7, 2022. There were two plans proposed and both meet the criteria required by law.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated she opposed changes to her district so radically and that core districts should be maintained.

# Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday May 3, 2022 at 5:30pm

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to Introduce an Ordinance adopt a redistricting plan for the City of Hammond

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

2. Introduction for an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a mobile home located in at Proposed Mobile Home Area at 17081 Hoover St. per survey by McLin Land Surveying, Inc., dated 3/14/1994; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-03-00101); and the Zoning Commission recommended approval with conditions 1) this approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Mary Richardson, and 2)the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet HUD standards.

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated that this was an Expanded Conditional Use that was recommended by the zoning commission on April 7 and it is within the proposed mobile home district and the Zoning Commission recommended approval 4-0.

**Councilman Wells**, asked if it was already approved for that area, then why it is coming before council. **Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated that they have a proposed mobile home area to work from but approval needs to come before the council.

Councilman Wells, asked what district this was in

Jeffery Leuenberger answered, district one.

**There was a motion by** <u>**Councilwoman Gonzales**</u> and second by <u>**Councilman Andrews**</u> to Introduction for an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a mobile home located in at Proposed Mobile Home Area at 17081 Hoover St. per survey by McLin Land Surveying, Inc., dated 3/14/1994; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-03-00101); and the Zoning Commission recommended approval with conditions 1) this approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Mary Richardson, and 2)the manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet HUD standards.

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

# Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday May 10, 2022 at 5:30 pm

3. Introduction for an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a tattoo parlor allowed as a conditional use located at 1040 Roma Avenue, Suite A per deed by Roma Street Management, LLC dated 6/23/2017 Zoned C-N (Z-2022- 03-00102); the Zoning Commission recommended approval with the condition that such a use is a personal right and expires upon change in occupancy or ownership.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated that the Planning commission met on April 7, 2022 and voted 3-1 for approval.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to Introduce an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a tattoo parlor allowed as a conditional use located at 1040 Roma Avenue, Suite A per deed by Roma Street Management, LLC dated 6/23/2017 Zoned C-N (Z-2022- 03-00102); the Zoning Commission recommended approval with the condition that such a use is a personal right and expires upon change in occupancy or ownership.** 

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

## Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday May 10, 2022 at 5:30 pm

### VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

#### A. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com. (Jana Soileau)

- 1. WOODS 6 FOOT FINISHING MOWER- MODEL# PRO 7200- SERIAL# 128382- AIRPORT
- 2. UNIT# 1060 KUBOTA 4 WHEEL DRIVE TRACTOR- MODEL# 14630- SERIAL# 35978- AIRPORT
- 3. UNIT# 1057 GRAVELY ZERO TURN MOWER MODEL #1602 SERIAL# 008148- AIRPORT
- 4. MEN<sup>1</sup>S SILVER WEDDING RING
- 5. ASSORTED WALLETS- 25 DIFFERENT COLORS AND STYLES
- 6. LARGE LEVEL
- 7. ASSORTED MEN'S WATCHES- 9 DIFFERENT BRANDS
- 8. BOX OF ASSORTED CLOTHES, NIKE BAG WITH CLOTHES, NIKE SHOES, CAMERA BAG WITH CLOTHES, PAIR SLIPPERS, CREW SOCKS, MESH BOOK BAG WITH CLOTHES, JACKET & COAT.
- 9. ASSORTED GUN HOLSTERS- 5 DIFFERENT COLORS AND STYLES
- 10. ASSORTED CD'S AND BAG
- 11. NINTENDO
- 12. ASSORTED CAMERA ITEMS. CAMERA BAG, CAMERA, KIE & PHONE, CAMERA CASE, SHARPER IMAGEIGITAL CAMERA, AND CANON CAMERA
- 13. ASSORTED PURSES- 10 DIFFERENT COLORS AND SIZES
- 14. FISHING POLE
- 15. 6 CONTAINERS OF GAIN DETERGENT AND 1 BOTTLE OF GATORAID.
- 16. LEXMARK COMPUTER**X83**
- 17. PORTABLE DVD PLAYER
- 18. BINOCULARS
- 19. SOCKET SET
- 20. NYLON BAG, SAINTS BAG
- 21. BRINKS HOME SECURITY LOCK BOX
- 22. ASSORTED RADIO PARTS- RADION FACE PLATE, PARTS AND FACE PLATES, CAR STEREO(RUSTY)
- 23. ASSORTED T-SHIRTS, AND BOXERS
- 24. WINNIS THE POOH BACKSACK
- 25. ASSORTED OIL AND SOAP
- 26. 4 PORT CABLE GATEWAY ROUTER
- 27. ASSORTED VEHICLE PARTS-VEHICLE PARTS, VEHICLE PARTS WITH STEREO EQUIPMENT
- 28. DOG BED
- 29. USED SILVER CLIPBOARD
- 30. DE-WALT TOOL BAG AND TOOLS
- 31. 50 PCS STUBBY TOOL SET GREAT NECK BRAND
- 32. HATCHET, AND HAMMER WITH BLACK HANDLE
- 33. SKILL DRILL BIT SET IN BLACK CASE
- 34. DEWALT DRILL AND FLASHLIGHT 20V MAX

- 35. CRAFTMAN UNIVERSAL TOOL SET
- 36. BATTERY
- 37. ASSORTED MAG: 2 GLOCK 22, I SIG 9MM PISTOL MAG CONTAINING 4 ROUNDS, MAG BULLET, 2 BLACK MAG
- 38. MULTI PURPOSE TOOL IN A NYLON CASE
- 39. BLACK BAG W/CLAW HAMMER, AND MISC ITEMS
- 40. 1 BOX OF 9MM LUGE-R AMMO (MONARCH)
- 41. ASSORTED ELECTRONICS ITEMS
- 42. BLACK BAG CONTAINING AN ENVELOPE, PICK TOOL AND REMOTE
- 43. SOLID COLOR BACK PACK
- 44. ASSORTED HAND TOOLS, TOOLS IN GREEN BOX, AND RUSTY HAND TOOLS
- 45. DEWALT TOOLS, AND DEWALT AIR POWERED NAILGUN.
- 46. ASSORTED PERFUME AND SEAN JOHN AND GUCCI COLOGNE
- 47. CELL PHONE
- 48. DRUM & SYMBOL IN A BLACK BAG
- 49. ASSORTED BAGS OF CLOTHING
- 50. VIZIO TV
- 51. HISENSE TV
- 52. TV
- 53. BOLT CUTTERS
- 54. GOLD WEDDING RING
- 55. CLASS RING

Lacy Landrum, stated that these were the same items that we just discussed in the public hearing and these are just being placed on Govdeals so that we can sell them like we normally do. Some are from evidence and others have been discorded by the city or is no longer in use.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to adopt an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed to sell on Govdeal.com.

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

2. Final adoption of an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 30' right of way agreement with Entergy for electrical service to the treatment plant expansion on Fagan Drive.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to adopt an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 30' right of way agreement with Entergy for electrical service to the treatment plant expansion on Fagan Drive.

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

3. Final adoption of an ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget to transfer \$315,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "FY 2022 Canal Improvements" (Project 12206).

**Lacy Landrum** as explained in the public hearing, this is the amount of money needed to make the canal improvements. There was an increase in both the scope of work and the cost of doing business.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to adopt an ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget to transfer \$315,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "FY 2022 Canal Improvements" (Project 12206).

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

#### **IX. RESOLUTIONS**

#### A. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution authorizing La Carreta, located at 108 Northwest Railroad Avenue, to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for a Cinco de Mayo celebration on Thursday, May 5, 2022, from 1:00pm to 10:00pm in the closed area of West Charles Street in front of the restaurant and in the south side of the Casa de Fresa parking lot.

Mary Royer, was present to answer any questions. Councilwoman Gonzales asked about that location. Mary Royer, explained the location.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> authorizing La Carreta, located at 108 Northwest Railroad Avenue, to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for a Cinco de

Mayo celebration on Thursday, May 5, 2022, from 1:00pm to 10:00pm in the closed area of West Charles Street in front of the restaurant and in the south side of the Casa de Fresa parking lot.

#### Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steven Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y). Motion approve 5-0

2. A resolution authorizing Tacos & Beer to sell and serve alcohol for a Cinco de Mayo celebration on Thursday, May 5, 2022, from 3:00pm to 10:00pm in the Morrison Alley Park behind the restaurants and between Cypress and Cherry Streets.

Lacy Landrum stated that Jose Valencia wasn't present but he turned in the waiver request and that this was the same request as last year.

Councilman Wells stated that the person making the request should be present.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> authorizing Tacos & Beer to sell and serve alcohol for a Cinco de Mayo celebration on Thursday, May 5, 2022, from 3:00pm to 10:00pm in the Morrison Alley Park behind the restaurants and between Cypress and Cherry Streets.

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

3. A resolution authorizing Tacos & Beer to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for a Cinco de Mayo celebration on Thursday, May 5, 2022, from 3:00pm to 10:00pm in the Morrison Alley Park behind the restaurants and between Cypress and Cherry Streets.

Lacy Landrum stated that this was similar to the last item, this is the waiver of the open container. Jacqueline Taylor stated that the applicant should be present.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> authorizing Tacos & Beer to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for a Cinco de Mayo celebration on Thursday, May 5, 2022, from 3:00pm to 10:00pm in the Morrison Alley Park behind the restaurants and between Cypress and Cherry Streets.

# Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steven Leon (Y), Devon Wells (abstain). Motion approve 4-1

4. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a software support agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc. for hardware and software services in the amount of \$56,998. (Marcus McMillian)

**Marcus McMillian,** stated that this is a time keeping system and the city needs to switch to something new and all applications will be under this umbrella. The city is currently using Kronos which is older, and this is called executime which is a new time keeping system. He is asking for permission to enter into a contractual agreement with Tyler Technologies for the upgrade.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked how long the contract is.

Marcus McMillian, answered one year,

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked if it was in the budget, **Marcus McMillian**, answered yes

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a software support agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc. for the hardware and software services in the amount of \$56,998.

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

5. A resolution to ratify and award bids for "Jackson Park Basketball Court" (Project 420-12208. (Webb Anderson).

**Webb** Anderson stated that he recommends the award to the lowest bidder JAC Contracting of \$361,586. The short fall of the amount budgeted is \$246,000 for the entire project. They sent out a letter and because they know the prices would be a lot higher than what they originally budgeted. He stated that the basketball court by itself was 40% over what they originally planned a year ago and the limestone parking lot was an inclusion to the project. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked if this was a covered basketball court and not just the court. **Webb Anderson**, answered yes.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated that they have the option, if they want to go forward with the project that if they wish to move forward with the project, they could approve this but it would be contingent on a budget amendment to transfer funds. Later toward the end of the meeting we can do an introduction of a budget amendment to move the money.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if he would make a motion to approve this resolution contingent upon transfer of funds.

Lacy Landrum, yes and stated it the same kind of process that was used for canal improvements.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked why it needed to be covered and she has three parks in her district and none of them are covered and she was curious of the reason it has to be covered. She asked Councilman DiVittorio, if that is what the public asked for.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that the people in that district and neighborhood wanted it covered.

**Charles Borchers** stated that this wasn't a grant project but they have be assisting the city with grant projects for this park. He asked has the city looked at a cover for just the basketball court. He stated that there was a tree in the area.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated that he did not think they were doing demolition on anything and they were just adding a parking lot.

**Webb Anderson**, stated that where the existing basketball court it, that one is too flat and you would have to have footing for your structure. It's going where the existing one is.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that when he was going over this with Chuck Spangler, they were talking about putting a cover over the court and resurfacing, the parking lot was going next to it. There is no parking lot next to it so there is nothing to pull up.

Webb Anderson stated that just the existing concrete, you can't put the coating on it and you have to put footings in for the new structure.

**Mayor Panepinto,** stated that was always in the plan, his question is with all the lime that's out there why don't they just leave that and move the court, leave the existing concrete and build another court. **Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that originally when they talked, he thought the court was designed to have a cover at some point. When they put the footings in, the court that we have now they were going to put a cover on it. He stated that the only difference here is that the surfacing needs to have an oval/slop on the pavement and it doesn't have that in order to be warranted.

Mayor, stated if you don't get a warranty you can put a surface on what's there.

**Charles Borchers,** stated that the parking lot wasn't originally a part of this proposal and there is a very large live oak in the space and recommends that other departments look at the project regarding the issue with the tree.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** said this was the first time he was hearing about a tree and he had already talked to Chuck and the cover is going up and the surface going down and the parking lot. There was no discussion of a tree being taking down, or the surface not being warranted and all they discussed was that they were short because of an increase in pricing. Prices has increased since this was 1 ½ years planned. **Charles Borchers**, asked if the item could be tabled and allow the other departments that have not had a chance to review the project, look at it and address the tree issue.

**Councilman Wells** asked Charles, if he had that in mind to table it, then he asked if he had reached out to Councilman Sam before tonight.

**Charles Borchers,** stated he did not and he just learned about the project and this hasn't been a grant project and he want aware until last week.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated that he had sent several emails to the grants department trying to get things going with the rubber surfacing, talking about getting the slab covered, he stated that this is a project that has been on the radar for long time and they sat in Charles office and discussed it. He stated he meet with Chuck and others and this is the first time that something to do with a tree has come up. **Lacy Landrum,** stated as an option, you could just go forward and continue dialog with the contractor to see if there is a small change order or something. She stated that you still have options and you can go forward with the project and accept the bid contingent on a budget amendment.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that what the Mayor suggested makes sense, you come out better leaving that court there and creating another court so the kids will have somewhere to go this summer.

**Mayor,** suggested that you leave it as it and you will have the court for the summer for the kids while you are building the other one. Build the court you want, bigger court with the warranty, coating and cover and add the dollars for the parking lot. The concrete can be reused somewhere else.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated that he agree and he would like to move forward and would like to get a meeting set up with Webb and Chuck to come up with some options and get with the Mayor to figure out what they can do as far as making some amendments to make things work. Before next meeting, he would like to have a meeting with everyone and come up with a game plan.

### There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Kip Andrews</u> to ratify and award bids for "Jackson Park Basketball Court" Project 420-12208 contingent upon a budget amendment to transfer funds.

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

6. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 503 Wilbert Dangerfield Dr. (85% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Nathaniel Ruffin, JR. 901 Sun Lane, Hammond, LA 70401.

**Bobby Mitchell** stated he recommends the demolition of the above property. He said he spoke with the owner and he was not in opposition. He stated the owner is okay with the demolition and he wants more done.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 503 Wilbert Dangerfield Dr. (85% damaged), located in Council District 1. The owner is Nathaniel Ruffin Jr., 901 Sun Lane, Hammond, LA 70401** 

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

7. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 813 E. Church Street (97% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Willie Lust, SR, C/O Janice Lusk, Post Office Box 354, Hammond, LA 70404 and Dorothy Mitchell, Post Office Box 354, Hammond, LA 70404

**Bobby Mitchell,** stated that the house is 97% damaged and tree has collapsed on the home and it is in need of demolition. He spoke to one of the owners Janice Lusk and she would like to demolish the structure herself and he has made her aware of the council's requirement of having it done within thirty days or otherwise the city will demolish the property.

**Councilman Andrews** asked, after that conversation what did she decide to do? He stated she supposedly acquired a demolition permit, but he wasn't sure and often time property owner make promises and they do not follow through. He just wanted to make it know that he had a conversation with her.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked Bobby to remind them that if they approve with no restriction or additions to the resolution, there is thirty days for them to do or the city will get it done.

Bobby Mitchell, answered yes and that was a state requirement. They allowed thirty days to allow or appeal.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 813 E, Church St. (97% damaged), located in Council District 1. The owner is Estate of Willie Lusk Sr., C/O Janice Lusk, Post Office Box 354, Hammond, LA 70404 and Dorothy Mitchell, Post Office Box 354, Hammond, LA 70404.

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

8. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 908 E Coleman Ave (100% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner is Estate of Lucille Horland, 908 E. Coleman Ave, Hammond, LA 70403, Community Connections, Charitable Foundation, LLC. 5154 Faulkner Dr., Darrow, LA.

Bobby Mitchell, stated that the house is 100% damaged, recommendation is to demolish.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 908 E. Coleman St. (100% damaged), located in Council District 1. The owner is Estate of Lucille Horland, 908 E. Coleman Ave. Hammond, LA 70403, Community Connections, Charitable Foundation, LLC. 5154 Faulkner Darrow, LA.** 

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

9. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 804 E. Robinson St (house 100% damaged) (shed 98% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner is Chris Burton, 28039 Trellis Burton Rd, Franklinton, LA 70438.

**Bobby Mitchell,** stated that the house is 100% damaged and an adjacent shed that's 98% damaged, recommendation is to demolish both structures

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 804 E. Robinson St. (house 100% damaged, Shed 98% damaged), located in Council District 1. The owner is Chris Burton, 28039 Trellis Burton Rd, Franklinton, LA 70438.

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

10. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 1525 S. Morris Blvd (92% damaged) located in Council District 3. The owner is MINH LY, 44452 Hayley Dr, Hammond, LA 70403.

Bobby Mitchell, stated that he recommends demolition and the house is 92% damaged.

Councilman Wells, asked what the owner said.

**Bobby Mitchell,** stated they did not receive any comments from the owner and that they have proof of receipt of certified letter.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 1525 S. Morrison Blvd (92% damaged ), located in Council District 3. The owner is MINH LY, 44452 Hayley Dr. Hammond, LA 70403.

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

11. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 2310 Center Ave (100 % damaged) located in Council District 4. The owner, Estate of Louise M. Stall, C/O William A. Lepore, Post Office Box 1816, Hammond, LA 70404 and Estate of Johnny Stall, 2310 Center Ave, Hammond, LA 70401

**Bobby Mitchell,** stated that the home is 100% damaged and he did receive a call at the beginning of April from grandson of the owner who intends to tear the house down. He also called today to confirm that he had thirty days to do so.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 2310 Center Ave (100% damaged), located in Council District 4. The owner is Estate of Louise M. Stall, C/O William A. Lepore, Post Office Box 1816, Hammond, LA 70404 and Estate of Johnny Stall, 2310 Center Ave, Hammond, LA 70401.** 

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

## X. REPORTS:

Mayor:

Mayor, stated that July fireworks prices have doubled and the may need to add money for fireworks. Council:

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that the Veteran Breakfast will be Thursday at the Kenny Center.

**Joyce Cox,** 1404 Phoenix Square, stated that she has been a resident of Hammond for over 60 years and she thanks the administration for the stop sign. She thanked the Mayor and city workers for working with her, she is trying to clean up clean up in the S. Pine St. area. She stated that the side walk is in need of repair and needs to be widened and she would like to get the community cleaned up and have abandon vehicles removed.

Gloria Von Sellers, stated a lot across the street from her home needs to be cleaned up and dump trucks on the street needs to be removed.

Councilman Wells, would like to see something get done.

**Councilman Leon**, asked about the land that has been cleared on North Oak, he stated that it was not in the city limits and he has talked to parish officials and no permits has been issued by the parish.

Mayor, stated that he had heard it was going to be a tree farm.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that the housing committee met and it went well and they will be reporting monthly.

**Chief Edwin Bergeron,** stated that June 28, Camp Blue will be going on. The old training facility will be utilized for the camp and it is free of charge. Citizens can go to the Hammond Police Department Facebook page for more information and to fill out an application.

Councilman Wells leaves the meeting

## **XI. ADJOURN:**

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and a second by Councilman Andrews to Adjourn.

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

# **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 APRIL 26,

2022

BEING 10 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.



# Hammond City Council Public Hearing Special Meeting Minutes May 3, 2022 at 5:30 pm 312 East Charles St., Hammond, Louisiana

I. CALL TOORDER: Council President, Kip Andrews called the Special Meeting to order at 5:30pm

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

#### **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

- 1. An ordinance to adopt a redistricting plan for the City of Hammond. (William Blair, Strategic Demographics)
  - Attachment 1 Presentation & Overview Attachment 2 – Ordinance Attachment 3 – Plan A Map Attachment 4 – Plan B Map Attachment 5 – Statistics

**William Blair**, gave a presentation on redistricting for council districts in the City of Hammond. He stated that he was at the meeting last week to do a more thorough introduction and explanation of law and criteria needed to redistrict the city. He stated that his presentation and maps were available on the Hammond website.

He stated that there was a compressed time period and that the 2020 Census data was seven months late getting to the state. Further compressed by city charter of Hammond which demands that a plan be adopted by May 7<sup>th</sup> and we are here today with two competing plans for redistricting Hammond and both achieves population equality. We also must make sure to adhere to the protections under the Voting Rights Act of 1965. That means if we have a minority or majority districts in the City of Hammond, we must maintain those and create new ones when or where possible and with both of the proposed plans that goal has been achieved.

Mr. Blair reviewed the Census data from Hammond and stated that the racial make-up remains consistent except for a decrease in the white only population and an increase in other population, mainly due to some questionable changes between 2020 and 2021. He explained the current districts of Hammond with 2020 population included. Four of the five districts are out of the deviation. Some were too high and some were too low. He stated that his job was to assist the City Council with getting population equality and adhere to the Voting Rights Act. He stated that he met with council members to hear their ideas about district boundaries. He stated that Plan A, makes substantial changes to District 2 and Plan B is a more in line with the current boundaries but still make substantial changes. Both of the plans maintains minority District 1 and District 3 and District 4 becomes more competitive racially.

#### **Public Comment**

**John Hardin** 211 W. Charles St, asked why it is so hard to find out information before it happens, he stated that it wasn't in the Daily Star and he found out from a neighbor.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated last Tuesday night, they decided to have another meeting and the information was sent to the Daily Star. It did not make Thursday's paper so it ran in Saturday's paper.

John Hardin, stated that it should have been two weeks in advance.

Councilman Andrews, stated that they were doing it within the constraints of the City's Charter.

**Jeffery Dameron,** 408 W. Robert St., stated that a lot of people were not aware. Plan A is drastically different and Plan B keeps it similar. He stated his concern was people did not have a lot of time to see the information to make a decision or provide input. He would like to see the districts remain the way they have been historically.

John Exnicious, 103 N Magnolia, stated that he was in favor of affecting the least number of people and does not want to change the districts.

only hit one criteria. Plan B hits three to four of the traditional criteria. He also stated that it is tough to get the word out to the public

**Barbara Roberts,** 305 S Cherry St, state that she would like to ask the council for Plan B, it seems more reasonable.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that Plan B is the one that she developed with Dr. Blair and in consultation with Councilman Leon and Councilman Andrews. District 2 had to give up borders even though it was within the allowed deviation. All this requires is a 3-person vote. She thinks that it is very important that they maintain our lines as much as possible. She stated that she has three very large issues with Plan A and she does not want to lose Zemurray Park and she would like to maintain that in District 2. Plan A brings district 3 into downtown and borders Clarke Park and takes some of downtown, Iowa from district 2. Plan A is a drastic change and things should stay as concise at it can.

**William Blair**: stated that he would close by saying, he has no opinion about what plan is chosen as long as it meets population equality and the voting rights act. He stated that he works for the state legislature and they advertised and still had terrible attendance in redistricting meetings.

**Councilman Wells,** stated he had one question and he stated he didn't want to go into the Iowa District because he didn't want to interrupt District 2. He did not want to cross the railroad tracks.

William Blair, Yes, you were very specific about not crossing the railroad track.

Councilman Andrews, stated that the issue tonight will not be voted on until Saturday morning at 9:30 am.



Hammond City Council Regular Session Special Meeting Agenda May 3, 2022- Immediately following Public Hearing 312 E. Charles St, Hammond, Louisiana

I. CALL TOORDER: Council President, Kip Andrews called the Special Meeting to order

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

#### **III. PRAYER: Councilman Kip Andrews**

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

#### V. REPORTS

• Review of Charter Committee Findings - Frank DiVittorio, Committee Chair Attachment 1 – Report

**Frank DiVittorio**, Chairman of the Charter Review Committee, began with an introduction of the committee members and he stated that several members were present. He began a slide show presentation and gave some background information and stated that they held 23 meetings. He presented the report of the committee and there were nine proposed amendment to the Hammond Charter; eight recommendations that did not require amendments; three issues that the committee thought warranted more discussion, but was able to reach a unanimous resolution on or was unable to complete with the resources and time they had. He stated that everything in the report was approved unanimously by the entire committee. Mr. DiVittorio, reviewed the report and expounded on some of the items the committee reviewed and gave recommendations. He talked about the SSA Consultant report and explained how the committee chose the municipalities. They recommended that department heads reside no more than two miles away; make sure the budget process is following everything required with operating and maintenance cost being placed in the budget. He talked about organization chart and that the council does have power to request reorganization plan which requires 2/3 majority of council.

**Nick Gagliano,** 902 W Colorado St member of the committee and served half of the time. He asked that the council to make a decision to go forward rather than tabling. He stated that there were two municipal elections coming up November 8 and December 10<sup>th</sup>, he stated the deadline to get it on the November 8<sup>th</sup> ballot is June 22 and for the December 10<sup>th</sup> ballot is October 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Doug Johnson,** 611 W Church St, stated the committee has done well to provide for needs of the citizens. He stated that in the first few meetings he found out mayor's appointment had no vote. He stated that there was a conflict of interest and disenfranchising the voters because highest representative didn't have a vote. He stated that the members of the commission did a lot of good work, but he will petition the Attorney General because it appeared to have conflict of interest in members appointed to the commission. He thinks it's a conflict of interest when you have a relative of a council person on the commission.

Lacy Landrum, stated with regards to the department head, she stated that it was mentioned several times that there was a lot of public input and she attended a lot of the meetings and they did not have very many people attend, she asked if he could elaborate on public input that was received by the committee that is not reflected in the minutes.

Frank DiVittorio stated that when they started out there was public input but as time went on public

increase decreased. He stated that he does not have names, he stated that the meetings went on for two years and he is unable to tell her names. He stated that everything in the report had public input. He stands by the fact that there was public input.

**Councilman Wells,** thanked the committee for everything they have done and he thanked them for the SSA Consultants report.

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated that the consultant came from the administration and the **c**omposition of that report to his knowledge was led by the committee

**Councilman Wells**, asked how many changes the committee made on a sheet that was received from the consultants.

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated none were made once numbers and data was inputted. He believed that the consultant produced a list of city that he had identified and he believes that he came to the meeting and proposed them to the committee. Changes were made prior to them getting numbers. The information was gained through public records request and a public meeting was held to select the criteria.

Councilman Wells, asked if he received the report directly or did they all get it?

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated that the report was sent directly to him and he forwarded it to the committee. **Councilman Wells**, state that he have a trust issue. He has a problem with other report we've received. How often does charter have to be reviewed? Every 10 years?

Lacy Landrum, the charter review is whenever the city feels it's needed.

**Councilman Wells**, thanked the committee member everyone for their time **Frank DiVittorio**, thanked the committee.

• Review of Pay Study Report - Jacob Dufour, HR Nola Attachment 1 – Report Attachment 2 – Pay Grades

**Jacob Dufour**, stated that he wanted to address the first question regarding why they chose the area that they did. He stated that they chose those areas because they were the closet areas that they could pull reliable statistical relevant data from. He stated that the last example was a mayoral salary and that was easy, there is not a lot of variations in mayoral job. He also stated that you are not only competing in data from were closest in areas where they could get relevant data. He stated that people can zoom in from anywhere and not only are you competing with larger metropolitan area, but you are competing nationally. He stated that was the reason they chose those areas and those were the only areas that they could pull accurately from. He stated that they gave them statistically relevant data. He did not receive any questions about the data or any of the positions but he would be happy to take any questions regarding how the process worked.

**Councilman Wells**, stated he was looking at some data that was used before they NOLA did their survey. He was comparing statistics, populations etc. and stated that he was comparing it to what they NOLA had and what make sense to him. One of the questions he had would be, could everything on the sheet be in a written statement from Jacob Dufour that the information is accurate to his knowledge. He stated that he wants everyone to receive a raise. He stated that he has a problem with the hand-picked. Councilman Wells looked at the position of the building official in the three options. He asked if the information on the sheets was accurate.

**Jacob Dufour,** answered yes and asked Councilman Wells if he could address his earlier question about the sizes of the city and he stated that he could promise that people leaving the work force that are working for the city are not waiting for jobs to open up in smaller sized cities. They are not checking to see what the budgets are for similar size cities, they are looking for higher compensation.

Councilman Wells, asked if that were leaving the work force for higher pay.

Jacob Dufour, answered yes

**Councilman Wells**, stated that out of all the hand-picked people, their salaries doesn't add up. I was elected by the people. I became a city councilman and didn't know my salary. We pick these jobs and pick them for a reason. We work for the public. It's not a job that you're supposed to get rich off of. Yes, it's scary. We have an issue. They told you to say that people are leaving for more pay. He stated that we have issues. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that she doesn't know what format they are going with and asked Mr. Dufour if he was going to give them a presentation as far as options or should they just start asking questions.

**Diana Guzman-McMahon**, stated that she was going to do a recap. She explained their process and stated they selected HR Nola and Jacobs's findings are in the green which is option 1. She stated he gave them guidelines on how to implement and they provided to the council the tools to implement the pay increase and it's not an easy thing to do.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked to clarify and she asked if the green option was their option.

Diana Guzman-McMahon, said yes and proceeded to explain the options.

Lacy Landrum, proceeded to explain the options and pay. She stated they structure this in the way the current paygrades work. Stated that whatever it takes to get the pay raises for the City of Hammond is what they are going to do.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked for clarification of the pay raise.

Lacy Landrum proceed to explain the pay system and the options.

**Councilman Leon** asked how they arrived at the numbers for options 2 and 3 and was there a formula used. **Lacy Landrum**, stated that they took the HR NOLA's numbers and began to average them together. She explained how they reached the numbers.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked about the grid system and could they get information from HR NOLA and input on the grid system.

progress, he stated that it does somewhat limit hiring managers and what they can offer them coming in which is why they suggested the incentives, certifications and education. He stated that if it was something that the employees wanted, most municipalities are on a grid.

**Tasha Dameron**, 410 W. Roberts, stated that she runs a business and it's not just about what your starting salary is it is retaining people and keeping them from going other places. When you have a constant turn over for people trying to get better wages, you waste money because it takes time, effort and resources to train someone. You must be competitive and have a living wage.

**Jessica Shirey**: 202 Holly Dr. stated that she reiterates what the lady before said but she said from an economic stand point and when people in our community make more money, they will spend more money in our community. She's in favor of raises. People need money to stay here and keep our money here. **Karolyn Harrell**, 228 Cherie Drive, stated she wanted to address the cities that were not selected.

Thibodaux (Nicholls State) v. Ruston v. Hammond. Stated that they are not your competition. My spouse drives 40 miles south of here. He's a corporal who makes more money than a captain or lieutenant in the Hammond Police Department. She stated that what Jacob Dufour is trying to explain is the regional average and the data is there.

Ivan, 2009 Corbin Road, asked what the highest paid position in the city is.

Lacy Landrum, stated the building official and that salary was done off of the SSA study that the council set last year.

Councilman Wells, reviewed the pay options of the city official.

**Jennifer Payne,** 120 S Oak St, stated the cities named in the study. We are all classified as large municipalities. She reads from OSE website of large municipalities. We need to be competitive with New Orleans and Baton Rouge. We have people who drive from here to work there. Stated that she was 21 years old when she took this job. It's ridiculous that we're even having this conversation. We know our worth and they love their jobs. The rewards do not justified what you put in. You are going to lose good police. She stated Hammond is better than this and nobody that works for the City of Hammond should make \$10.20 per hour.

**George Bergeron**, 303 E Thomas St, stated he has been here for 22 years and has been dealing with pay studies since 2005. This is the first study I know of where the employees are getting an increase. According to the ordinance, the city shall do a pay study every two years. He stated his rank is 92% below what everyone pays. He stated his rank alone is down and is the lowest paid.

John Exnicios, 111 N. Magnolia, stated as a citizen and a tax payer that he is highly embarrassed how an outsourced company that got paid money to do a job and gave you data was questioned and the integrity of the data. Stated that he appreciates our police force and the decision should not be based on emotion but on the data. He thanked them and he stated that not making a decision is a decision. It's time to take action.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated that he did not think that the people sitting up there did not want to see everyone get a raise. He stated that they needed to look at some things to make a proper decision. He stated that funds were appropriated last year to make sure that the police got a raise and they appropriated some more funds for the other city employees to get a raise. He stated that no one there was against raises. They are all on the same page with that. He has received several calls from employees expressing their opinions about being compensated. He stated that it was time to stop pointing the finger, playing games and going back and forward and come to an agreement to what needs to be done.

**Karolyn Harrell**, 2208 Cherie Dr. stated that she wanted to thank him for his honest answer and that there is a number at which I will say they're adequately compensated

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated that they need to do this and her only question is, do employees want a grid or not. She has no experience of the grid and she asked do they want a grid.

Councilman Andrews, stated that the fire and police department have to have the grid.

Anthony Maurer and Frank Patti, Fire Union representative, thanked everyone for bring this conversation for a pay raise. Stated that they are in full support of that grid system and they explained what it does in relation to state law, raises and promotions. They ask that the grid be maintained as it is.

**Councilman Wells**, stated he wants everyone to get a raise. He spoke to the Mayor and went to HR and wanted the little people to get a raise. All he wanted from day one for everyone to get a raise.

**Frank Patti**, stated the reason some of the fire department did not get a raise was because their steps were out of line with their years and they got that fixed and some of their pay did not match up with their grade. **Anthony Maurer**, stated you can make a huge impact here to the employees.

George Bergeron, stated that everyone gets a raise in the NOLA option.

**Angelo Monistere**, 303 E Thomas St, stated that he has been through all of the pay studies and has seen different grids, but the important thing is all of the members of the Hammond Police Department in the last few years that have been lost, 35 employees lost. They have eight open spots and six new candidates. It's time that the city takes the lead. He stated that they are having staffing issues daily. If we continue with low salary, we'll continue with those problems. He thinks that option one is where the city needs to be. He asked that they review option one.

Lacy Landrum stated that the police and fire are on their grids on option one because they knew they could not break state law. In option one there are some positions that were valued lower that they would need to make a decision on. There are a few positions that don't have any raise because they were suggested to be too low.

Councilman Wells, stated that from all that he has heard, he is ready to vote.

Lacy Landrum stated that if they wanted everyone to have a minimum raise they can do that.

**Councilman Andrews** asked, if they were to vote on this item tonight, do they have to come back and address those that are not getting a raise individually.

Lacy Landrum stated that they could wrap it into the way that they word the vote. What they would be doing would be to introduce a budget amendment to implement option one, but they could say that they would like a minimum raise of whatever percentage for every employee or majority or however they want to say.

Councilwoman Gonzales state that she is fine with the pay rates but do other departments want to be in a

grid. If they pass this and they are not, is that going to be a problem?

Lacy Landrum, stated that the person who's going to have the most challenge with implementing it will be accounting department and Human Resources.

**Mayor** stated that what happened with the fire department when they went through their grid and cleaned it up those that did not get a raise was already at the average/pay scale

**Tracy Wells**, 610 Mooney Ave, asked about the CompaRatio's, regarding the employees above marked and employees below market. She asked what you do when you have employee's way above market versus those who are below market.

Lacy Landrum, stated that when HR NOLA established a salary range they went 10% below and 10% higher of the middle point that they were trying to achieve. Our grid goes for 30yrs so it is a long term grid and all of their salary ranges are higher than what HR NOLA has establish. She asked Jacob Dufour to explain what the CompaRatio means and how it is significant in the report.

**Jacob Dufour,** stated that the CompaRatio normally is based on the mid-point of the salary range and because they used the twenty fifth percentile as the range for setting their suggested salaries they used the twenty fifth percentile as the basis for the CompaRatio. He stated that it is not at market rate but it is an easy way to take a look at where people are in relation to the twenty fifth percentile mid-point that they suggested.

Councilman Andrews, asked about the option to get everyone included, stated in a motion.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated that even at a minimum everyone gets at least two percent, standard that way it ensures that everyone gets a raise. In addition, she asked about the car allowance.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they can put in a mileage reimbursement request. She stated the council can chose to do what they want to do with it. She stated that there was an issue last year and they tried to address it, this salary is based on salary. If there are certain position that you want to do that for you can. Councilman DiVittorio, stated that in looking at the raises, some of have hardly anything, while others get a twenty thousand dollars increase and he believes that morale wise that would not be a good thing for city workers.

**Councilman Andrews**, asked to move forward with approving the budget hearing with option one. **Andre Coudrain**, City Attorney, stated to make a motion or to adopt something, they will need to amend the agenda. They should amend the agenda to add whatever item they desire.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked if this was a resolution or an ordinance.

Andre Coudrain, asked what's the motion.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated that they were going to adopt option one.

Andre Coudrain, stated that it may be hard to implement it with all of the adjustment

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** state she would like to make a motion to amend the agend to add a resolution adopting option one of HR NOLA with a minimum of 2% pay increase for anyone who does not meet that threshold. She state that that is their will but they will still have to do a budget item. She asked Andre would that work.

Andre Coudrain, answered yes, but it doesn't appropriate money but it does express to the administration the will of the council.

**Councilman Wells** asked, when is the raise supposed to start and he suggested that they take it back until January to give the employees their money and he doesn't want to wait until the budget.

Lacy Landrum asked, Andre if there was a specific way they would need to word that motion, could we say that this study has been under review.

Andre Coudrain, he stated it is subject to issues anytime you go retroactive with any kind of payment. It can be challenged, but if it's the will of the council to say that the issue has been discussed and addressed prior to January 1<sup>st</sup> and have it effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, you can do that.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked if they could do the first thing she suggested and then have that be a bonus.

Andre Coudrain stated that it could be a onetime payment. A One-time payment for retention will be easier to defend then a payment for past services. A payment for past service can be a legal issue. If it's a retention payment that's easier to defend. Basically, you are making a payment to retain your employees in the future.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked, what if they ask the administration to make a retention payment based on their calculation. She stated that it was just a suggestion and she would like for this to go forward without an issue.

Andre Coudrain, stated that there must be a seven day layover period for publishing in Daily Star required for an ordinance and it could be introduced tonight then published and seven days after publication the public hearing and final adoption.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to amend the agenda for a resolution to implement Option One of HR NOLA with a minimum of 2% pay increase.

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

There was motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the resolution to Implement Option One of HR NOLA.

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

**There was motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to amend the agenda to add a resolution instructing the administration to present a one-time retention payment option to the council based on Option One of HR NOLA with a minimum 2% payment.

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> second <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to amend the agenda to introduce an ordinance to amend the budget as necessary to implement the prior resolutions.

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce the ordinance to amend the budget in the amount necessary to implement the resolutions that have been passed.

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for May 24, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Councilman Andrews stated that the non- profit discussion will be tabled until May 10, 2022.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Andrews</u> second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to table the nonprofit discussion until May 10, 2022.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they could do in the proposed budget they could use the similar numbers from last year and the council will have the option to amend the numbers as we go forward.

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

### VI. ADJOURN:

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned.

#### **CERTIFICATION OF CLERK**

I LISA COCKERHAM, CLERK OF COUNCIL DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE AND

FOREGOING IS ATURE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS TRANSACTED AT

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD MAY 3, 2021

**BEING 6 PAGES IN LENGTH** 

LISA COCKERHAM HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL

Hammond City Council Members Councilman Kip Andrews - President Councilman Sam DiVittorio - Vice President Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales Councilman Steve Leon Councilman Devon Wells

City Council Clerk, Lisa Cockerham City Attorney, Andre Coudrain



Hammond City Council Special Meeting Minutes Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 9:30 am 312 E. Charles St, Hammond, Louisiana

I. Council President, Kip Andrews called the Special Meeting to order

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

**III. Prayer: Council President Andrews** 

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

# **V. FINAL ADOPTION**

- 1. An Ordinance to adopt a redistricting plan for the City of Hammond. (William Blair, Strategic Demographics)
  - Attachment 1 Presentation & Overview
  - Attachment 2 Plan A Ordinance
  - Attachment 3 Plan A Map
  - Attachment 4 Plan B Ordinance
  - Attachment 5 Plan B Map
  - Attachment 6 Statistics

Bill Blair, stated that the presentation would be short because the material has been covered several times. He stated that the take away is we had to get our population within the proper deviation. He stated the current districts as of today are a bit out of the population deviation. He stated that they had to equalize the populations according to each district. Secondarily, he had to examine the majority/minority districts to ensure they are maintained so that they can elect the candidate of their choice under section two of the voting rights act. He stated that both of the plans accomplished these things and it becomes a question of which configuration makes more sense for the residents of the City of Hammond for their representation. Both plans meet the requirements and the two plans are a function of the discussion and preferences of council members. Today in front of you is Plan A – bit more of a reimagining and Plan B the other. Substantially, there aren't radical changes. But both plans have some changes. The both accomplish the two significant goals to equalize population between the districts for fair vote and that they respect the minority and majority within the City of Hammond. He asked if there were any questions.

### Councilman Leon, enters the meeting

**Councilman Wells**, asked to go to Plan A and he referenced District 3. He stated that Chappapeela and Cypress Point is closer to District 2 and it doesn't make sense for District 3 to go that far out when they don't really go into that area. He went on to say that Zemurray Park should be in District 3. He stated that he has been in that area all of his life and he supports Plan A and would like to get Zemurray back in District 3.

Councilman Andrews, asked if anyone from the public has comments?

Michael Showers, President of Tangipahoa NAACP, asked if the numbers were posted on the webpage on the city.

**Joe Mier**, 906 CM Fagan Dr., stated that he has been looking at the different plans and comparing them to the current district map plan and the population numbers, the object is to balance out with the least amount of changes as possible. District 2 was the only one that met all the population requirements. As a number of our residents stated in the previous council meeting, Plan B will do the least amount of disruption to all districts. Why not change other districts 3 and 4, one high and one low, those numbers should have been swapping from those two districts, rather than impacting other districts that meet the requirements and did not net any disruptions. He stated that he was asking the council to support Plan B.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that District 2 was in the middle, therefore it would usually be the most disrupted and sometimes moving the blocks doesn't add up the right way.

**Councilman Wells**, ask Mr. Meir if he knew how far Ms. Gonzales will be in District 3 if they picked plan A? He stated Washington Ave to Second Ave, which are bad communities. He stated that not one time in three years did Ms. Gonzales support anything in District 3. He stated that He never heard any of them talk about the sewer issues in District 3.

**Joe Mier,** stated that he has supported District 3 with housing issues and redevelopment. He stated he has done a lot for District 3, Greenville Park, new construction, single-family homes. He stated that he was for the City of Hammons and not just a single district.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated that she wanted to clarify that the statement was made under the Plan B that Gonzales would go into District 3, currently the area around Zemurray which is Second Ave and borders on Washington Ave currently in District 2 and it has been for ten years and possibly twenty years. She does not going into District 3, she represents District 2 which encompassed the area of Zemurray Park including the areas around there. She stated that she has voted for many things for District 3. Including things he voted against. She just wanted to clarify that that statement was incorrect. We have all unanimously voted for many things to benefit district 3 and the other districts.

**Osa Williams,** stated that she thinks the point is historically. Zemurray Park was always in district 3. You look at the access/limitations. We don't have as much access.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked what is your limitations?

Osa Williams, stated the times when it is open.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated the times are the same for all the parks - sunrise to sunset.

**Osa Williams,** stated that the construction has been for economic development. Zemurray Park has always been a part of District 3. She stated that you don't have as much utilization and now you have to fill out papers. The origin of the park is district 3.

**Councilman Wells**: I know you all don't really know what she's saying. We never filled out a form to go to the park for a picnic. We didn't have to do that because we felt like Zemurray was home. Now, you can't park on the grass. In Mooney, you can go wherever you want. In Zemurray, police was there. In Mooney, police are never there. I asked for police to be in Mooney. No, you're not going to understand. The rules affect the blacks, not the whites. Be careful with the words.

Kent Carroll, 603 Rue St. Martin, stated that he has lived here all of his life and was the chair person for the safety committee and over crime watch. He stated that he don't like Plan A and he likes Plan B better.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve Plan A for the City of Hammond Redistricting.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (N), Councilwoman Gonzales (N), Councilman Leon (N), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion denied 2-3

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve Plan B for the City of Hammond Redistricting.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (N), Councilman Wells (N) Motion approved 3-2

#### **IV. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously 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 MAY7, 2022

**BEING 3 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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA May 10, 2022 5:30pm

#### I. CALL TO ORDER: President Kip Andrews

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

## **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a mobile home located in at Proposed Mobile Home Area at 17081 Hoover St. per survey by McLin Land Surveying, Inc., dated 3/14/1994; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-03-00101); and the Zoning Commission recommended approval with conditions:

- 1) This approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Mary Richardson, and
- 2) The manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet HUD standards.

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated that this was located within the proposed mobile home area and the Zoning Commission met on April 7, 2022 and recommended approval 4-0.

There were no public comments

2. An Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a tattoo parlor allowed as a conditional use located at 1040 Roma Avenue, Suite A per deed by Roma Street Management, LLC dated 6/23/2017 Zoned C-N (Z-2022- 03-00102); the Zoning Commission recommended approval with the condition that such a use is a personal right and expires upon change in occupancy or ownership.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated this is allowed as an Expanded Conditional Use, tattoo parlor located in C-N which is allowed under conditional use and the Zoning Commission met on April 7, 2022 and recommended approval 3-1. Chris Berry (owner), 16326 Highway 40 Ponchatoula, stated he and Matthew would like to open a high end tattoo studio.

3. An Ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget to transfer \$246,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "Jackson Park" (Project 12208). (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated as discussed at the last meeting the project came in over budget. If the transfer of \$246,000 goes through it will from the sales tax fund balance and it will still leave a large balance in the fund. Councilwoman Gonzales, asked about the changes that were talked about at the last meeting.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, gave an update on the project development and he stated that the tree will be kept intact and that the original basketball court will not be torn up.

Webb Anderson, stated they made some changes.



#### HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA May 10, 2022 6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

# I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

## **III. PRAYER: Council President Kip Andrews**

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

## V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of the April 26, 2022 meeting

# There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the April 26, 2022 minutes.

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

## VI. PRESENTATIONS: None

#### VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an Ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in accordance with the procedures of Section 5-03 of the City's Charter.

**Laura Hammett**, stated that she was there to present the budget for FY 2022-2023, she stated that the budget work session will be held on June 3, 2022 at 8:00 am, all department heads will be in attendance to answer any questions. The public hearing will be June 13, 2022 at 5:30 pm and the final adoption will be on June 28, 2022 at 5:30 pm.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to introduce an Ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in accordance with the procedures of Section 5-03 of the City's Charter.

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

#### VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a mobile home located in at Proposed Mobile Home Area at 17081 Hoover St. per survey by McLin Land Surveying, Inc., dated 3/14/1994; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-03-00101); and the Zoning Commission recommended approval with conditions:

- This approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Mary Richardson, and
- 2) The manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet HUD standards.

Jeffery Leuenberger, stated the Planning Commission Approved on April 7, 2022 on a 4-0 vote.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a mobile home located in at Proposed Mobile Home Area at 17081 Hoover St. per survey by McLin Land Surveying, Inc., dated 3/14/1994; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-03-00101); and the Zoning Commission recommended approval with conditions: 1) This approval is with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership of Mary Richardson, and 2) The manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet HUD standards.** 

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

2. Final adoption of an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a tattoo parlor allowed as a conditional use located at 1040 Roma Avenue, Suite A per deed by Roma Street Management, LLC dated 6/23/2017 Zoned C-N (Z-2022- 03-00102); the Zoning Commission recommended approval with the condition that such a use is a personal right and expires upon change in occupancy or ownership.

**Jeffery Leuenberger**, stated the Expanded Conditional Use in council District 4, it is in a C-N zoning district which allows tattoo parlors through conditional uses.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) to allow for a tattoo parlor allowed as a conditional use located at 1040 Roma Avenue, Suite A per deed by Roma Street Management, LLC dated 6/23/2017 Zoned C-N (Z-2022-03-00102); the Zoning Commission recommended approval with the condition that such a use is a personal right and expires upon change in occupancy or ownership.** 

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

3. Final adoption of an Ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget to transfer \$246,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "Jackson Park" (Project 12208).

Lacy Landrum, stated that they knew that there would be a cost overrun and attachment number one is the current consolidated budget that was approved after last meeting with the budget amendment included and attachment number two was the new consolidated budget.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to amend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget to transfer \$246,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "Jackson Park" (Project 12208).

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

**Councilman DiVittorio,** asked Web Anderson when they would start on the project. **Webb Anderson**, stated after contracts are signed it usually takes about two weeks.

### **IX. RESOLUTIONS:**

1. A resolution to purchase ten (10) police Tahoe's from Gerry Lane Chevrolet for \$355,039.70 (State Contract #4400020203).

**Chief Edwin Bergeron**, stated he received an email from Gerry Lane Chevrolet stating that General Motors had approve the 2023 Police Tahoe's at the 2022 contract price, but order entry is May 19<sup>th</sup>. Chief Bergeron stated that they will not be able to order again until the fall of 2024. He stated that they will get on the list but is unsure of when they will receive the vehicles. If the order is not placed by May 19<sup>th</sup>, they will not be able to order again until the fall of 2024.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked if the money was from the millage and if it was within budget. **Chief Edwin Bergeron**, answered yes.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> authorizing the purchase of ten (10) Police Tahoe's from Gerry Lane Chevrolet for \$355,039.70 (State Contract # 4400020203)

#### VOTE: Councilman Andrews(Y). Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (N), Motion Approved 4-1

2. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Robinson's Cleaning Services for janitorial services for all City of Hammond buildings in the amount of \$159,380.00 annually. (Jana Soileau)

**Jana Soileau,** stated that the current contractor did not renew their contract. They received bids and Mrs. Robinson was the lowest bidder. The contract is for twelve months with an option to renew. She stated that this was a local company.

Councilman Wells, thanked Jana for getting someone local.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Robinson's Cleaning Services for janitorial services for all City of Hammond buildings in the amount of \$159,380.00 annually.** 

VOTE: Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews(Y). Approved 5-0 3. A resolution to transfer \$10,000 from Recreation Programs (10050500-500100) to Fireworks Expenses (10012000-560571) for the Fourth of July fireworks display. (Lacy Landrum)

## Councilman Wells leaves the meeting.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the cost has gone up and that this would not come from the general fund. They will use funds in the recreation program, they are proposing to move money from recreation. Donations will help to offset cost. She stated that they are not asking for funds, they are just transferring. Carolyn Savoie, 777 Ben Hur Rd, Baton Rouge, asked how much the usual cost is.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the cost usually runs between \$12,000 and \$15,000 but this year, it was between \$17,000 - \$18,000.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> authorizing the transfer of \$10,000 from Recreation Programs (10050500-500100) to Fireworks Expenses (10012000-560571) for the Fourth of July fireworks display.** 

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

4. A resolution 1) accepting an \$8,825 grant from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase dashboard cameras for the Hammond Police Department; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign grant documents. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers**, stated this was an application that was originally presented back in August of last year. They have the grant contract now and is asking the council's permission to authorize the contract for the grant. There is no match.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve a resolution 1) accepting an \$8,825 grant from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase dashboard cameras for the Hammond Police Department; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign grant documents.

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

5. A resolution supporting the submission of a \$16,030 application to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Formula Grant Program to expand Camp Blue. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers,** stated that they came to the council back in May of last year for permission to apply for a larger amount. There is no match requirement and this would go toward Camp Blue. It helps with overtime for the officers that conduct the five day camp, operating supplies and materials for the kids. The goal would be to do two camps a year as opposed to one. The grant would be good for two years.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if the grant is the total for two years.

**Charles Borchers**, stated that it would be the total for the two years and we are in the middle of the first year so there is about another year and the half left. Then they may be able to apply for another year.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve a resolution supporting the submission of a \$16,030 application to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Formula Grant Program to expand Camp Blue.

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

6. A resolution 1) supporting the submission of an \$8,000 grant application to the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership to purchase new and replacement body armor for Hammond police officers; and 2) supporting a cash match of \$4,000 from the Hammond Police Department. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers,** stated that this is one that he comes to the council for every year. He stated the dollar amount applied for each year varies because when they began purchasing vest several years ago, those vests are good for about five years. They try and stay ahead of it and they have money that will cover them until 2024, so they may not need to touch those funds until late 2024 or early 2025.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve a resolution 1) supporting the submission of an \$8,000 grant application to the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership to purchase new and replacement body armor for Hammond police officers; and 2) supporting a cash match of \$4,000 from the Hammond Police Department.

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

7. A resolution authorizing Lisa Cockerham, Hammond City Council Clerk, to certify authorized signatories and signatures for the City's anticipated Fiscal Year 2021-22 Local Government Assistance Program and Community Water Enrichment Fund grants. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers**, stated that this was more housekeeping and there have been some changes to the two programs and at the last council meeting the council approved applications for those the amount \$23,000 each in anticipation that we will be funding. They ask that they have certified signatures and they must have someone nominated by the council to certify and they typically use the Council Clerk.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve a resolution authorizing Lisa Cockerham, Hammond City Council Clerk, to certify authorized signatories and signatures for the City's anticipated Fiscal Year 2021-22 Local Government Assistance Program and Community Water Enrichment Fund grants.** 

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

## X. REPORTS:

Mayor:

Lacy Landrum, stated that the Mayor was out of town. She stated that they just received sale tax reports and are doing very strongly in Hammond and at the next meeting they will see an introduction of an ordinance to amend the sales tax revenue. She stated they are about \$3 million ahead, so another budget amendment will need to be done.

**Council:** Discussion of nonprofit partners

**Councilman Leon,** stated that he would like to recommend that they be removed the process and from the council and to the administration and let them process it.

Lacy Landrum, stated that if they needed some points of reference, in their budget binders there's the general administration fund that the non-profits come out of. They funded the same amounts as last year the ones that are nonnegotiable. They need clarity from the council on how they want to proceed.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that they would still get requests

Councilman DiVittorio, asked how much was given out last year.

Lacy Landrum, stated that there were six that they partnered with and the total was \$297,706 was given out last year. The three that are more essential is the bus system, animal shelter and smallest amount goes to veteran services.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, stated that the council approves the funds, but they can leave it up to the administration how the funds will be allocated.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they want come direction.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he is not going to make a decision tonight, there needs to be more discussion, thinks they need to figure out how many nonprofit partners they are going to take on each year.

Lacy Landrum, stated that in the past they have stuck with the traditional partners, but in the last two years there have been more people requesting. She described the process currently used.

**Nana Minema**, asked what is the application process, what's the form and she did not find anything on the website. She stated that people should be able to find it and what the process is. There needs to be clarity so that people will know where to go and what's the vision of the administration as for as non-profits.

#### XI. ADJOURN

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously 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 MAY 10, 2022

**BEING 6 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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA May 24, 2022 5:30pm

### I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

### **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An ordinance to amend the FY 2021-2022 budget to implement a one-time retention payment for employees based on the Option 1 report of HR Nola with a minimum of a 2% annual salary payment. (Laura Hammett)

Lacy Landrum, stated that there were two items to discuss during the public hearing. She stated that the first item that needed to be discussed is the salary raises that were outlined in the HR Nola Report and she asked that they split the ordinance into two separate ordinance, 1) to discuss the salary raises and 2) one-time retention payment. She stated that was how the will of the council was at the initial meeting. She stated concerning the salary implementation the biggest thing tonight is to move money to make the salaries go and set a start date. She stated that there are a lots of options available for the one-time retention payment, how you set out the perimeters, they will budget accordingly. She referenced the sheet with the raises and she stated that they show a minimum of four percent, giving the inflation circumstances. These are tools available to guide the decision and discussion.

**Officer Richard Hoover,** 120 S. Oak St, presented a PowerPoint on behalf of communications officers. He stated that the power point should showcase some of the facts. The communication pay option and comparisons to other areas and departments. He stated that he wants the council to make a more informed decision.

**Scarlett Holmes**, 120 S. Oaks St, stated that she has been in communications for twenty-one years and stated that the communications officers should have the same raises as the jailers. She stated that the HR NOLA information is not accurate and that this division is as important as every other division.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked if the communications officers were asking them to go back to the drawing board and not vote at all.

Officer Richard Hoover stated he was not asking to have the raise postponed, but he is asking that if this raise goes through to have them included with the jailers pay scale, so they can retain a competitive hiring and starting pay.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, reviewed the pay scale by HR NOLA for the communications officers and the Jailers and asked him if that is what he is saying.

Officer Richard Hoover, he stated yes and whatever the step is for the jailers.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, thanked the officer and stated that everyone needs to feel fair about the raises. He stated that he see where his concerns are but if we want to move forward with good morale in the department everyone needs to feel fair about the raises. He appreciate him coming up and stated that maybe the administration can look at the numbers and figure out something that would be more in line with the Jailers.

**Courtney Carter,** Hammond, LA, stated that she hasn't had a raise since 2005 and has been there since 2004. She stated that she understands the radio rooms concern but they got a raise in 2008. She stated that she understands but they don't have contact with the inmates and the public and she believes that communications is already at the average.



#### HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA May 24, 2022 6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

### I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

### **III. PRAYER: Pastor Ron Matthews**

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

### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of the May 3, 2022, May 7, 2022, May 10, 2022 meetings-

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the minutes of May 3, 2022,

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the minutes of May 7, 2022,

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the minutes of May 10, 2022,

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

### VI. PRESENTATIONS: President Andrews - Graduate Recognition

Council President Andrews presented an award of recognition to honor graduates from Hammond High Magnet School to Savannah Smith, Kayla Edwards and Kendall May.

### VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to amend the agenda to move item #6 under resolutions to item #3 under introduction of ordinances.

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

1. Introduction of an ordinance to amend the FY2022 budget: (1) to add \$2.5 million in sales tax revenue, (2) to transfer \$365,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "FY22 Drainage and Sidewalk Improvements" (Project 12205), and (3) to transfer \$435,000 from the General Fund (100) balance to the Health Insurance Fund (720).

Laura Hammett, stated that the first budget amendment is necessary is to recognize the sales tax revenue and sales tax are still coming.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked if they are doing them all in one.

Councilman Andrews, asked if they were doing them together or separate.

Laura Hammett stated that it was the pleasure of the council.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated to do them all.

**Laura Hammett** stated that the second one was a transfer of \$365,000 from the sales tax fund to FY 22 Drainage and sidewalk improvements. She stated that Mr. Webb was going to discuss the contract under resolution number three and the contract did come in higher. The third item is to transfer \$435,000 from the general fund to the Health Insurance fund.

Carlee Gonzales, she asked if there was a reason for the cost of the health insurance increase.

Laura Hammett, stated that we have more employed people with coverage and more retirees.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked when the health care renewed and if we had this increase in cost since that time. **Laura Hammett**, stated that she thinks its more people and more retirees taking coverage. She stated she will have more information at public hearing.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to introduce an ordinance to amend the FY2022 budget: (1) to add \$2.5 million in sales tax revenue, (2) to transfer \$365,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "FY22 Drainage and Sidewalk Improvements" (Project 12205), and (3) to transfer \$435,000 from the General Fund (100) balance to the Health Insurance Fund (720).** 

### Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (absent) Motion Approved 4-0

### Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday June 14, 2022 at 5:30pm

2. Introduction for an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) by Brooke Chambers (applicant) and Charles Carr (Owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 814 Hoover St., per survey by Richmond W. Krebs & Associates, LLC, dated 4/20/2022; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-04-00103)

**Lacy Landrum** stated this is a simple introduction of an expanded conditional use to place a mobile home. This is located in council district one. The land use in the area is the same as this proposal, RS-3, it is all residential. An expanded conditional use stays with the owner. The planning and zoning commission heard the case on May 5<sup>th</sup> and voted unanimously to recommend approval.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) by Brooke Chambers (applicant) and Charles Carr (Owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 814 Hoover St., per survey by Richmond W. Krebs & Associates, LLC, dated 4/20/2022; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-04-00103).** 

### Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent). Motion Approved 4-0

### Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday June 14, 2022 at 5:30pm

3. Introduction of an ordinance to adopt and establish a tax on all the taxable property within the corporate limits of Hammond for the Year 2022. (Laura Hammett)

Public Works:2.00 MillsGeneral Alimony:9.04 MillsPolice & Fire:10.00 MillsTotal21.04 Mills

Laura Hammett, state that this was the annual requirement to establish the yearly mileage rate for property taxes. This is not a tax increase or a tax change.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to introduce an ordinance to adopt and establish a tax on all the taxable property within the corporate limits of Hammond for the Year 2022. Public Works: 2.00 Mills, General Alimony: 9.04 Mills, Police & Fire: 10.00 Mills, Total 21.04 Mills

### Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent). Motion Approved 4-0

### Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday June 14, 2022 at 5:30pm

### VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to amend the FY 2021-2022 budget to implement a one-time retention payment for employees based on the Option 1 report of HR Nola with a minimum of a 2% annual salary payment. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum stated that this was the ordinance that came out of a lot of discussion at the prior meeting. She recommends that they separate this ordinance into two different items and deal with them in that regard. 1) Salary raises and having a clear date of possibly tomorrow to implement. 2) One time retention payment and what the perimeters of that would be. How the council wishes to handle is up to the council.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated let's start with the retention payment. She stated that at the last meeting it wasn't very clear what they were asking for and it's not time to vote on the retention payment. She state it should be separated and the council has given no guidance on what they wanted it to be. Separate the retention payment and not move forward with it, but address the salary increase. The ordinance needs to be different for whatever they pass so they will need to fix the wording.

Andre Coudrain, stated, if this is the will of the Council, you would make a motion to defer the ordinance as it relates to retention payments.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to defer the ordinance as it relates to the retention payments.

### Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent). Motion Approved 4-0

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated now looking at the ordinance for the pay raise only. She stated that the wording had a 2% minimum base on what was presented last time, but the administration has presented the council with a spread sheet that has 4%.

Lacy Landrum, stated that in the climate of inflation and looking at it and seeing how many people were below 4% there wasn't that much adjustment to make.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if departments know what the sheet says.

Lacy Landrum, stated that department heads know and have had conversations about those and they are in the budget binders so the council knows as well.

**Steve Leon**, asked if you go ahead and give the 4% instead of the 2% if any one looks at this there are some skewed area. Everyone wants a raise and needs a raise but how do we fix some of the outline areas. He stated like the administration fixed the 2% to 4% and if they gave the administration the authority to make adjustments. He thinks we need to fix some of this.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated that it does need some fixing and he is looking at some job descriptions that are the same with different pay.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that this council asked for a salary study and wanted data behind it and for the council to arbitrarily say they don't like the numbers for a particular position is against what they asked for and then to say to the administration to go do some more with this is against what they asked for to. She stated that was not sitting well with her and she does not know how to reconcile those two problems. She believes they are stuck in the parameters of what they told everyone.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated his concern was the moral of everyone and making sure that they make the right decision and people are treated fairly and we are not revisiting this issue again in the near future. He asked Lacy Landrum if she heard any concern or feedback from employees regarding the study.

Lacy Landrum stated that have had several employee that were upset because they felt like they were not valued appropriately in the study. The consultant emphasized that these were his numbers and not the administration numbers.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that the communications department presented their concerns to them and if there is any further review in that department that would delay the raises for everybody.

**Mayor**, stated that not everyone's going to be happy in looking at the averages across the board whether you disagree or agree these are the numbers we have.

**Officer Hoover,** stated that there was a modified version showing the 4%, the plan can be modified. **Scarlett Helms,** stated that the steps were not correct and proceeded to explain.

**Daniel Boudreaux**, stated that he doesn't disagree with them but we are arguing two different points, verses what's being present now and something that can be address in the future. These are two different issues and tonight is about starting pay and raises.

**Councilman Andrews**, asked Lacy if something was out of order will there be an opportunity for it to be addressed. He thinks the main thing is that everyone is treated fairly.

Lacy Landrum, stated that if people have questions about the step or about how they landed on that step, they have met with several individuals to review that and Dianna have gone back and looked through payroll and promotion record to look at how the steps changed throughout the years. They are happy to study those for everyone, they will be doing that as they are entering the data into Munis the financial system before they make the first payrolls. They will be doing that to ensure accuracy. They are always happy to look with an employee. Latiska Weber, 708 Whip St, asked about the about the salary study and the basis for it in comparison to other cities.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the consultant reviews all the job descriptions individually for each position and then plugged them into their software to make the regional comparisons. They also looked at several pay plans of surrounding salaries.

Ivan Scineaux, asked would it make sense to input starting salary and add number of years.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated it's based on years and steps

Lacy Landrum, stated not everyone is starting over in starting pay, steps are taken into consideration.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve Option 1 of HR Nola with a minimum of a 4% salary raise as presented by the administration and starting effective tomorrow May 25, 2022.

### Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent). Motion Approved 4-0

### **IX. RESOLUTIONS:**

**1.** A resolution to appoint Michael St. Romain to the Planning & Zoning Commission to complete the remainder of a four-year term from May 25, 2022 to June 14, 2024. (Mayor Panepinto)

**Mayor Panepinto**, stated Mr. St. Romain will be replacing Bill Travis, he recommends Michael "Trey" St. Romain who is a local real estate lawyer that wants to serve his community.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that he would be an asset to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Councilman Leon, stated that it was nice to see a young person getting involved.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second <u>by Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the appointment of Michael St. Romain to the Planning & Zoning Commission to complete the remainder of a four-year term from May 25, 2022 to June 14, 2023. Motion Approved 4-0

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

**2.** A resolution requesting that the name and resume of all board appointments to be confirmed by the City Council be provided to each council member and the council clerk not less than one week in advance of the meeting where the appointment is to be confirmed. (President Kip Andrews)

**President Kip Andrews**, asked that the information be provided in advance to give time to review and that there needs to be some guidelines and instructions.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the resolution requesting that the name and resume of all board appointments to be confirmed by the City Council be provided to each council member and the council clerk not less than one week in advance of the meeting where the appointment is to be confirmed.

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

**3.** A resolution to ratify and award bids for "FY2022 Sidewalk and Drainage Improvements" received on April 28, 2022. (Webb Anderson)

**Webb Anderson**, stated they received bids and the low bidder was Warner Construction in the amount of \$1,884,825 for the base bid. Their alternate which is the Ruth Mitchell & Pines for the drainage work that they are waiting on the servitudes off of MC Moore, is in the amount of \$260,857.50. They are still waiting on servitudes for that work. The work can't be done until they have servitudes. Stated that he believed they received an email from Lacy Landrum about how much money is needed to proceed with the job and this is with the base bid. He stated that the alternate can be awarded at a later date if they chose anytime throughout the contract. So a total of \$565,000 is needed.

Lacy Landrum, stated as recommended in the introduction of the budget amendment, they recommended transferring \$365,000 because they also received a contribution from Medline this year for drainage improvements and that could be put towards this and she stated that's why the offset is there. \$565,000 would make the project go and they have \$200,000 from Medline for that contribution and will need \$365,000 which was part of the introduction of the budget amendment that was presented earlier.

**Webb** Anderson, proceeded to explain the process and reason for the changes in the cost and changes to the budget. He stated it would be recommending an award for the base bid in that amount to Warner Trucking contingent upon transferring the funds.

**Lacy Landrum**, which would be final adoption. She also stated the reason they are not adding the alternate now is because of the servitudes and they do not want to unnecessarily wrap the money in because those servitudes may take a little bit longer, they will keep that in mind as they are adjusting the budget and making budget amendments going forward and reserve those funds.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve a resolution to ratify and award bids for "FY2022 Sidewalk and Drainage Improvements" received on April 28, 2022.

## Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent) Motion Approved 4-0

**4.** A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with Sharkey Mechanical Services, LLC for \$58,183.00 to remove and replace (2) 20 Ton Trane HVAC Units. RFP 22-27 (Jana Soileau)

**Jana Soileau,** stated that two departments are being combined, recreation and police. This is to replace and remove non-working units. She stated that they put out and RFP and received seven proposal. Sharkey Mechanical Services was the lowest bidder.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Sharkey Mechanical Services, LLC for \$58,183.00 to remove and replace (2) 20 Ton Trane HVAC Units. RFP 22-27.** 

# VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Absent). Motion Approved 4-0

**5.** A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with The Daily Star as the Official Journal for the City of Hammond, LA from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated that this was an annual designation in accordance with State Law.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with The Daily Star as the Official Journal for the City of Hammond, LA from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. (Jana Soileau)** 

## VOTE: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Absent). Motion Approved 4-0

**6.** A resolution to approve the Fiscal year 2022-2023 Non-Municipal Fire and Police personnel Holiday closing schedule for the City of Hammond. (Diana McMahon)

**Kevin Beecher**, presented the FY 2022-2023 holiday schedule with an amended change request to add Juneteenth to the current FY 2021-2022 holiday schedule.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve the Fiscal year 2022-2023 Non-Municipal Fire and Police personnel Holiday closing schedule for the City of Hammond, amended to include Juneteenth to the current FY 2021-2022 holiday schedule.** 

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

7. A resolution authorizing Lisa Cockerham, Hammond City Council Clerk, to certify authorized signatories and signatures for the City's FY 2021 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant—Coronavirus ("Love Louisiana Outdoors") Program funds. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers**, stated that this item and the next item are related to the recently awarded Louisiana Outdoors Grant. He stated this was similar to what the council approved last time for the pending water enrichment grant, they all go through the same state agency. They are required to have a signature card with authorized signatures from the Mayor, Director of Administration, Director of Grants and use the City Council Clerk to certify the signatures.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve a resolution authorizing Lisa Cockerham, Hammond City Council Clerk, to certify authorized signatories and signatures for the City's FY 2021 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant—Coronavirus ("Love Louisiana Outdoors")** Program funds.

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

8. A resolution reaffirming the City of Hammond's Residential Antidisplacement and Relocation Assistance Plan, originally adopted July 15, 2008, affirmed September 20, 2011, re-affirmed May 5, 2015, and re-affirmed and updated August 14, 2018, for the FY 2021 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant—Coronavirus ("Love Louisiana Outdoors") Program. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers,** stated that this is required by Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD requires that they have a relocation fund in place, an anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan. He stated that this is work that is being done in parks and they will not be relocating or displacing any residents. He stated if we are doing grant work and have to displace or relocate a resident we have to put them in suitable housing. He stated that this plan is virtually identical to the plan that was adopted in 2018, he has compared the recommended language under the 2021 guidebook for LCGB and it matches. All that needs to be done is reaffirm that this is their plan and that it matches the current state recommended language.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve a resolution reaffirming the City of Hammond's Residential Antidisplacement and Relocation Assistance Plan, originally adopted July 15, 2008, affirmed September 20, 2011, re-affirmed May 5, 2015, and re-affirmed and updated August 14, 2018, for the FY 2021 Louisiana Community Development Block Grant—Coronavirus ("Love Louisiana Outdoors") Program.

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

### X. REPORTS:

**Mayor,** stated that Councilman Andrews, Councilwoman Gonzales and some of the Downtown Development staff got an opportunity to travel to Richmond, Virginia for a DDD conference. The Downtown Development District was awarded the best Main Street in America. He stated it was a great day for Hammond. Hammond's downtown has been revitalized and is vibrant. He thanked everyone that made this possible.

### Council:

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, state it was an honor for the Downtown Development to receive award. She also stated that Downtown Development District will be opening Railroad Park on June 1<sup>st</sup>, it's going to be nice to show case downtown Hammond.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated the Richmond trip was nice and Hammond is doing great stuff. It was good to have the Downtown Development District recognized. Great Job well done

Lacy Landrum stated that its people like Ron Matthews and others that are serving on our boards, they give a lot of time behind the scenes that is never recognized and it's their help that brought back that award.

### **XI. ADJOURN:**

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to adjourn the meeting. Motion Approved 4-0

### **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 MAY 24, 2022

**BEING 7 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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA June 14, 2022 5:30pm

### I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

### **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An ordinance to amend the FY2022 budget: (1) to add \$2.5 million in sales tax revenue, (2) to transfer \$365,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "FY22 Drainage and Sidewalk Improvements" (Project 12205), and (3) to transfer \$435,000 from the General Fund (100) balance to the Health Insurance Fund (720).

Laura Hammett, stated that there are three budget amendments. The sales tax is coming in strong on the first item. The second item is the \$365,000 from the sales tax to project 12205. There was an increase in the cost of the contract. The third item is the \$435,000 from the general fund to the Health insurance fund. She stated that she needed to amend the amount to \$105,000.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if the \$435,000 needed to be a different number.

Laura Hammett, stated \$105,000. The amount needed to be reduced due to an error. She overstated the cost of the Health Insurance Fund and an amendment will need to be made due to the error in the amounts. The Health insurance fund amount is \$105,000 not \$435,000. This is the balance of the health insurance to finish out the year. Councilman Wells, asked what is the total cost for the year

Laura Hammett, stated around \$2.6 million for city employees and about \$190,000 for retirees. No Public comment

2. An Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) by Brooke Chambers (applicant) and Charles Carr (Owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 814 Hoover St., per survey by Richmond W. Krebs & Associates, LLC, dated 4/20/2022; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-04-00103)

**Robert Morgan**, stated that Ms. Chambers was seeking an expanded conditional use for the placement of a mobile home and it is adjacent to a mobile home area. Planning and Zoning unanimously approved with conditions that it remain only for Ms. Chambers use, meet the requirement of the UDC and that the survey is signed and recorded. **Councilman Wells**, asked what district this was in.

Robert Morgan, stated it was district one.

**Councilman Wells,** asked if there was any way to get a better system so that a person will not purchase anything until they know what they can do.

**Robert Morgan** stated he did not speak to Ms. Chambers and he is not sure who she spoke with when she came into the office, but he is sure they told her that information, that's what their rules are. **No Public Comment** 

3. An ordinance to adopt and establish a tax on all the taxable property within the corporate limits of Hammond for the Year 2022. (Laura Hammett)

Public Works:2.00 MillsGeneral Alimony:9.04 MillsPolice & Fire:10.00 MillsTotal21.04 Mills

Laura Hammett- stated that this was the annual millage renewal for property tax 2022 and they do it in the spring to go into effect in the fall of the current year. There is no change to the mills, General Alimony of 9.04 Mills is established by the State Constitution, Public Works Mills is 2.00 which is voter approved and is a ten year tax that expires in 2025 and Police and Fire is 10.00 Mills is voter approved and will expire in 2030.

Councilman Wells, asked, if this go on for years why come up before council every year.

**Laura Hammett**, It's established by the constitution that they have to come up every year and have the council approve the mills and they she sends it to Brady Sledge at the parish.

Councilman Wells, asked if it could be changed

Laura Hammett, answered no sir, she doesn't interpret it that way and it was established by the constitution and the voters.

No Public Comment



### HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA June 14, 2022 6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

### I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews

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

### **III. PRAYER: Council President Kip Andrews**

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

### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of the May 24, 2022 meetings

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the minutes of May 24, 2022,

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

### VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction to an Ordinance to approve an amendment to the Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, and Board of Adjustment's meeting day to allow for a process that expedites applications to the City Council. (TA-2022-05-00026)

**Robert Morgan** stated that this is a change to the meeting day for the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustments to help to help the customer work through the planning and council process faster. He stated that currently the council has a deadline on Thursday at 4:00 p. m for items to add to the agenda and the planning board meets that same day at 5:00 p.m. Therefore any outcomes of that meeting have to wait until the next meeting and this doesn't allow the planning staff enough time to prepare packets for the upcoming council meeting. With this change the Planning & Zoning work session will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month and the Board of Adjustment will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. He further stated the commission was unanimously in favor of the change. **Council President Andrews**, Asked if the board was having a problem with producing the information that is needed. He stated that he has allowed whatever they discussed in the Thursday meeting to be placed on the agenda.

**Robert Morgan** stated, it has more to do with the documentation that the planning and zoning department has to do to get all the packets together to approach the council.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated that she thinks that make sense, if we had a contentious issue and needed time to review minutes or recordings, it would give more time.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated he did not like the word expedite, but he understands what he is talking about regarding the meeting on a Thursday and council meeting turn ins are on Thursday. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, agrees with Councilman DiVittorio and suggest that the word expedite be changed. In the introduction we can fix the wording, to allow for the process to meet the timeline set forth by the council or something like that.

Robert Morgan, stated that they would make the adjustment

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, state if Robert sent that proposed change to him he would take a look at it

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to Introduce an Ordinance to approve an amendment to the Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, and Board of Adjustment's meeting day to allow for a process that expedites applications to the City Council. (TA-2022-05-00026)** 

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

### Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday June 28, 2022 at 5:30pm

2. Introduction to an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Vince Roubique (owner) and Andrew Faller (applicant) to rezone Lot 5A1-B from I-L and C-H to I-L, located at 206 Tower Drive, per survey by Andrew Faller, PLS, dated 4/27/2022; Zoned C-H and I-L. (Z-2022-04-00109)

**Robert Morgan**, stated that this Tower Drive asking to do a re-subdivision and rezoning and the lines of the parcel is being re-drawn for lots 5A1-B, the zoning is being changed from light industrial to commercial highway to only light industrial. Everything around it is zoned in a similar way and the parcel along the highway will remains as the same zoning as commercial highway. The Planning and Zoning commission vote unanimously on June 2 in favor of the rezoning.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to Introduce an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Vince Roubique (owner) and Andrew Faller (applicant) to rezone Lot 5A1-B from I-L and C-H to I-L, located at 206 Tower Drive, per survey by Andrew Faller, PLS, dated 4/27/2022; Zoned C-H and I-L. (Z-2022-04-00109)

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

### Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday June 28, 2022 at 5:30pm

3. Introduction to an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Meshach F. Samuel (owner) to rezone a 0.313 acres of land from RS-3 to C-N, located at 1102 N Cherry St. per survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 2/8/2022; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-04-00107)

**Robert Morgan**, stated that Mr. Samuels is requesting to rezone the lot to be used for a car lot. He stated that the request goes against the future land use map and the property is surrounded by residential. Rezoning it would be considered a spot zoning and for that reason the zoning commission voted unanimously on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June to deny recommending of this zoning.

**Meshach Samuel**, stated when he bought the property it was destroyed and he cleaned up the property. He stated that the neighbors helped him and that the property was going to be better, clean and lit. He stated that the property would be fenced with three gates with lights and cameras. The property will be well kept.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated that this property is located inside of his district and he spoke with Mr. Samuels on last Friday. However, some of the neighbors are against this being in their neighbor and he asked Mr. Samuels if he spoke with all of the neighbors.

**Meshach Samuel**, stated that the neighbors came out to help him clean up the property, they all know about it. **Councilman Andrews**, stated that he wanted to make a motion to table. He asked City Attorney Coudrain, if he could remove this item until he have clear confirmation from all of the neighbors surrounding this lot. **Andre Coudrain**, stated that he could move to table this.

**Councilman Andrews,** stated that he makes a motion to table the item until he get more information from all of the surrounding neighbors.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to table the Introduction to an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Meshach F. Samuel (owner) to rezone a 0.313 acres of land from RS-3 to C-N, located at 1102 N Cherry St. per survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 2/8/2022;** Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-04-00107).

### VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion to table approved 5-0

4. Introduction of an ordinance to create a special fund designated as the Hammond Housing Trust Fund to create homeownership and neighborhood stability. (Council President Andrews)

**Councilman Andrews,** stated that he was approached by one of the people that have been working with the housing program that Councilman DiVittorio set in place. He stated he placed this on the agenda so that they could start having a conversation, there is no request for money and he thinks it will be something good for the city.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he agrees and he thinks it has some good points in the ordinance but he will get with Andre this upcoming week to go over, see what kind of change is need or possibly modify.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked if this was modeled after any other cities.

Andre Coudrain, stated he was told it came from New Orleans, and modified a few times to make it more applicable to Hammond.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** suggested that they figure out what it's modeled after and the kinds of successes it had. She would like to make sure of what they are doing make sense for Hammond. **Andre Coudrain**, stated that the ordinance does not appropriate money, it's a vehicle to receive an appropriation.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated that he agreed with Councilwoman Gonzales and he hasn't had enough time or information. He would like to get more information and if he receive information, he would send it over to the council.

Councilman Wells, asked who is going to be over the program.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated it's mentioned in the document to hire someone part-time to oversee the program. His goal was to get it out and on the table to start having some discussion and research about it. Any modification can be done, but he wanted to get a conversation started.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated he will get with Renee who has been spearheading this ordinance to introduce, as well as with Andre Coudrain to discuss and try and get some answers.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** state that they need to have the housing committee look at it and what they think. Suggest that we introduce this on the first or second meeting in July and that give plenty of time to get questions answered.

**Councilman Andrews,** stated that he just wanted to get it out to start having discussion, so this item can be tabled until the first meeting in July and that will give everyone time to look over. He made a motion to table this item until July 12, 2022 meeting.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to table Introduction of an ordinance to create a special fund designated as the Hammond Housing Trust Fund to create homeownership and neighborhood stability to July 12, 2022 meeting.** 

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

### VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to amend the FY2022 budget: (1) to add \$2.5 million in sales tax revenue, (2) to transfer \$365,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "FY22 Drainage and Sidewalk Improvements" (Project 12205), and (3) to transfer \$435,000 from the General Fund (100) balance to the Health Insurance Fund (720). (Laura Hammett)

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to amend this ordinance to correct the amount of item (3) the transfer from the General Fund to the Health Insurance Fund to be \$105,000

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

Laura Hammett, stated the budget amendment to the sales tax continues to come in strong and is at \$2.5 million and she stated that we should end the year with \$20 million in sales tax and (2) is for the FY 2022 Drainage and Sidewalk improvements of \$365,000 from the sales tax fund (203) to (Project 12205) and (3) general fund moving to Health Insurance Fund in the amount of \$105,000.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve as amended an ordinance to amend the FY2022 budget: (1) to add \$2.5 million in sales tax revenue, (2) to transfer \$365,000 from the Sales Tax Fund (203) balance to "FY22 Drainage and Sidewalk Improvements" (Project 12205), and (3) to transfer \$105,000 from the General Fund (100) balance to the Health Insurance Fund (720).** 

### VOTE: Councilman 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 grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) by Brooke Chambers (applicant) and Charles Carr (Owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 814 Hoover St., per survey by Richmond W. Krebs & Associates, LLC, dated 4/20/2022; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-04-00103)

**Robert Morgan,** Ms. Chambers request an Expanded Conditional Use to place a mobile home at 814 Hoover St., the property is adjacent to a proposed mobile area and with the condition that it remain only for Ms. Chambers use, meet the requirement of the UDC and that the survey is signed and recorded. **Ms. Chambers**, applicant, 170308 E. Hoover Street, was present

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the adoption of an Ordinance to grant an Expanded Conditional Use (ECU) by Brooke Chambers (applicant) and Charles Carr (Owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 814 Hoover St., per survey by Richmond W. Krebs & Associates, LLC, dated 4/20/2022; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-04-00103) with the condition that it remain only for Ms. Chambers use, meet the requirement of the UDC and that the survey is signed and recorded.** 

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

3. Final adoption of an ordinance to adopt and establish a tax on all the taxable property within the corporate limits of Hammond for the Year 2022. (Laura Hammett)

	ne i cai 2022.
Public Works:	2.00 Mills
General Alimony:	9.04 Mills
Police & Fire:	10.00 Mills
Total	21.04 Mills

**Laura Hammett**, stated they were seeking public input and council approve of the ordinance for FY 2022, this is an annual requirement it is done in the spring for the fall when the tax rolls began rolling out. There is no change to the mills. General Alimony of 9.04 Mills is established by the State Constitution, Public Works Mills is 2.00 which is voter approved and is a ten year tax that expires in 2025 and Police and Fire is 10.00 Mills is voter approved and is a ten year tax that expires in 2025 and Police and Fire is 10.00 Mills is voter approved and is a ten year tax and will expire in 2030.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> approve an ordinance to adopt and establish a tax on all the taxable property within the corporate limits of Hammond for the Year 2022.

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

### **IX. RESOLUTIONS:**

1. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for the purchase of dash cameras for the Hammond City Police Department in the amount of \$106,823.19. **Marcus McMillian**, stated he would like to table this item because the quote has expired and he will present it at the next council meeting.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to table a resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for the purchase of dash cameras for the Hammond City Police Department in the amount of \$106,823.19.

### VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion to table approved 5-0

2. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Peregrine Corporation for Utility Billing Services in the approximate annual amount of \$48,000.00.

Jana Soileau, stated that the current contract was about to end so the put a rebid out and they received two proposals. One was from the current service provider Peregrine Corporation. They were the lowest bidder and she is asking the council to approve so they can move forward with the contract.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked what they do and if they were the ones that mailed the bills.

Jana Soileau, stated that they mailed and stuffed and sends out the bill and most of the cost comes from the postage. She stated that their services is a total of \$8484.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if this was utility billing.

Jana Soileau, stated that it was utility billing for water bills. She stated that we been outsourcing.

Councilman Wells, asked how much was it last year.

Jana Soileau, stated it went up \$500 and last year they charged \$7980 for their service and they charge us the current postal rate.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** asked if the water bills were delayed or sent out late. He asked the Mayor. **Mayor**, stated that he hadn't heard any complaints.

**Denise Palmer**, 40532 Robertson Rd, asked who generated the utility bills and why are we paying someone to mail them out. She stated that she asked because it all can be done at the city.

Jana Soileau, stated that we are not printing, it is a file that is generated over the computer and sent.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that it's something that can be looked into. He stated that he has been hearing a lot about the water department and information that should appear on the water bill.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Peregrine Corporation for Utility Billing Services in the approximate annual amount of \$48,000.00.

### VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Councilman Wells (Abstain) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y) Councilman Leon (Y) Motion Approved 4-1

3. A resolution to authorize the Downtown Development District to serve alcohol during the Picnic in the Park events, held on the following Fridays – July 1, 2022, September 9, 2022, October 7, 2022, November 4, 2022 -- each from 5:00pm-8:30pm. Alcohol will be served on the 100 block of W. Charles St.

**Chelsea Tallo Little,** stated that the Picnic in the Park event, started out of Covid and it's free music in the park and they invite people to come out and listen to music in Cate Square Park. Alcohol will be sold in the parking lot of 113 and it helps to cover some of the cost. Several cities have this and it's a great event to have. **Councilman Wells**, asked about serving alcohol at 113.

**Chelsea Tallo Little**, stated they do not sell alcohol in the park, they do it in the parking lot or on the street and they will set up a truck in the 113 parking lot or take up a few parking spots on Charles Street.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to authorize the Downtown Development District to serve alcohol during the Picnic in the Park events, held on the following Fridays – July 1, 2022, September 9, 2022, October 7, 2022, November 4, 2022 -- each from 5:00pm-8:30pm. Alcohol will be served on the 100 block of W. Charles St** 

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

4. A resolution to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to the Downtown Development District during the Picnic in the Park events, held on the following Fridays -- July 1, 2022, September 9, 2022, October 7, 2022, November 4, 2022 -- -- each from 5:00pm-8:30prn. The event boundaries are W. Charles St., N. Magnolia St., W. Robert St. and N. Oak St.

Chelsea Tallo Little, stated that this was the same event as the last but a different resolution.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to the Downtown Development District during the Picnic in the Park events, held on the following Fridays -- July 1, 2022, September 9, 2022, October 7, 2022, November 4, 2022 -- -- each from 5:00pm-8:30prn. The event boundaries are W. Charles St., N. Magnolia St., W. Robert St. and N. Oak St.** 

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

5. A resolution to authorize the Downtown Development District and its approved merchants to serve alcohol during the events -- Hot August Night, held on Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and Starry November Night, held on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – each from 5:30pm-10:00pm. These events are held within the boundaries of E. and W. Charles St., N. and S. Cherry St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Pine St. (Chelsea Tallo Little)

**Chelsea Tallo Little,** stated she partnered the events together because they are within the same boundaries and times and these are the boundaries of the open container law. She stated that usually everything that the Downtown Development District does is along the tracks of those parking lots. They do the resolutions for the merchants that participates and everyone walking around.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Downtown Development District and its approved merchants to serve alcohol during the events -- Hot August Night, held on Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and Starry November Night, held on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – each from 5:30pm-10:00pm. These events are held within the boundaries of E. and W. Charles St., N. and S. Cherry St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Pine St.** 

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

6. A resolution to grant a Waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to the Downtown Development District during the events -- Hot August Night, held on Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and Starry November Night, held on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – each from 5:30pm-10:00pm. These events are held within the boundaries of E. and W. Charles St., N. and S. Cherry St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Pine St. (Chelsea Tallo Little)

Chelsea Tallo Little, stated this was the same event as the last one.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to grant a Waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to the Downtown Development District during the events -- Hot August Night, held on Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and Starry November Night, held on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – each from 5:30pm-10:00pm. These events are held within the boundaries of E. and W. Charles St., N. and S. Cherry St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Pine St.

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

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked if the bathrooms are open to public in the DDD building and if they are currently operating.

**Chelsea Tallo Little,** answered yes and stated the DDD opens the restrooms during their operating hours and events. Stated that they are not open on Saturdays because the DDD offices are not open on Saturday. They will work with the city to figure out.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated to the Mayor that was something they need to work out with the city to see how they can get the restrooms open on the weekend.

7. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Maintenance Agreement including Mowing and Litter Pickup for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023 between Hammond and the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development, Office of Engineering. (Lacy Landrum)

Whitney Statham, stated this is the resolution authorizing the annual mowing contract for the (DOTD), Department of Transportation and Development and for the city to get reimbursed for cutting state highways. Councilman DiVittorio, stated he brought it up to Lacy last year about getting an adjustment because the cut more. He asked if they looked into adjusting the price.

Whitney Statham stated, yes but they DOTD did not agree.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he brought it up several times and he asked, how many times we are cutting the grass.

Whitney Statham, stated they cut it as needed.

**Councilman Wells**, stated we are cutting as needed but he is unable to get the grass cut in District 3. He stated we keep wasting man hours and he can't get anything cut in District 3. He stated that he is still dealing with limbs and high grass in District 3. He's not getting the grass or limbs cut in District 3.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if Whitney is to cut the limbs or Robert Williams. He stated that he had a call come in about limbs in his area hitting buses and RV's and he did not think that Whitney deals with the tree limbs, just the grass.

Mayor stated for the most part unless the limbs are small.

Jacquelyn Taylor, 809 S. Chestnut St, stated she needs the debris and canal cleaned and people aren't doing their jobs.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, state that she and Ms. Taylor spoke back in April and sent emails to the streets department and the Director or Administration. She proceed to explain the ditch and who's responsible for cleaning and removing trash and blockages.

**Mayor** stated, he spoke to Kylie Bates and before Hurricane Ida they finished 90% of the ditches throughout the parish and they went thru with a marsh boggy and cut up the trees. After Hurricane Ida they got federal money and they cleaned the ditches, they do the parish and they have gotten to some of our ditches.

**Councilman Wells**, told Ms. Jacqueline when she speak to someone at the city to get their name and truck number.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Maintenance Agreement including Mowing and Litter Pickup for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023 between Hammond and the State of Louisiana, Department of Transportation and Development, Office of Engineering.** 

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

8. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 500 E. Robinson St, (100% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Felix & Inez Charles, PO Box 546, Hammond, LA 70401. Eric Charles 5255 Dickens Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70812, Eric Charles, 6147 Buttonwood Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70812, Eric Charles, 913 Martin Luther King Ave, Hammond, LA 70401, James Raymond Charles, 2511 Wedglea Dr, APT 509, Dallas, TX 75357, James Raymond Charles, PO Box 570246, Dallas, TX 75357, James Raymond Charles, 2519 John West Rd, APT 509, Dallas Texas 75211, Erika Charles Oguanobi, 3047 Viburnum Dr.,Wylie, TX 75098, Erika Charles Oguanobi, 2601 Gentilly Blvd, New Orleans, LA70122, Nishawn Leneigh Stovall, 1820 Carolyn Sue Dr., APT E, Baton Rouge., Nishawn Leneigh Stovall, 155 Marily Dr, APT 52C, Baton Rouge LA 70815.

Councilman Wells, leaves the meeting

Bobby Mitchell, 500 E Robinson St, 100% damaged his recommendation is to demolish.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 500 E. Robinson St, (100% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Felix & Inez Charles, PO Box 546, Hammond, LA 70401.

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

9. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 502 E. Robinson St, (94% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Felix & Inez Charles, PO Box 546, Hammond, LA 70401. Eric Charles 5255 Dickens Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70812, Eric Charles, 6147 Buttonwood Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70812, Eric Charles, 913 Martin Luther King Ave, Hammond, LA 70401, James Raymond Charles, 2511 Wedglea Dr, APT 509, Dallas, TX 75357, James Raymond Charles, PO Box 570246, Dallas, TX 75357, James Raymond Charles, 2519 John West Rd, APT 509, Dallas Texas 75211, Erika Charles Oguanobi, 3047 Viburnum Dr.,Wylie, TX 75098, Erika Charles Oguanobi, 2601 Gentilly Blvd, New Orleans, LA70122, Nishawn Leneigh Stovall, 1820 Carolyn Sue Dr., APT E, Baton Rouge, Nishawn Leneigh Stovall, 155 Marily Dr, APT 52C, Baton Rouge LA 70815. (Bobby Mitchell)

Bobby Mitchell, stated 502 E. Robinson St., 94% damage, recommendation is to demolish.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Andrews</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 502 E. Robinson St, (94% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Felix & Inez Charles, PO Box 546, Hammond, LA 70401. Councilman Wells Returns to meeting** 

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

10. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 504 E. Robinson St, (91% damaged), located in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Lillie Weatherby, 8426 205<sup>th</sup> Court, Spanaway, WA 98387. (Bobby Mitchell)

Bobby Mitchell, 504 E. Robinson St, 91% damage, recommendation is to demolish.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 504 E. Robinson St, (91% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Lillie Weatherby, 8426 205<sup>th</sup> Court, Spanaway, WA 98387.

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

**Councilman DiVittorio,** asked Mr. Mitchell about a property on Anderson St. **Bobby Mitchell**, stated that it was on the radar and they need to locate owners and will be submitting it to the council.

**Councilman Wells,** asked about a property on White Street, a green and yellow house has been on the list since 2014.

**Bobby Mitchell**, stated that they can go ahead a bypass a resubmittal to council and do an advertisement for bids, stated hopefully that property will be gone in about another month.

11. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 1012 E. Morris Ave. (88 % damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Al J. Alack & Barbara S. Alack, 47593 Monticello Dr, Hammond, LA 70403

**Bobby Mitchell,** stated 1012 E. Morris Ave, 88% damage, recommendation is to demolish. He has had several visits from the owner.

**Councilman Wells,** asked Bobby Mitchell how long this has been on the list. **Bobby Mitchell,** stated that he wasn't sure, but most of these have been on the list for about three years and they were doing progressive monitoring of them.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 1012 E. Morris Ave. (88 % damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Al J. Alack & Barbara S. Alack, 47593 Monticello Dr. Hammond, LA 70403.

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

12. A resolution authorizing the demolition of property located at 1015 E. Merry Ave. (84% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Umbrella Solution, LLC, 4956 Lonely Oak Dr. New Orleans, LA 70126, (Bobby Mitchell)

**Bobby Mitchell**, stated 1015 E. Merry 84% damage, recommendation is to demolish. He stated that the owner had started renovations and stopped and so it has deteriorated.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> authorizing the demolition of a property located at 1015 E. Merry Ave. (84% damaged), locate in Council District 1. The owner Estate of Umbrella Solution, LLC, 4956 Lonely Oak Dr. New Orleans, LA 70126.

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

**Councilman Andrews**, asked Bobby Mitchell in the next couple of days, could he give him a follow-up on the property next to St. Paul Church.

### X. REPORTS:

### Mayor: NONE

**Council:** 

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that garbage pick-up has been inconsistent. He told the Mayor that the garbage pickup is all over the place.

Mayor, asked him to send addresses, he has been making calls regarding garbage pickup. They will call the company for missed pickups.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** asked if we get credits for them not passing. **Mayor,** stated if they hear about it they get them back out and to have them give the administration a call.

**Councilman Wells,** Juneteenth Freedom Celebration downtown Friday and Saturday from 11am to 4 pm and he asked when we can have a special meeting to talk about the Charter Review recommendation.

Councilman Andrews, stated that he would send out an email circulating the dates.

**Councilman Wells,** asked about the benches and bleachers from the buses for the park and they still doesn't have them in the park. On Spruce Street, she had a lot of debris from the storm and a city worker told her she had to pay for it. She has it out by the ditch

**Mayor,** stated there are still federal dollars out there and they can call up the company to come and pick it up. He also stated that there was going to be two more months of stump pick up.

Ms. Joyce Cox, stated that she was following up about getting the area cleaned up of 18 wheels, abandon cars and truck and grass on the sidewalk.

**Councilman Andrews**, asked about the running 18 wheelers going in and out of the neighborhoods. He's been having an issue on Campo Street and he is trying to find a way to resolve the issue before someone gets hurt.

**Councilman Wells** stated that the councilman can do an ordinance and post what streets they don't want the 18 wheelers on.

**Mayor**, asked Chief Bergeron to talk about the software that he is requesting so that they could have a social media site to be able to let people know what is going on.

**Chief Bergeron**, stated that they are working on an app which will alert people, similar to what Southeastern has to be able to geo fence in certain areas to where if they do have an incident occurring they will be able to put out the information faster. This will intertwine with the software system that they will present at the next meeting. He stated that they have multiple projects that have been in the works.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked about adding money to the budget for additional police officers.

**XI. ADJOURN** 

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to adjourn the meeting. Motion Approved 4-0 (Councilman Wells absent)

### **CERTIFICATION OF CLERK**

I LISA COCKERHAM, CLERK OF COUNCIL DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE

AND FOREGOING IS ATRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS

TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD JUNE 14, 2022

**BEING 9 PAGES IN LENGTH** 2 C

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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA June 28, 2022 5:30pm

### I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

### **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An Ordinance to approve an amendment to the Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, and Board of Adjustment's meeting day to allow for a process that meets the time line set forth by City Council for applications. (TA-2022-05-00026)

Lacy Landrum- stated that the planning and zoning commission have a work session the last Thursday of each month and their voting meeting happens a week after that which is the Thursday before the city council meeting. In order to allow for decision making time and staff to prepare correct packets and all the information to aid the decision making, what they are asking is move the Planning and Zoning and Board of Adjustment's meeting to the second Thursday of every month. The work session will be on the first Thursday of every month, the voting meeting will be on the second Thursday of every month and that will give staff time to complete the packets and get the information onto the agenda giving the city council members time to review in time for the upcoming council meeting.

There were no public comments

2. An Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Vince Roubique (owner) and Andrew Faller (applicant) to rezone Lot 5A1-B from I-L and C-H to I-L, located at 206 Tower Drive, per survey by Andrew Faller, PLS, dated 4/27/2022; Zoned C-H and I-L. (Z-2022-04-00109)

Lacy Landrum- stated that this is a two part project and the part that is coming to the council is the rezoning portion of this. The applicants have asked to re-subdivide their land for lots 5A1-B and they want to change the rezoning. It is currently zoned both light industrial and commercial highway and they would like to shift it back to light industrial. They are surrounded by other parcels that are zoned in a similar way so this meets with both the future land use plan and matches the zoning that is in that area. Mr. Faller was present for questions.

Councilman Wells enters the meeting

There were no public comments

3. An Ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in accordance with the procedures of Section 5-03 of the City's Charter.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated that the budget was introduced on May 10 and the council received their budget binders. We than had a budget work session on June 3<sup>rd</sup> on that date council spent the day discussing the budget and came up with lots of good amendments which have been added onto the spreadsheet that was shared with the city council and was linked online. There were a few extra amendments that came up either through discussions or through the last council meeting. There were four requests and those have been added to the top. She also stated that she received a budget number for asphalt overlay for Tina Drive which was \$40,000. The council has the most current sheet that shows an updated running balance and the overall total decrease end fund balance if you passed everything on the sheet. You would be spending an additional \$878,793. You would still have a general fund

balance of \$540,430 and a sales tax fund balance of \$6,762,197.00, if everything is approved. What is the best procedure? It is to probably go through the budget items, take them in groups or individually it is up to the council. She stated that we do need to vote on each of these before a final vote is cast on the budget itself. If there are any changes or additions that need to be changed in the budget the public hearing time now is the time to discuss those. Then we can go through the vote later in the meeting when we approve the budget.

Council President Andrews- stated that we would start at the top with the new capital projects.

1. **New Capital Projects**- Move up Blackburn (W Church-Pecan) sidewalks and split into two phases (\$85k for FY2023 and \$85k for FY2024)

**Councilman DiVittorio-** stated that this was his district and it borderlines Councilwoman's Gonzales's district, it's split into two phases and he had some concerns about the residents in the area and the road is pretty busy. He recommended that be done in two phases.

2. New Capital Project- Add 25k to Jackson Park to bring total for FY2023 to \$50K for lighting improvements.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that Jackson Park was very dark at night and there are no lights and there's a walking trail and some of the people don't feel safe walking. He thought that would be a good idea with all the improvements coming to the park, more lighting and cameras will make it safer for the people using the park.
3. New Capital Project- Add \$40k to asphalt overlay Tina Drive

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated the asphalt on Tina Dr. is pretty rough and he gets call from the residents about patching the road consistently.

Councilman Leon, asked Councilman DiVittorio if he asked Joey Mayeaux.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated yes he did, and he said it could happen in three or four years. He stated that this was the worst section. He stated that he notified him a while back. He stated that he reached out to him first and that's why he's here.

**Councilman Leon**- stated that he hates to deviate from that process because we all have streets that need an overlay on. He asked how long the street was.

Councilman DiVittorio, answered it's not long, about three hundred feet.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked how many houses are on that street.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated four doubles and about four or five lots and they are looking to put more doubles, town house and single family homes back there.

Councilman Leon, stated/asked, Joey, Councilman Mayeaux told you it can take three to four years.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated yes, it could be up to three years.

Councilman Leon, asked if he put it on the list. He stated that they just submitted their list.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he contacted everyone with the parish and so they know about it. **Councilman Wells**, stated that adding on to what Councilman Steve said, the problem is with the parish and he reached out to Mr. Wells and he said that the city used to and still can do asphalt roads. The city do have money and can do asphalt roads. Councilman Wells asked President Andrews if Mr. Wells reached out to him about the roads.

Council President Andrews, answered yes he did talk with him.

**Councilman Wells,** stated the Mayor stated in one of the City Council Meetings that if they come up with five roads the city do have the money in the budget to fix them. Councilman Wells stated that he has five roads that needed to be repaired. He stated that the city does have the money and they can start allocating some of the money to do the roads that are in bad shape. The parish doesn't necessarily have to do the asphalt roads the city can do them. We can and need to start getting the roads done. In his district they elected him to do a job and they need to start asphalting some of the roads.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated there are roads in all of their districts that need to be done and they should do a list or have a certain amount of money for each district to have their top roads done. She stated that she doesn't have a problem with the \$40,000 for this road but asked does that send a message that all the other ones doesn't need to be done. She stated that Minnesota Park is not her district but people have reached out to her because it is in such bad condition. She thinks there are other streets that need to be added to this.

**Councilman Leon**, stated that was his concerns, he gets hit with this all the time. He said he agrees and if there is money and they all should get a little bit and it doesn't look like it's just one district that's getting overlay.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he agrees but it is a shame and embarrassment to have a street that bad in the City of Hammond and to not get it fixed and he stated that if he had one as bad, he doesn't think that anyone on the council would have a problem with getting it fixed.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that the Mayor said list five streets. He asked Councilman Leon if he had his five streets.

Councilman Leon, said he does not

Lacy Landrum, stated that no one gave them list. She stated that they asked for them earlier in the year to convey those to the parish for their overlay program and the do not have a list from anyone.

**Councilman Wells,** stated to Lacy that the Mayor stated each city council person can bring up five streets, but no time frame was given. He assumed they would do it at the budget meeting.

**Mayor,** stated to Councilman Wells, that Mr. Wells the parish councilman stated that he reached out to you and Kip and he did not get an answer from either one of them.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that it was said at the council meeting the city can do the roads. He stated that if the city has the money they should not have to keep reaching out to the parish and putting it on hold.

Mayor, stated it was brought up, they gave it to Chuck Spangler and that's why this item is on the agenda.

4. New-Police- add four (4) new police officers (each \$75,265.00 with salary/benefits)

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated to add four new police officers to the police departments budget. This would be going into the budget for the patrol officers and the purpose of this is, she had a town hall meeting and they talked about crime and lots of people have said that they want more police officers and there hasn't been an increase in

police officers in over ten years and some said possible fifteen. This is increasing the number of officers, the city has grown and everyone wants more police officers. She is proposing to add four police officers to the budget. **Councilman Wells,** stated that he had an issue with it, they are talking about adding four and we have five

districts. He's left out and he knows he's not going to get one in his district.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they works off of shifts, one for each the four patrol shifts. One per twelve hour shift and there are four shifts.

**Councilman Wells,** stated he was concerned that Martin Luther King and Zemurray Parks have officers sitting in the park and his district don't have anybody in sitting in the park.

Lacy Landrum, stated that the patrol shift works on the whole city, they split up the whole city. This would be adding one to each of the patrol shifts.

Councilman Wells, asked Lacy if she could guarantee him one would sit in Mooney Park.

**Lacy Landrum,** stated no, they don't guarantee that police officer would sit anywhere. They do not sit in Zemurray twenty-four hours a day.

Councilman Wells stated that he was asking for what the other parks were receiving.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that when she present it originally it was two and four was a good number because it would be one per shift and if they want to do more that is fine. They have the number on the spreadsheet of what it would cost per officer.

Councilman Wells, stated it's not just about the safety of downtown but the City of Hammond.

1. **Capital Project-** Add sidewalks on East Church (Cherry – Chestnut)

**Councilman Andrews**, stated this was in his district and they reached out to him to have the sidewalk put in, it's in a residential area and it's to provide safety for the kids and the elderly that lives in the neighborhood.

2. **Capital Project** – Add sidewalks on Louisa West (Mary's Alley- Haskins)

Councilman Wells, stated this was in his district and safety for the kids and elderly.

3. Capital Project- Add sidewalks on Natchez (Harrell-Live Oak)

Councilman Wells, stated this is in his district and it's for the safety of the elders and kids.

4. **Capital Project** – Add a monument sign to Mooney Park

**Councilman Wells**, stated this was his district and it's about the people that help to build the community. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked about the \$100,000 and stated that at the meeting when it was discussed, Councilman Wells said something about it being a granite wall. She was curious about the cost and how that differs from a granite wall.

**Councilman Wells**, answered yes and noted that he asked for \$250,000. He stated that the \$100,000 wasn't what he asked for, so he would like for it to go back up to \$250,000. He stated that in going back through his sheets, everything people asked for they got it and he asked for \$250,000 but it showing \$100,000.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked where does the figures come from and is a wall or is it a sign.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that it is going to be a wall. He need the \$250,000 but is going to need more than that. It's just a start, to start doing a granite wall. This is just a request to get it started. He stated that he was going to reach out to private people to help fund the wall.

5. **Capital Project** –Add picnic tables and benches for Mooney Park (in land and Water Conservation Grant) **Councilman Wells,** stated that there was a bench put in the park last week and he thanked the city. He stated that he has to wait for grant money to do anything. He asked if the public had a copy of the budget document he was looking at, because they are not seeing what we are looking at.

Lacy Landrum, stated that all of this is on the website and she pulled it up on the overhead.

6. **Capital Project** -Move concrete street repair of Doctor's Drive (\$225K) to FY 2024

**Councilman Wells**, stated that was in his district and the city has been doing work on this street and it wasn't a city street. He asked the Mayor.

**Mayor,** stated that back in the day past department heads that worked for the city had done some work there, by doing that even though it was not approved by the city as a street, going to court and not know how much money would have been spent so they decided to take the road in, Doctors Blvd and fix the street as per the city attorneys advice.

**Councilman Wells**, stated the Mayor working on the street for so many years and did not want to go to court on the street and it's in his district and its \$225,000 that they wanted to use to do the street and he stated he told them no. He has several streets in the black community that have never been worked on.

**Mayor,** stated that they did not do any work on that street because it was never accepted. He stated that they were upset with them so they brought in an attorney, in years past they proved that the work was done on the street. As far as any other street, that's why we have a budget meeting, the streets that things need to be done on bring it up and put it in the budget and go forward from there.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he have proof that the city has been doing work on the street. He has proof through a public request.

7. Capital Project- Move paving of MC Moore Widening (\$296K) to FY 2024

**Councilman Andrews,** stated that this project is being done in phases. They are pushing it out to get everything done. They will have to dig out the ditches and put down pipes for drainage and also looking at trying to put a turnaround at the end of the street.

8. **Capital Project-** Add flood study funding for phases 2 and 3

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated this was to add money for the continuation of the flood study. She stated that they put the money in the budget but they still need to determine with the consultant the scope of work, the next steps and possibly incorporating more areas of the city.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that he heard Councilwoman Gonzales stated to add more money. Since Ida took place they had some flooding in District 3, he asked if District 3 was going to be a part of it.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated that she does not know the answer to that and this is just to approve the money so that they can continue discussing it with the consultant because his work was done in phases and they only

funded the first phase. The first phase was survey work and if they show their willingness to move forward by approving a budget item, then they can talk to the consultant about the boundaries, cost and their suggestions. She stated that this is budgeting and not voting on how to move forward.

Councilman Wells, stated that he want to make sure that District 3 be a part of it.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated that in looking at the map, District 3 is a part of it because of where the flood zoning is and a lot of District 3 is in a flood zone. Originally District 3 was a part of the whole study, it's in the middle of the city.

Lacy Landrum, stated that a lot of the purpose of the study was to look at the maps that had been done by FEMA many years ago and to see if the areas needed to be adjusted, such as move properties out of flood zones so that they will not be required to purchase flood insurance. It's important to be in consultation with you (council), constituents and the consultant to figure out what would be in the best interest of the constituents in protecting their property and creating affordable insurance.

9. Capital Request-Add \$100K for Levy Building repairs

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated that this is \$100k for the Levy Building, the museum on Thomas St. The city owns the building and there is water getting in and damaging the building. This is to add funds to for repairs. She stated that water was getting into the building and damaging the building. This is to add funds. There have been quotes on repairs and they were working on water proofing. This is just to put money in the budget to cover repairs. She stated that Charles said there was some grant money that could possible go to this.

**Councilman Wells** asked if this was brought up during the budget meeting and does this building belong to the city and who is in the building now.

Lacy Landrum, answered the Art Museum Center/Regional Art Center.

Councilman Wells asked are they paying any rent on the building.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated that the building was donated to the City by the Levy Family for an arts center. The family donated the building to have an Arts Center. They do not pay rent for the building.

Councilman Wells, asked, who is paying the light bill?

Lacy Landrum, stated she was not sure and she didn't know if it was the city or the Arts Center. She stated that this was about the repairs to the building the city owns.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that as a taxpayer or if he were an artist, he would like to be able to come to this building and find out who is paying the light bill and don't have to pay any rent and we are about to put \$100k and he would like to know who is paying the bills. He also asked when would he be able to receive who is paying the bills on this building.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they could look that up first thing in the morning.

10. Capital Request-Add lighting to Natchez Street (Corbin – Live Oak)

**Councilman Wells,** stated that the lights have been added on Mooney Ave, he thanked the City of Hammond and the City Councilmen. Natchez St. is another street he would like to have lights added. It is normally a troubled area and that's why he would like to add lights in the area.

11. **Capital Request** – Remove van from IT request since not available-may do vehicle allowance instead. **Lacy Landrum**, stated in the discussion we had at budget work session the van was not going to be possible during this fiscal year so the proposal was to remove it and the next item comes along with that to add vehicle allowances for the three employees in the IT Department and the third one following to decrease the vehicle gas line item if the vehicle allowances are approved.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he was the one that requested the van be removed because IT is going in different directions. It would be hard for all three of them to use one van. He made a suggestion to give them the car allowance, \$18,000, \$6,000 apiece. He stated that we are removing the vehicle they were going to receive and now they can use their own vehicle and buy their own gas.

14. **Gen Admin**- Increase the amount of potential funding to nonprofit partners from \$175,757 to \$225,000 (net increase of \$49,243)

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** stated that amount originally budgeted was what she believed was the exact dollar amount that was previously given in the last budget. As discussed in the budget meeting creating a pool of money for Grant Committee to award money to non-profits. The amount was thrown out there and she asked do they want to give more or leave it the same. This is a net increase from what it was previously.

**Councilman Wells**, stated he thinks that they all agreed on the \$225,000 and he asked if everyone turned in the names and when are they going to meet.

Lacy Landrum, stated that everyone has turned in their names and she has contacted all of the committee members and asked them about their availability. She has only heard back from two of the people so far. She stated that it is just a matter of getting the committee together to commit to a date. She also notified all of the people that have received funding in the past so that they will know the timeline. The materials have been prepared to send out to the committee and to review at the first meeting.

**Councilman Wells,** asked about those organizations that have never been partners, if they would reach out to them too. He stated that he thinks UMX has been asking for funding.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they have not reached out to anyone that has shown interest, she only reached out to those who we had previously funded, because they need to know that it could impact them when funding is available. A lot of them have been receiving funding for many years and she didn't want them to not have something happen that they were counting on in their budgets. After the new guidance is released from the committee, then they can notify anyone who is potentially seeking funding.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that we need to reach out to UMX because they helped the Downtown Development receive an award.

Lacy Landrum, stated after they have the application materials that the committee has developed and approved, then they will release all of the information to everyone at the same time to make it a fair process.

15. Gen Admin- Increase amount to city court from \$538,000 to \$569,740 (net increase of \$31,740) Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that there was an increase from city court.

Lacy Landrum, stated that it was a cost of living 5.9% and they were going to include a raise to their employees and cover some additional office expenses.

16. Gen Admin – Increase amount to marshal's office from \$400,000 to \$420,000 (net increase of \$20,000) Councilwoman Gonzales, stated this was the council following up based on the cost of living increase.

17. Building- Add \$10k to sidewalk maintenance for total of \$40,000

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he added that back in because he knows that there are a lot of sidewalk throughout the city that needs repairs. He would like to see the sidewalks fixed and safe for the public.

18. Building-Add \$50K to contract services for electrical services for total of \$60K in this line item. Councilman DiVittorio, stated that was to keep up with the lighting, for safety. People in his district are very concerned about the lights. This can relieve some of the pressure and get caught up. He thinks this would be a good idea to get an electrical contractor, get some proposals and bids.

19. Streets- Add \$10k to street sweeping for total of \$28K

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he brought this item up because he asked for some streets to be cleaned. The workers were out with shovels and he stated that when there is a parade downtown they have a street sweeper. He thanked the Mayor for suggesting they add this item. He thanked the administration and the mayor for allowing this.

20. Council- Add vehicle allowance due to clerk's use of personal vehicle.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that he suggested this item because the last secretary was receiving a car allowance and he did not think it was fair to the current secretary to not receive a car allowance. He originally said \$10K and asked how did it become \$6k

Lacy Landrum, stated that six is what they had done in the past for everybody else and that's what they were doing for IT employees as well.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that she had already spoken to the clerk and explained her position on this and that it was not appropriate. They did a salary study and took away everyone's vehicle allowance incorporating it into their salary and to add it back in now is counterproductive to the salary study.

21. Downtown Development District- Adopt budget approved by DDD board

Lacy Landrum-stated this is to adopt the budget that was approved by the Downtown Development District Board. When the proposed budget goes out, it goes out before the DDD adopts their budget and because they adopt it the June meeting as well as our budget process. The council has the same budget before them that was provided at budget work session and we just need to make a verbal amendment so that it comes into the fully adopted budget. This is what was provided during budget work session and has been approved by the DDD.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that they had talked about this in the budget work session, whether to move some of the funds that are in the sales tax ending fund balance to the emergency fund. She doesn't think we should look at the sales tax fund balance as a pot to take money from if we don't have a healthy emergency fund.

**Denise Palmer** 43502 Robertson Rd. asked if the purpose of this to show the public what was adopted in the budget meeting. She then asked are they going to accept it and vote on it and if they are going to vote on it they should make the accurate changes before you vote on it because that's legal.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she thinks the only change that was mention from her notes, was the amount to the signage of the monument wall in Mooney Park. That was originally listed at \$100K and we discussed to change it to \$250K. So we would make that change before we vote on it.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that we they would vote on each of the items separately as they have done in the past.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they could vote on them separately or together, it's up to the council to determine. Councilman Wells, stated that he would like to vote on all of them at one time.

Lacy Landrum, Stated that the entire budget is available online and has been since May 10th when it was

introduced to the council. This is what was discussed between budget work session and today. It's just some of the changes but the whole detailed budget is on the website and the accounting page and once it gets adopted it will be on the accounting page and that front page of the website.



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA June 28, 2022 6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

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

### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of the June 14, 2022 meetings

## There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to approve the minutes of June 14, 2022.

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

### VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

### Councilman DiVittorio exits the meeting

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance to approve an amendment to the Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, and Board of Adjustment's meeting day to allow for a process that expedites applications to the City Council. (TA-2022-05-00026)

### Councilman Wells exits the meeting

**Lacy Landrum**, stated as discussed in the public hearing this would change the current meeting of the Planning and Zoning and Board of Adjustments. This would allow more time for the staff to prepare packets of information to the council and allows more time for decision making. This went before the Planning Commission on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and all five unanimously approved.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> an Ordinance to approve an amendment to the Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, and Board of Adjustment's meeting day to allow for a process that expedites applications to the City Council.

### VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Absent), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 3-0

2. Final adoption of an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Vince Roubique (owner) and Andrew Faller (applicant) to rezone Lot 5A1-B from I-L and C-H to I-L, located at 206 Tower Drive, per survey by Andrew Faller, PLS, dated 4/27/2022; Zoned C-H and I-L. (Z-2022-04-00109)(Lacy Landrum)

### Councilman DiVittorio returns to meeting

### Councilman Wells returns to meeting

**Lacy Landrum,** stated this matter involves two actions, a re-subdivision, changing the lines of the parcel and second which is before the council is a rezoning. The lots are currently light industrial and commercial highway and they are switching them to only light industrial. Everything around this area is zoned in the same way. This was heard before the zoning commission on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and was unanimously recommended by all five members

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Vince Roubique (owner) and Andrew Faller (applicant) to rezone Lot 5A1-B from I-L and C-H to I-L, located at 206 Tower Drive, per survey by Andrew Faller, PLS, dated 4/27/2022;** Zoned C-H and I-L. (Z-2022-04-00109)

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

3. Final adoption of an Ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 in accordance with the procedures of Section 5-03 of the City's Charter.

Lacy Landrum, stated that we have gone through the various amendments and it is up to the council to determine if they want to group them together or individually. Each of these needs some type of vote in order to be added to the proposed budget. Then at the end we would be adopting the budget as a whole in its entirety as amended. Mayor, stated if you decided to put any money in the emergency fund.

Councilman Wells, stated to do it all as a whole.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that they may not all be in favor of everything on the list. **Lacy Landrum**, stated that the total impact to the budget is an increase of \$85,000 from the sales tax fund.

1. Move up Blackburn sidewalks (West Church - Pecan) from FY2025 and split it into two phases with \$85,000 for FY2023 and \$85,000 for FY2024 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to move up Blackburn sidewalks (West Church - Pecan) from FY2025 and split it into two phases with \$85,000 for FY2023 and \$85,000 for FY2024 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

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

2. Add \$25,000 from Sales Tax Fund balance to Jackson Park to bring the total for FY2023 to \$50,000 for lighting improvements.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to add \$25,000 from Sales Tax Fund balance to Jackson Park to bring the total for FY2023 to \$50,000 for lighting improvements.

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

3. Add \$40,000 from Sales Tax Fund balance to asphalt overlay Tina Drive.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to add \$40,000 from Sales Tax Fund balance to asphalt overlay Tina Drive.

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

4. Add four new police officer positions, one for each patrol shift, (each position costs \$75,265 with salary/benefits) for a total cost of \$301,060 added to the Patrol department budget from the General Fund balance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to add four new police officer positions, one for each patrol shift, (each position costs \$75,265 with salary/benefits) for a total cost of \$301,060 added to the Patrol department budget from the General Fund balance

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

5. Add sidewalks on East Church (Cherry - Chestnut) for \$111,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to add sidewalks on East Church (Cherry - Chestnut) for \$111,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

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

6. Add sidewalks on Louisa West (Mary's Alley - Haskins) for \$45,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to add sidewalks on Louisa West (Mary's Alley - Haskins) for \$45,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

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

7. Add sidewalks on Natchez (Harrell - Live Oak) for \$130,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to add sidewalks on Natchez (Harrell - Live Oak) for \$130,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

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

8. Add a granite monument sign/wall to Mooney Park for \$250,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to add a granite monument sign/wall to Mooney Park for \$250,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

## VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (N), Councilman Leon (N), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion Approved 3-2

9. Add picnic tables and benches for Mooney Park for \$50,000 funded by the Land & Water Conservation Grant.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> add picnic tables and benches for Mooney Park for \$50,000 funded by the Land & Water Conservation Grant.

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

10. Move back the concrete street repair of Doctor's Drive from FY2023 to FY2024 for a decrease in cost of \$225,000 within the Sales Tax Fund.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to move back the concrete street repair of Doctor's Drive from FY2023 to FY2024 for a decrease in cost of \$225,000 within the Sales Tax Fund.

## VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (N), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion Approved 4-1

11. Move back the paving of MC Moore Widening from FY2023 to FY2024 for a decrease in cost of \$296,000 within the Sales Tax Fund.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to move back the paving of MC Moore Widening from FY2023 to FY2024 for a decrease in cost of \$296,000 within the Sales Tax Fund.

## VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (N), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (abstain) Motion Approved 4-1

12. Add \$300,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance for Phases 2 and 3 of the Flood Study.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to add\_\$300,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance for Phases 2 and 3 of the Flood Study.

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

13. Add \$100,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance for Levy Building repairs.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to add \$100,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance for Levy Building repairs.

## VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (abstain) Motion Approved 4-1

14. Add \$10,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance for lighting improvements to Natchez Street (Corbin - Live Oak).

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to add \$10,000 from the Sales Tax Fund balance for lighting improvements to Natchez Street (Corbin - Live Oak).

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

- 15. Remove the van from the IT department's Capital Requests since it is not available, for a decrease in cost of \$30,000 in the Sales Tax Fund.
- 16. Add vehicle allowances due to work spread across the city for three IT department employees, for an increase of \$18,000 to the IT department budget from the General Fund balance.
- 17. Decrease the Supplies Vehicle Gas/Diesel line item in the IT department budget from \$12,500 to \$250, for a net decrease of \$12,250 in the General Fund.

### Councilwoman Gonzales suggested that they do the above three together:

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> 15)to remove the van from the IT department's Capital Requests since it is not available, for a decrease in cost of \$30,000 in the Sales Tax Fund 16) Add vehicle allowances due to work spread across the city for three IT department employees, for an increase of \$18,000 to the IT department budget from the General Fund balance 17) Decrease the Supplies - Vehicle Gas/Diesel line item in the IT department budget from \$12,500 to \$250, for a net decrease of \$12,250 in the General Fund.

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

18. Increase the amount of potential funding to nonprofit partners in the General Administration department budget from \$175,757 to \$225,000, for a net increase of \$49,243 from the General Fund balance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> Increase the amount of potential funding to nonprofit partners in the General Administration department budget from \$175,757 to \$225,000, for a net increase of \$49,243 from the General Fund balance.

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

19. Increase the amount to City Court from \$538,000 to \$569,740 in the General Administration department budget, for a net increase of \$31.740 from the General Fund balance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to increase the amount to City Court from \$538,000 to \$569,740 in the General Administration department budget, for a net increase of \$31,740 from the General Fund balance.

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

20. Increase the amount to the Marshal's Office from \$400,000 to \$420,000 in the General Administration department budget, for a net increase of \$20,000 from the General Fund balance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to increase the amount to the Marshal's Office from \$400,000 to \$420,000 in the General Administration department budget, for a net increase of \$20,000 from the General Fund balance.

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

21. Add \$10,000 to Sidewalk Maintenance in the Building department budget from the General Fund balance for a total of \$40,000 in this line item.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to add \$10,000 to Sidewalk Maintenance in the Building department budget from the General Fund balance for a total of \$40,000 in this line item.

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

22. Add \$50,000 for electrical services to Contract Services in the Building department budget from the General Fund balance for a total of \$60,000 in this line item.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to add \$50,000 for electrical services to Contract Services in the Building department budget from the General Fund balance for a total of \$60,000 in this line item.

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

### Councilman Andrews exits the meeting

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if there was a contractor that we already use or do they need to create a process.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they will have to put out an RFP for it. Anything that goes over #0K for services will need an RFP and then it will come to the council for approval for the contract.

23. Add \$10,000 to Street Sweeping in the Streets department budget from the General Fund balance for a total of \$28,000 in this line item.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to add \$10,000 to Street Sweeping in the Streets department budget from the General Fund balance for a total of \$28,000 in this line item

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

24. Add a vehicle allowance for the council clerk position due to the clerk's use of a personal vehicle for city business, for an increase of \$6,000 to the City Council department budget from the General Fund balance.

Councilman Wells, stated that they were going to wait on the president. He asked if we should go to the next one.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked, if he cared if he voted on the other one.

### **Councilman Andrews returns to meeting**

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to add a vehicle allowance for the council clerk position due to the clerk's use of a personal vehicle for city business, for an increase of \$6,000 to the City Council department budget from the General Fund balance.

## VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (N), Councilman Leon (N), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion Approved 3-2

25. Adopt the budget for the Downtown Development District as approved by the DDD board.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to adopt the budget for the Downtown Development District as approved by the DDD board.

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

26. Add \$2,000,000 to the Emergency Fund from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

Councilwoman Gonzales made a motion to move \$1,000,000 from the sales tax fund into the emergency fund 204

**Councilman DiVittorio** asked if that was enough and where the number came from and if a financial advisor can advise them.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated you can always add more, no one gave any input, so she picked a number.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated we should make it a total of \$2,000,000

Councilman Wells, asked how much was in it currently

Councilwoman Gonzales, state three million, two-hundred and eighty-four thousand.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to add \$2,000,000 to the Emergency Fund from the Sales Tax Fund balance.

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

27. Move up Lato Lane drainage improvements for \$116,000 from FY2025 to FY2024 (no impact to the FY2023 budget).

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he would like to move the drainage project up. It's the drainage behind Timberlane and Lato Lane. It's constant city maintenance to keep up and it's a job to maintain it. He asked if he needs to make the motion.

Lacy Landrum stated, no and that it was currently in Fiscal Year 2025 and the proposal, she thought was to move it to Fiscal Year 2024. She stated, to move it forward one year, there would be no impact to this current budget of Fiscal Year 2023 and that's why there are no numbers next to it and why it wasn't on the list with everything else.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that was fine and that they would move it up and look at it down the road. **Lacy Landrum**, stated that you would be moving it forward a fiscal year.

Councilman DiVittorio, answered yes

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and a second by Councilman Wells to Move up Lato Lane

drainage improvements for \$116,000 from FY2025 to FY2024 (no impact to the FY2023 budget).

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

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and a second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the budget as amended.

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

### VII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with Passman E.V.T. Sales and Service for onsite fire truck maintenance. Estimated yearly cost 30,400.00 - RFP 23-08

**Chief Daniel Folks,** stated that is for maintenance of their large apparatus. They come out and do the maintenance and reduces the downtime of the apparatus. They City Garage takes care of the smaller vehicles. **Councilwoman Gonzales exits the meeting** 

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Passman E.V.T. Sales and Service for onsite fire truck maintenance. Estimated yearly cost \$30,400.00 – RFP 23-08.** 

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

2. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with D.L. Diagle & Co., LLC to remodel the Interior Central Fire Station in the amount of \$142,000.00 RFP 22-31 (Jana Soileau)

**Chief Daniel Folks,** stated that is for remodel of Central Fire Station by Zemurray Park and last year the council approved them to change the roof on the building and this is to finish the interior.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with D.L. Diagle & Co., LLC to remodel the interior Central Fire Station in the amount of \$142,000.00. RFP 22-31

### Councilwoman Gonzales returned to the meeting

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

3. A resolution supporting the submission of a \$22,500 application to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase 15 portable radios for the Hammond Police Department.

**Charles Borcher IV**, stated that once a year they have an opportunity to apply for fund and he spoke with the chief and portable radios are a priority. He stated that fifteen radios would cost approximately \$22,500 and that is what they are asking for and would like the council's support to so that they can go ahead and submit the application. There is no match requirement.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> supporting the submission of a \$22,500 application to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase 15 portable radios for the Hammond Police Department.

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

4. A resolution supporting the submission of an application to the Apache Corporation Tree Grant Program for 150 trees for the City's annual Louisiana Arbor Day tree giveaway January 20, 2023.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated that they apply every year. It's not a dollar amount, but a number of trees. The last few years they haven't gotten their trees but are hoping that this year would be different. They typically give the trees away to the citizens at the annual tree giveaway on Arbor Day, the third Friday in January.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the giveaway and the types of trees.

Charles stated that the usually get different varieties of trees and it's based on the popularity from previous years. **Councilman Wells,** asked how many trees is he expecting.

Charles Borchers, stated one hundred and fifty.

**Councilman Wells**, asked if there was a way that he could get about twenty five in district three to give out in Mooney Park.

**Charles Borchers**, stated he can't answer that question, but if they are successful in getting the grant, he could let his constituents know when and where they can go to get the trees. They are usually given away at the maintenance center on Highway 190.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he knows that is not how it is normally done but can he get twenty-five. **Charles Borchers**, stated that shouldn't be a problem.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> supporting the submission of an application to the Apache Corporation Tree Grant Program for 150 trees for the City's annual Louisiana Arbor Day tree giveaway January 20, 2023**.

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

5. A resolution 1) accepting a \$45,000 grant from the Traffic Safety Grant Program for Impaired Driving, Occupant Protection, and Juvenile Underage Drinking Enforcement; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated he received notification of this award last week. He came to the council in April when he applied, but it will be a few months before he gets the contract in hand and when they do they want it to be executed quickly. There is no match requirement.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> 1) accepting a \$45,000 grant from the Traffic Safety Grant Program for Impaired Driving, Occupant Protection, and Juvenile Underage Drinking Enforcement; 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

6. A resolution 1) accepting a \$40,000 grant from the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program to perform an expanded sewer system evaluation survey of west Hammond (Phase 3); 2) approving a cash match of \$13,333; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated that several months back he came to the council and stated he had been contacted along with other potential applicants by the Pontchartrain Restoration Program about the availability of funds and they applied and got a portion of the funds. They reached out again to say that there were some older funds that were expiring within the next twelve months and if anyone can use them. So they submitted an application and were able to secure the funds. He stated that this was mostly in the Lincoln Park area. He stated they have a few option for the grant match fund. They have a sewer system evaluation project that have some money in it and the Arpa Funds that have been allocated to sewer.

Councilman Wells, asked that he explain this to him.

**Charles Borchers,** stated that the sewer system evaluation is the first step in identifying where your deficiencies are in your sewer system. They go in and video all the lines and they do testing to identify deficiencies like leaks, breakages and collapses and those area get targeted for rehab.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> 1) accepting a \$40,000 grant from the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program to perform an expanded sewer system evaluation survey of west Hammond (Phase 3); 2) approving a cash match of \$13,333; and 3) 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

7. A resolution 1) accepting an Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant, not to exceed \$250,000, from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the rehabilitation of Runway 18/36 at the Hammond Northshore Regional Airport and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

**David Lobue**, stated that this is phase II. In Phase I, he came before the council last year and they authorized the acceptance of a grant and a contract with an engineering firm to do a preliminary engineering review, to evaluate the surface and make a recommendation to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The FAA is leaning heavily on doing an asphalt overlay. The \$250,000 is based on an estimate from the engineer on what they think the design is going to cost, plus he added in a \$25,000 contingency. He stated that the reason he is coming before he has the grant in hand is because the FAA said he was going to get it within two to three weeks and they have an expected grant turnaround time of 24-48 hrs.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> 1) accepting an Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant, not to exceed \$250,000, from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the rehabilitation of Runway 18/36 at the Hammond Northshore Regional Airport 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

8. A resolution to approve Olde Town Hatchet House located at 112 W. Thomas St, Hammond La 70401 to obtain an alcohol permit for a restaurant. The owner is OTHH Investments, LLC. (Kasey Daigle)

**Kasey Daigle**, stated a new restaurant is coming into where Black and Blue use to be, it's Olde Town Hatchet House and the owner is Brienne Dubisson and they have done everything that was required of them. **Councilman Wells**, asked if the owner was present and asked that she comes to the front. **Brienne Dubsisson**, came forward and answered questions about ownership and passed out menus.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve Olde Town Hatchet House located at 112 W. Thomas St, Hammond La 70401 to obtain an alcohol permit for a restaurant. The owner is OTHH Investments, LLC.

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

### VIII. REPORTS:

### Mayor:

**Mayor** stated, he wanted to clarify that police officers are generally in the parks on Saturdays and Sundays and that it is dictated by Desiree who evaluates it by the crowds and reservations made for each park and then she meets with the police chief to figure out where the officers are going. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July they will be in the park and the festivities start at five and the fireworks will began at nine.

### Council:

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked Lacy Landrum about a speed bump on Rosewood Dr. He stated that he got a response to say that it's been done but that was the Southside but they also wanted one on the Northside because it's like a horseshoe and all the paperwork was done a while back. He wants to make sure it will get done. **Lacy Landrum**, stated everything the verified everything, but they though he was talking about the first one and didn't realize that the second one was there, but it's on the list.

**Councilman Wells**, thanked Whitney and her crew for planning flowers in the park and whoever put the bleacher in the park. He thanked Marcus and his crew for the cameras in the park. He also stated that there is a tree that's not serving a purpose and Whitney said the tree could be cut. He would like to see if he could get two trees cut. He stated the lights on Mooney Ave is making a difference and he thanked the administration. He also stated that the sewer work is moving along and he haven't had any complaints. He thanked Isaiah. Thanked Ivan for coming out.

**Mayor** stated Christian with Entergy called today to check on the lights and how they were functioning. If anything is wrong to let him know so that he could tell her.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that he thinks the only problem they are having is with the limbs. Some of the lights are not coming on because of the limbs.

Councilman Andrews, asked about the email about the raising of the flag.

**Lacy Landrum**, stated it's the Sunrise Rotary Club that represents Hammond and Ponchatoula at 9:00 am. There's a similar flag raising in Ponchatoula at 8:00am.

### IX. ADJOURN

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> 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 July 14, 2022

**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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA July 12, 2022 5:30pm

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

### **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Meshach F. Samuel (owner) to rezone a 0.313 acres of land from RS-3 to C-N, located at 1102 N Cherry St. per survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 2/8/2022; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-04-00107)

### Councilman Wells entered the meeting

Lacy Landrum stated, this was a parcel that is requested to be rezoned from RS-3 to full commercial C-N. All of the surrounding land is zoned residential. She stated that this was in Council District 1 and he is wanting to install a car sales lot. The things that the Planning and Zoning Commission looked at when considering the case was to go from RS-3 to commercial. She stated there may be some options in the middle and she provided those to the council. She suggested that the mixed neighborhood use might be a better fit. It allows for car retail sales, but it up to the council to determine and the best use and the feedback from the residence. She stated that the planning office hasn't heard any feedback from any residents and they do not have any opposition to this and there was no opposition at the meeting. The zoning commission recommend denial and it was five to zero. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked if the planning and zoning looked at any of the middle ground, of if they just looked at commercial?

**Kylan Douglas,** member of the Planning & Zoning Commission stated Mr. Samuels was adamant about building a car lot. He stated that in the meeting, they suggested that he change it to the MX-C. The voted on what he went with and that's why they denied it. He stated that if he went with MX-C, he would have a basis because there is a store in the area. He stated that is not the best spot for a car lot, but MX-C would help his case. He stated that he does have support from some of the adjacent neighbors.

**Councilman Wells**, asked Mr. Kylan to his knowledge, how long has Mr. Samuels had the property? **Kylan Douglas**, stated that he thought it was less than a year.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked Andre Coudrain the City Attorney, if this were to be denied, would this would prevent him from asking for one that other people thought was more appropriate zoning. **Andre Coudrain**, stated if you deny this one he can come back a different zoning.

Lacy Landrum, stated that this one would be prohibited for a year, but he can come back and change his plan.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked Councilman Andrews if he heard from the neighborhood. **Councilman Andrews** stated, Mr. Samuels came to the last meeting and had a few signatures. He stated that he know of one property owner that is close to that property does not want it in the neighborhood. Also, it was stated that there is a store in the neighborhood, but the store is a distance away from the property that we are talking about.

There were no public comments



#### HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA July 12, 2022 6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

### I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

### **III. PRAYER: Councilman Kip Andrews**

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

### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of the June 28, 2022 meetings

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the minutes of June 28, 2022.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (N) Motion Approve 4-1

### **VI. PRESENTATIONS:**

### 1. Civil Air Patrol (CAP) General Billy Mitchell Awards Presentation

Mayor Panepinto called up Mr. Jimmy Cox with the Civil Air Patrol to give us a tutorial of what they do. Jimmy Cox, gave an overview of the organization. He stated it was a civilian organization of pilots, and volunteers that work with the three phases of the organization: Cadet Program, emergency services and aerospace education program. He explained the prestigious Mitchell Award and stated only about fifteen percent of the total cadets earn this award.

Mayor Panepinto, present the Mitchell Award to Cadet Second Lieutenant Brycyln Hennanger and Dylan Barfield.

Jimmy Cox, thanked the Mayor and City Council.

### 2. CIVIX Housing Study Report

Joe Meir, Chairman of Housing Commission presented a report of the housing committee. He introduced members of CIVIX Service Lois Colston & Jared Janova who participated on Zoom. They gave a presentation to the Council and members of the public on what they have done and the next element of the study. They gave a breakdown of the three elements of the study and stated that element one is where they are.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that they did a good report and appreciates the hard work on the study.

Councilman Wells, thanked Joe Meir, the committee and Councilman DiVittorio.

Councilman Andrews, thanked the committee.

**Nana Ninemah**, 52 Whitmore Dr. she stated that her question was for the housing committee but she thanked the CIVIX representative for the presentation. She asked that they share information with the community about what their purpose and goal is.

Joe Meir, stated that he didn't think that the goals were listed on the presentation. He stated the initial direction of the project was put on by the council. Councilman DiVittorio put the housing committee together and ask that they get together to try and figure out how we could make Hammond better. The purpose is to improve the city on housing and property development.

**Louis Colston,** proceeded to highlight some of the goals such as offering programs and policies to help incentivize rehabilitating property, provide affordable housing, capitalizing on properties that can be redeveloped for housing, providing infrastructure to help connect and create safer and more attractive neighborhoods, implementing programs and policies that are going to promote homeownership.

Councilman DiVittiorio, stated that the study has a lot going on and Hammond is growing.

Nana Ninemah, stated she called and asked about the meetings because citizens are interested. She would like to know when the meeting are.

Joe Meir, stated that they haven't been meeting and their last public meeting was in April, but the clerk would have the meetings on the calendar.

### VII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

### A. OLD BUSINESS

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Meshach F. Samuel (owner) to rezone a 0.313 acres of land from RS-3 to C-N, located at 1102 N Cherry St. per survey by William J Bodin, PLS dated 2/8/2022; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-04-00107)

Lacy Landrum, stated as discussed in the public hearing the report is attached to the agenda the original request was to change zoning. She stated they had some suggestions before them for mixed neighborhood or mixed commercial neighborhood those both allow for vehicle sales. She stated that Mr. Samuel was present.

Meshach Samuel, stated that he spoke to his neighbors and passed around a petition that the neighbors signed. Councilman Wells, stated to Mr. Samuel that one of the commission members was present and that he asked him to do MX-N and they recommend that it would help him out if he used MX-C.

**Meshach Samuel** stated that it doesn't matter, it's whatever they want to do. He just want to do his business. **Councilman DiVittorio**, asked him when he purchased the property.

Meshach Samuel, state he bought it last year.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if he had intentions of putting a car lot there when he purchase it.

Meshach Samuel, stated that was the reason why he bought it.

**Kylan Douglas**, stated to Meshach Samuel to go back to planning and zoning and re-do application and he will be back on the agend in July-August and come back before the council.

Lacy Landrum, stated they did try to fix this when it came up.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that this would still be in the middle of residential.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that Lacy given them MX-N and MX-C as alternates. MX-C has more uses that are not residential. She suggested that he apply for MX-N. She also stated that the table on the UDC be updated because it is not correct.

Councilman Wells asked, if he would have to pay the fees again.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney stated one option could be that he withdraw the process and goes back in and amends his application. That would be on the same application and would not require a new permit. He can withdraw this request before the council votes, maybe to deny. Before you vote he could withdraw this and then go back to the planning office and amend it to whatever he wants to do and that would be on the same application and would not require a new permit. There is no final action taken so he can amend it to whatever he wants and then go back to planning and zoning to consider a supplemental request that would be a way to avoid him having to pay another permit fee.

Councilman Wells asked Meshach Samuel what he wanted to do.

Mayor, stated to Meshach Samuel the best thing to help his case is to withdraw his application and go back and refill it out, resign and start it over.

Andre Coudrain, asked Meshach Samuel if he wanted to withdraw his application now to C-N and go back to the permit office to request a different type of rezoning.

Meshach Samuel, he thinks that's the best thing to do and thanked everyone.

Andre Coudrain, suggested that they make a motion to table this item or take some action it. If he is withdrawing it then the Council can render the matter moot. Since he is withdrawing, this request is moot. Councilman Wells, asked if these situations can be handled better in the future.

### VIII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A resolution to reappoint Kylan Douglas to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a four-year term to end on June 14, 2026.

**Mayor Panepinto**, stated that Kylan has been on the Planning & Zoning Commission for the last four years and he thanked him for his service. He stated that he was asking the council for his reappointment. **Councilman DiVittorio**, thanked Kylan for coming and for his service.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that he wanted it to be known that Kylan designed the basketball court in Mooney Park. He thanked him and stated that it was one of the best basketball courts in the city.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales and</u> second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve the appointment of Kylan Douglas to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a four year term to end on June 14, 2026.

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

2. A resolution to appoint Craig Inman to the Board of Commissioners for the Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District #1 for a three-year term from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025.

**Mayor Panepinto**, stated that Craig lives in District 2 of Hammond, works for Shell Oil and he is asking the Council to appoint Craig to the Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District #1. Craig Inman was present to answer questions.

Councilman Wells, asked Craig Inman if he has served on a board before.

**Craig Inman**, answered no and stated that it was new, but he can add value to the board. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, thanked him for his willingness to serve.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to appoint Craig Inman to the Board of Commissioners for the Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District #1 for a three-year term from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025.** 

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

3. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with D & H Quality Construction to erect a training tower for the Hammond Fire Department in the amount of \$299,450.00 RFP 22-32

**Chief Daniel Folks,** stated this is a project that he has been wanting to accomplish since he became fire chief. He stated that they finally got a successful bidder and contractor. He is asking for permission to get started. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked Chief Folks to let the public know what this is for, how it benefits us and why it is needed.

**Chief Daniel Folks**, explained the design of the tower and its use. It is going to be a four story training facility. **Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that the chief made a comment about the rating and he asked if that would affect the insurance.

**Chief Daniel Folks**, stated that he wasn't sure. He would like to get the facility up and in use and then there is a program where they can invite a property rating inspection in and they can do an evaluation and give them an idea of where they are. He stated that the goal is to get better and they are currently a class two and that is on a scale of one to ten. One is the very best you can get. They are very close to get to the best that they can get without adding a lot of man power.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked chief about the budget amount and if it was coming from mileage.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with D & H Quality Construction to erect a training tower for the Hammond Fire Department in the amount of \$299,450.00 RFP 22-32.

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

4. A resolution updating the City's "Section 504 Evaluation & Transition Plan and Summary of Previous & New Actions Taken" to identify Human Resources Director Diana Guzman-McMahon as the City's Section 504 Coordinator.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated that this one and the next on are a name change. He stated that one of the contract requirement for some grants is that they name the person/s who is the coordinators. The Human Resource Director was Loretta before and now it's Diana.

Councilman Wells, asked Charles to explain what Section 504 is.

**Charles W. Borchers IV**, stated that Section 504 has to do with the provision of service. If you have a federal grant or receiving federal dollars you cannot discriminate in provisional service. Section 504 is intended to protect individuals with disabilities.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to updating the City's "Section 504 Evaluation & Transition Plan and Summary of Previous & New Actions Taken" to identify Human Resources Director Diana Guzman-McMahon as the City's Section 504 Coordinator.** 

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

5. A resolution updating the City's "Language Access Plan for Persons with Limited English Proficiency" to identify Human Resources Director Diana Guzman-McMahon as the City's Language Access Coordinator.

**Charles Borchers IV** stated this change is to update the name of the Human Resources Directors. This Access Plan is for persons that don't speak English well. There is an 800 number that can be called. **Lacy Landrum** stated that Diana is also fluent in Spanish.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> updating the City's "Language Access Plan for Persons with Limited English Proficiency" to identify Human Resources Director Diana Guzman-McMahon as the City's Language Access Coordinator.

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

6. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 3 year enterprise licensing agreement with ESRI in the amount of \$82,500.00.

**Marcus McMillian** stated that he would like to request that the council authorize the Mayor to enter into a three year agreement with ESRI. ESRI is the software that they are currently using for the internal and city maps so that people will be able to check parcels. This is an upgrade to make it easier and user friendly for the community and building department.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a 3 year enterprise licensing agreement with ESRI in the amount of \$82,500.00.

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

#### **IX. REPORTS:**

Mayor:

Mayor asked Chief Bergeron to come up and give a report on gang violence.

**Chief Bergeron,** stated that they have reactivated the gang unit and to date have made over 30 arrests of known gang member or associates. They are working with the district attorney's office and other agencies to bring them in and pass the information on. They have had an impact.

#### Council:

**Councilman DiVittorio,** asked about getting a proposal together for a lighting subcontractor to help with the light up keep.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she wasn't sure, but she would speak with Jana. She also stated that she checked with the electrician this morning and he gave an update that they had received a large shipment of supplies and they should be able to finish all of the light repairs within the next week or so. She stated that the only ones they are waiting on is Entergy to feed on Rue Saint Martin.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he still has Anita and about twenty or more spread out in the Villa West Subdivision. There is Roma Ave and Anita with lights completely out in the commercial area. Asked about debris pick up on Pecan.

Mayor, stated He and Robert Williams looked at that and it was on someone's property and they will need to get that picked up.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that he was getting calls about a stump on Morrison Blvd.

Mayor, stated he talked to Joe Thomas and it's a big on and they will get to it.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated ditches and drains on Azalea and Cecilia, speed bump on Rosewood Drive. **Lacy Landrum**, stated when she asked about that in the building department she wasn't sure if everyone in the immediate area that was going to be impacted by the speed bump had signed.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated they did have all the signatures and they have the copies. The signatures have already been emailed in a while back. He also stated the Rue St. Martin dumpster, he's getting calls and ask that the dumpster in the back of the building be addressed once a month. He called up Ms. Jackie that lives in his district that has a culvert issue.

**Jackie Jackson** 1205 Edwin Neil Way– stated she has been waiting on a call and never got the call so she came to the meeting to found out the protocol.

Mayor, stated that he texted Robert Williams and he doesn't know anything about it and asked for her phone number.

Councilman Wells, asked her not to give it over the mic.

**Councilman DiVittorio,** asked if the city is going to continue doing the culverts is it possible to get an average cost that can be given if someone wants a culvert.

**Mayor**, stated that Robert would get together with her and let her know what is needed and find the prices for her. **Councilman Wells**, stated on 109 George Perkins Drive, a house is being built there and they do not have a dumpster or porta can. He thinks that when you are doing construction you are required to have these things in place. He stated he reached out to Bobby several times and he said the dumpster is on delay but the debris is getting in other people yards. He asked if we could please get a dumpster out there. They are having inspection but do not have a dumpster or porta can and he would like to know what the process is. He also stated that there's still debris on Brent St off of Mississippi St. There's debris on Florida St and it came from the storm and hasn't been picked up. He thanked the city for the speed bump on Natchez St.. He asked Andre the City Attorney, what is the process for accepting private roads into the City of Hammond

Andre Coudrain, stated that the council has to pass an ordinance to do that or there would be a recorded plat of a subdivision and lots sold pursuant to that plot or the city could perform maintenance on certain roadways for a period in excess of three years. There's a few different ways for a street to be declared a public street.

**Councilman Wells**, stated last week at the last city council meeting the Mayor called him a lying councilman and he wants to put it on the public record, that the public record request showed some of the work and repairs done on Doctor Blvd, a private rode and public taxpayer money was used to do the work on a private road under the administration. He stated that he has the dates and when the repairs were done. He made copies to pass out. He further state that he came to Andre's office and he stated that in order for the road to be accepted by the city it had to come before the council.

Andre Coudrain, stated that he did not want to debate that with him. He stated that this was an issue that he researched very carefully and what happened many years ago when the development was built was they believed that there was a document that never got signed and recorded by the City and everything was in place to get it done. He stated that he believed that the people that were in the city department at the time, many years ago which predates this administration, they just didn't follow through. He stated his initial response was since there was not an ordinance passed by the council, they would not consider that to be a public street unless there was more

information provided. He stated that after a detailed exhaustive review of all the work orders and property matters that were filed in public records in his own research, he concluded that a judge if pressed in court would likely find that this was a public street and so his advice to the Mayor was to consider that to be a public street. It's Doctor's Blvd and there are healthcare professionals and people from the public that use that road lots of times and it was a road that came into disrepair. That was a call that was made based upon what he believe to be a likely result in litigation if that would ensue against the city.

Councilman Wells, asked when it became a public street.

Andre Coudrain, stated to Councilman Wells that he would be happy to speak with him about this in private, he doesn't have a date prepared and he wasn't asked to give this information previously and he is not prepared to do this today and he doesn't have the file with him. He stated he would be happy to sit down with him as he has done and he copied him on a letter that he sent on this issue. He doesn't think it's appropriate in a public meeting. Councilman Wells, stated that work has been done on this private street and he believes that he and the lawyer brought it to his attention. He is sure that it became a city street and it wasn't up to the city specifications. He stated that in his community he has three streets that he know that the city will not work on because it's not brought up to city specifications. He stated that this doesn't have anything to do with him, but he was called a liar and he did not appreciate it. He further stated that we get a street accepted into the city limits in 2022. He's looking at on the record, he was getting ready to repair the street which is in his district for \$225,000 and it's not fair. He stated that he did a public records request showing all the work that has been done on the street and who did it. He stated he wanted to provide a copy to the council, administration and the Daily Star and he asked that all of this be put in the records. He stated that he was not going to sit and tell lies about what was done in his community which is District 3. When they are looking to get something done the first thing said is that is a private street and for the record it shows with the paperwork that he has highlighted that he is not a liar.

Andre Coudrain, stated that he wanted to address a comment that Councilman Wells made and he believes that there is a letter in the file from the then streets superintendent which said that those streets were built in accordance with city specifications. He thinks that everything was in place and what happened was there was no follow-up to actually go through. There was council approval for the development. He stated he did not want to get into details but it was a very complex issue. He stated that he agrees with the councilman that it is a very frustrating process for all the people involved and once all the information was obtained and research done it was concluded that the city should consider this a public street.

**Councilman Wells,** asked Andre the City Attorney if he told a lie about the city doing work on the street. **Andre Coudrain**, stated to Councilman Wells, what he presented is accurate in terms of the record of maintenance by the city.

**Councilman Leon**, stated he had a few things to follow-up on, streetlights and abandoned homes from Hurricane Ida and grass cutting. He has had several that he worked with Robert on and knows that he is gone - he will send a list of them to Lacy. He stated that he has gotten a lot of calls in the last few weeks and he needs a follow up of some of the items.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that Robert Morgan was always able to get things addressed. He asked who do he contact, who is in his positon or does he direct request to Lacy. He did a top notch job.

Lacy Landrum, answered that it was fine if he emailed it to her, but if it's code enforcement to copy Bobby Mitchell, for construction items, Pete Lintini, the deputy building official. They are processing things as quickly as they can.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if she was going to follow-up regarding the speed bump.

Councilman Wells, asked if Bobby Mitchell was standing in Robert Morgan's place.

Mayor, answered not and stated Peter Lintini and they brought him in from the state fire marshal and he just passed his test.

Councilman Wells, asked how many people applied for the job.

Lacy Landrum, stated that one person has applied so far. It's on the website and no decisions have been made about personnel as of yet.

Councilman Wells, stated that it sounds like they already know who they are going to hire.

Mayor, stated that they sent him to school and he did pass the test so he is qualified applicant.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked if this was a council approved position or not, is it a department hear where the council has to approve it or not.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she does not think it's in the charter but she will have to review and check but they are not ever close to that point.

**Councilman Andrews,** asked about the charter review meeting, they need to set a date. Send out an email and include the Charter Review Committee.

Councilman Wells, asked about the non-profits and when they are going to meet.

Lacy Landrum stated that they have tried to call a meeting with a date that the five people can agree on. They have all the material ready and what they could do is go ahead and give it out to the non-profits and have the committee focus on making the decision about the funding and where it goes.

**Councilman Andrews**, asked about the retention pay and stated that they received an email about this and he was under the impression that they were waiting on some type of guidance and how to move forward. He stated he did speak with Andre, city attorney and he provided some information and suggestions.

Andre Coudrain, stated the discussion was the problem with it being just a bonus payment for past services and his concern was that it needs to be for future performance because there is a problem with retroactive pay. He referenced a recent Louisiana Attorney General Opinion dealing with New Orleans that had a retention type program. He concluded that you can make a payment to employees to retain them but there has got to be some period of time at which they have to work after the council adopt that policy. He stated that he thinks six month is probably about as short a period of time as you can have for that policy.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if he was saying that this would be from the time they passed it, the employee would have to work six months before they earn it for future work. You are paying them for future work.

Andre Coudrain, answered yes but then the question becomes, what about someone who is hired within the six month period. There's lot of questions that goes with that matter.

Lacy Landrum, stated the challenge that they had extensive discussion that they did not have parameters for this. She stated that it was up to the council if they wished to pursue the matter.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that when they voted they separated the pay increase from the retention payment and she made the motion to change it and they just voted on the pay increase and did not vote on retention. She stated that she did not review the video, but she think it was that they would present them with an option. **Lacy Landrum** stated that she did not know if it was to present them with an option because they had no boundaries.

**Mayor** stated that he thinks it's commendable that they have given a raise and increase. He stated that most of the people are happy, not everyone but the majority of the workers are happy.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated there needs to be some clear guidance because people are confused as to what they have done and what they were going to do and who was supposed to be giving them what. She stated it was always clear to her that a retention payment was not passed but she don't think it was clear to the employees and if they want to do that it needs to be voted on and clearly presented.

**Nana Minemah**, 52 Whitmore Dr., suggested they pick three things or options, parameters regarding retention payment to city employee. She thinks it's a great thing they are trying to do.

### X. ADJOURN

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> 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 July 12, 2022

BEING 7 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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA July 26, 2022 5:30pm

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

**III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE** 



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA July 26, 2022 6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

### III. PRAYER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

# V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of the July 14, 2022 meetings

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the minutes of July 12, 2022.

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

### **VI. RESOLUTIONS:**

1. A resolution to approve Sav A Lot located at 113 N. Morrison Blvd. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Main's Hammond, LLC. (Kasey Daigle)

Kasey Daigle, stated that this was an existing business with a change of ownership all the information was submitted and in order.

### Councilman Wells enters the meeting

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales and</u> second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve Sav A Lot located at 113 N. Morrison Blvd. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Main's Hammond, LLC.

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

2. A resolution supporting the submission of a \$19,965 application to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase portable radios and accessories for the Hammond Police Department. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers,** stated this was for a Federal Justice Assistance Grant, the \$19,965 is an annual allocation for FY22. He stated, in speaking with the police department between the two grants, the state and federal they should be able complete the purchase of radios for all patrol officers. They should be able to purchase about twelve radios and anything left over will be used for items such as batteries and shoulder straps.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales and</u> second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve a resolution supporting the submission of a \$19,965 application to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase portable radios and accessories for the Hammond Police Department.

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

3. A resolution to purchase Dash Camera's for the Hammond Police Department in the amount of \$125,850.00 State Contract 4400011240. (Marcus McMillian)

**Marcus McMillian** stated he came before the council before in reference to purchasing Axion body cameras. He stated a lot of the old cameras are going down and they would like to move the project forward and outfit the older units with cameras.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if this included the subscription for software and if there was a term on it. **Marcus McMillian**, stated that he thought it was over a five year term.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked if it was within budget.

Marcus McMillian, answered yes and he stated that this was the item that was tabled a few meeting back. They tabled it to make sure the contract was correct.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if the bodycams were Axion as well.

**Marcus McMillian** stated the officers that drove the newer units have Axion body cam and Axion dash cams. **Councilman Wells**, asked if the cameras going to be in all police cars.

Marcus McMillian, stated the thirty units that do not have them are older units and their plan is to have one in every unit.

Councilman Wells, asked if the chief will have one in his vehicle.

Marcus McMillian, stated he wasn't sure.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve a resolution to purchase Dash Camera's for the Hammond Police Department in the amount of \$125,850.00 State Contract 4400011240.

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

4. A resolution to transfer \$41,350 from Water/Sewer Available Surplus funds (61636000) to a new project "Natchez/Skinner Force Main Relocation" to deconflict the sewer force main from the canal improvements at Natchez and Skinner. (Kasey Daigle)

**Kasey Daigle,** stated this was a new project to relocate a force main that was uncovered during the initial work on the canal improvements at Natchez and Skinner. He stated that the funds are available and there is \$101,000 in that account and taking the \$41,350 out will leave approximately \$60,000 in the available surplus funds in fund (616).

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked what is deconflict.

**Mayor**, stated there was a concrete wall and when they were putting this in the force main was underneath and they were concerned about it being so close that if anything adjusted it could crush the pipe. While they are there they decided to correct now rather than later.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that someone from Chuck Spangler office should have been present to explain, because the questions that he has Kasey would not be able to answer. He stated this was in his district and the contractor did not know the depth of the line. He asked if the city or contractor will incur the cost. He stated that the city did not know about the line and it was put down back in nineteen eighties and this is a sewer line. **Mayor**, thanked Kasey and stated that Chuck Spangler called him and Devon and explained the issue. He stated that the city will absorb the cost because you don't know what you are going to find during construction, so they correct what they find and make it right for the future.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that when you have a contractor that has a bond, if the contractor defaults, the contractor pays for it. He stated that the city did not know and it wasn't the contractors fault.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve a resolution to transfer \$41,350 from Water/Sewer Available Surplus funds (61636000) to a new project "Natchez/Skinner Force Main Relocation" to deconflict the sewer force main from the canal improvements at Natchez and Skinner.** 

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

# VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com. (Jana Soileau)

- John Deere Backhoe Model 410G
- 4 Backhoe Tires
- 1997 Chevrolet Chassis Panel Truck Unit 611
- (2) STIHL BR 380 Blowers
- STIHL BR 340 Blowers

Jana Soileau, stated these are items in poor condition and the department's no longer use then and she is requesting council approval to sell on Govdeal.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to introduce an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed to sell on Govdeal.com.

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

# Public Hearing will be scheduled for August 9, 2022 at 5:30pm

2. Introduction of an ordinance regarding Joe Farris Drive and Susan Drive in Lakewood Subdivision (Councilman DiVittorio)

**Councilman DiVittorio,** stated that this was an introduction and they had an ordinance in 1983 and a neighbor had a copy of the ordinance that was approved. This to clean up and protect the integrity and quality of life of the neighborhood.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked if the proper procedure would be for this to go to Planning and Zoning.

Andre Coudrain, Hammond City Attorney, answered yes and stated before the council would vote for final adoption it needs to have a recommendation from Planning and Zoning. Planning and Zoning will have something in writing and can make recommendations and the council will have that before voting.

**Councilman Wells**, asked if Planning and Zoning should get a copy of the ordinance that a resident from Lakewood Subdivision have.

Andre Coudrain, stated that there is an ordinance attached that Planning and Zoning will have. Councilman DiVittorio, stated that they had an ordinance in 1983 to abandon the twenty foot parcel. He stated that the building department could not find the document. They had a subdivision member that had the document on file and was able to present it.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if it was abandoned, who has ownership of it.

Andre Coudrain, the adjourning owners. They would get notice in the process.

**Mr. Spiller Milton**, 608 Susan Drive, Lakewood Subdivision, stated that he has a copy of the ordinance from 1983 stating that this should not be opened. The roads in the subdivision are narrow and there will be more problems if the opened it up to through traffic. He also stated that he appreciated the work done by his councilman.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked if it was introduced on August 9<sup>th</sup> would that be sufficient time to for Planning and Zoning, since they meet the second week of the month.

Andre Coudrain, stated they may not have it in two weeks and they need to get the Planning and Zoning recommendation and once that is received then it can be scheduled for the next meeting for public hearing and final adoption.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to introduce an ordinance regarding Joe Farris Drive and Susan Drive in Lakewood Subdivision and submit to Planning and Zoning for recommendations.

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

3. Introduction of an Ordinance to Amend the Hammond Unified Development Code Regarding Subdivision Approvals. (Councilman DiVittorio)

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that this would apply to all neighborhoods around the city. It's cleaning up the language and providing more notice to the residents. Having the Planning and Zoning look at the impact on neighborhoods.

**Joe Meir,** 44065 High Oaks Trail, asked if any of the changes have a cost impact to home ownership that may impact affordable housing.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated not to his knowledge it just to clean up policy and procedure.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked Andre if he drafted the document.

Andre Coudrain, answered yes and he stated the document does two things, it gives notice to existing neighborhoods and it expresses if that's the desire of the council to give primary consideration to how this development is going to impact this existing neighborhood. He stated that this would be the same that would go Planning and Zoning for their review and recommendations. There's a motion introduced and it should be referred to Planning and Zoning for their recommendation.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce and to send the ordinance to amend the Hammond Unified Development Code Regarding Subdivision Approvals to Planning and Zoning.

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

VIII. REPORTS:

Mayor:

**Mayor** stated this Friday the back packs & supplies for kids will be distributed from 9am to 12pm at Hammond Westside Montessori School.

# Council:

**Councilman DiVittorio,** called up Ms. Betty Cole to talk about her experience with getting a speed bump on Rosewood Dr.

**Ms. Betty Cole of 126 Rosewood Dr.,** stated she spoke with Robert Morgan and they went through the process of what they needed to do and where they could put it and the names they needed to have and they needed to have the owners name. She stated that Mr. Robert Williams told here that the tenants are supposed to sign.

**Mayor**, stated he thinks the tenant can hear so the noise from the speed bumps at night when they are sleeping are sleeping. That's generally why they have them sign the petition.

Betty Cole, stated that they do not have a problem with the owner but the tenants need to sign.

Mayor, stated that was correct because they live there.

Ms. Betty Cole, stated that they need the speed bumps.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he wanted to make a correction, the speed bump was put on Harrell St and not Natchez. He state what Ms. Betty was saying was that everything was approved when Robert Morgan was in office.

Mayor, stated that he would speak with Robert Williams.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he wanted to clarify that it was approved and it needs to clarify with the department heads.

**Council Wells**, stated that there was still debris that needed to be picked up and ask when it will be picked up. **Mayor**, stated he would speak with Robert Williams.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that community in District 3, about ten streets would like speed bumps, if they could get the police to patrol the area they would not have a need for all the speed bumps.

Assistant Police Chief Angelo Monistere, stated their enforcement for speeding, has not necessarily been in the residential districts and if they have issues within their districts to let them know. He talked about putting up the speed trailer or physical officers out to write citation they can do that.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked how many of the speed machines they have and if they plan to get any more. **Assistant Police Chief Angelo Monistere**, stated they have one and they are having discussions about getting more.

**Councilman Wells,** stated that Live Oak has been a hot area for a long time and they know the areas for drugs etc. but are not cleaning those areas up. He stated we need to clean up the issues.

**Councilman Andrews,** presented a certificate to the Old School Organization in recognition of their community service. He also presented a certificate to the Jackson Family, in honor of Ms. Carolyn Jackson. He also stated that on this Saturday in Martin Luther King Park starting at 9:00 am they will have school supply giveaway. This Thursday and Friday he and Councilwoman Gonzales will be attending the Louisiana Municipal Association Conference. Reminder; Special meeting for the Charter Review will be on Wednesday August 3.

Joe Meir, 44065 High Oaks, stated that in reference to the Charter Review, stated it was moved from 5pm to noon and he is not going to make that, but he wanted to be there because he had some comments. He stated in the past there were some gray areas about residency. Those need to be cleared up. He read from the Charter and stated there were some gray areas related to residency. He thinks that when the charter updates are taking place it would be appropriate to make clear of the matter by requiring verification of the actual legal domicile that candidates resided in the districts of which the qualified. He can't make the meeting so he wanted to bring it to the city council and administration. He asked if that was being addressed with the Charter Review. Councilman DiVittorio, asked if he knew about the meeting they had and if he had ever brought that up. Joe Meir stated, his question was is that what they have done in the last twenty meetings or is that a part of what they have addressed and that he has not been at those meetings and he is asking if that is one of the things being addressed in the recommendations.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that is not one of the recommendations.

Joe Meir, stated he may not make the meeting and would like to have the residency issues brought up at the meeting.

# **IX. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to adjourn the meeting. Motion Approved 5-0

# **CERTIFICATION OF CLERK**

I LISA COCKERHAM, CLERK OF COUNCIL DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE

AND FOREGOING IS ATRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS

TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD JULY 26, 2022

**BEING 5 PAGES IN LENGTH** 

LISA COCKERHAM

HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL 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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA AUGUST 3, 2022 12:00 P.M.

# I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

# **III. PRAYER: Councilman Kip Andrews**

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

V. Review and consideration of the report of the Hammond Charter Review Committee.

City Council reviewed each recommendation of the City Charter Review Committee's recommendations.

### Proposal # 1 (20211213) Section 3-06 – Mayors Salary

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if it was too late to be on the ballot for this year.

Andre Coudrain, stated that it was too late for the November ballot but December is a possibility only if the Bond Commission waives their requirements for notice.

**Nick Gagliano**, 902905 West Colorado Street, Charter Review Member, stated that he printed the election schedule from the Secretary of State website for the 2022 and 2023 elections. He passed those out.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked about the cost to the city to be on the ballot.

Lacy Landrum stated, there is a cost to add item and you pay per item on the ballot. The cost depends on what else is on the ballot. The spring ballots are more expensive than the fall ballots because there is usually fewer things on the spring ballot.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated that in addition to cost we have to look at turn out.

Councilman Wells enters the meeting.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that it depends on what's on the ballot and what's important to the people. If it's not important to the people they don't vote. Councilman Wells asked if the upcoming election cost the city anything. **Lacy Landrum**, proceed to review the election schedule for 2023. She stated that every time the city has something on the ballot there is a cost.

Councilman Andrews stated that it was clear that the 2022 election cycle was not an option.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated unless they got a waiver from the bond commission for the December election. **Andre Coudrain**, stated that you would have to introduce this next week because it has to be adopted by an ordinance. It would require approval of the bond commission to waive their requirements

Lacy Landrum, stated that she did not know if the bond commission would waive a charter revision, their deadline is August 16<sup>th</sup>. To make the December ballot.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, noted for the record that the Charter Review Committee hired a consultant to give some recommendation on the charter based on other municipalities and they put that in their slide show which is linked on the agenda item. The recommendation fall in to the information the consultant gave them based on other municipalities.

Councilman Andrews, asked to return to proposal # 1

### Proposal #1 (20211213):

Section 3-06: Revise to provide that effective January 1, 2023 a newly elected mayor's salary would be fixed at \$95,000.00 with 2% annual increases, with the salary reverting back to \$95,000 upon the election of a new mayor.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that increasing the salary is a good idea and having an annual increase is a good idea, the Mayor is an important job and the mayor can have no other job and this would be the person's sole job so increasing the salary would open the field for having a more competitive race and more people interested in it. **Councilman DiVittorio**, asked when the last time the salary was adjusted.

Lacy Landrum stated, over ten years ago it was raised to &75,000. She stated that the council has the authority to raise the mayor and the council member's salary by ordinance.

Andre Coudrain, stated that would only be effective for the next incoming term. The language talks about the election of a new mayor. The language needs to be clear, so that every four years the way this is proposed will revert back down. It needs to be clear as to whether it's a new term or re-election.

**Nick Gagliano,** stated that the intention was it would be after twelve years, for a new mayor. If someone is elected for three terms then the new mayor elected would receive a two percent raise up to twelve years. After the term ends it goes back to the original amount of \$95,000. Basically it's when a new person starts and the same thing for the council.

Councilman Andrews, asked if we are to take a vote.

Andre Coudrain stated, it was up to the council what they would like to do. He could draft what might be the language and have council look at it.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated it would be helpful if the council gave some indication of whether they want to have all nine of the items put on an agenda or a couple of them for the public comment or if there is an addition to the nine.

# Proposal #2 (20211213):

Section 2-04: Revise to provide that effective January 1, 2023 a newly elected councilperson's salary would be fixed at \$15,000.00 with 2% annual increases, with the salary reverting back to \$15,000 upon the election of a new council person.

Councilman Andrews asked if that was the same as the previous, meaning a new person.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if the last charter review voted on council salaries but that didn't pass.

Andre Coudrain stated that was his recollection that did not pass.

Lacy Landrum, stated it didn't pass to increase the salary just for the president. She stated that the council have the authority to raise the council or mayors salary by ordinance to be effective in the next term.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if with the authority to do a raise for the mayor and the council with an ordinance and not by charter can they include a two percent as recommended.

Andre Coudrain, stated that the 2.04 is the reference section that deals with council members. He read from section 2.04 and he stated that no ordinance changing the compensation of a council member shall be adopted during the last year of a term of office and no such ordinance shall become effective during the term of the council adopting the ordinance.

# Proposal #3 (20211213):

Section 2-08: Revise to provide the Council shall appoint, remove, direct and supervise an employee of the City who shall have the title of Clerk of the Council who shall serve at the pleasure of the Council.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, ask to clarify to serve at the pleasure of the council. She believe that when the council hires the clerk the council can terminate the clerk and it's up to the council because the clerk serves under the council. She then ask if they were a city employee.

Andre Coudrain answered yes and proceeded to read from section 2-08. He stated that there was a companion section of the charter which says except as otherwise specifically provided, the council does not involve itself in personnel matters. He stated that should be discussed about what would be proper for the council clerk.

**Councilman Andrews**, asked Andre if the only way the person can be terminated it would have to be done through the city administration, no one on the council would have the authority to do that.

Andre Coudrain, answered, correct.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if they recommend any amendment to clear that up.

Andre Coudrain, stated that it's the council's clerk and if the council hires the person, generally they should have the authority to fire the person. It's worthy of further review and discussion.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that is sounds like it does need some cleaning up but he's not sure of what.

Councilman Wells, asked if the council clerk work for the councilmen.

Andre Coudrain stated that the clerk has a list of responsibilities in the ordinance, about forty two specified items by ordinance of the council clerk's duties. The duties are primarily the councils business. He state that was in section 2.24 the clerk of the council duties, it's not in the charter that's by ordinance. They can be revised by the council by an ordinance. The part about firing and supervision would require a charter change.

# Proposal #4 (20211220):

Ethics Section 7-03: Revise the first sentence to add "all officers, officials, and employees of the City whether elected or appointed, paid or unpaid, shall be subject

to and comply with all State ethics laws, codes, and regulations." Eliminate the second, third, and fourth sentence of Section 7-03.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated that the charter provides for an ethic board that has never been formed or formed in a long time. This is just cleaning it. The state's ethics laws codes and regulations would govern everyone in the city.

### Proposal #5 (20210221):

Section 4-01: Revise to provide All department heads during their term of office shall live within the Parish of Tangipahoa, but no farther than two miles from the nearest point of the City Limits.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if the charter review determined whether they should use the word domicile or reside for this item.

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated that they reviewed the charter and they went with the original language which states live. **Andre Coudrain** stated that there was a distinction in law between domicile and residence.

**Marcus McMillian**, asked if they would consider whether this is going to be eagle view which is an aerial view from center points for directions or street by street. He then asked what are the guidelines. He asked if current department heads are grandfathered in or is it for new hires.

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated when they were looking at this they used the most expansive version, two miles used as the crow flies from the nearest point. They had some at length discussions about this.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked Frank DiVittorio to speak as to why two miles was the distance.

Frank DiVittorio, stated that is where they unanimously landed.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked Andre Coudrain, Hammond City Attorney, if the charter currently reads five miles for all department heads.

Andre Coudrain proceed to read from section 4.01 of the charter "all department heads during their term of office shall live within the limits or within a five mile radius of the nearest point of the corporate limits."

**Joe Mier,** 44065 High Oaks Trail, he asked if these were hired position versus elected. He stated you should want to hire the best person for the position no matter where they live. He asked the council to consider striking this proposal.

**Chief Edwin Bergeron**, stated things for consideration, he stated five miles is ten minutes and it does lower your pool regarding the number of people you can hire or recruit to run the departments within the city. Two miles would be very limiting and unnecessary and he thinks that ten minutes and five miles give a very good response time.

Councilman Wells, asked Chief Bergeron if he live within the five mile radius.

Chief Bergeron, answered yes

**Councilman Wells,** stated that it's a good thing if a person live within a two mile radius because they would be invested in the area. His opinion is, anyone being hired needs to live within the two mile radius.

**Doug Johnson,** stated that this discussion took a lot of time, it was discussed at length by the committee. He stated it was a difficult discussion. They reached a consensus but this was not a simple subject.

Councilman Wells, asked how many current department heads lives in the city.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she thinks there are fifteen.

Councilman Wells, asked they all live within the five mile radius.

Lacy Landrum, stated that she did not know.

**Councilman Wells**, asked, in the process of being hired, what was the time frame given that they had to stay within the five mile radius.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they give transition time when they are hired. She stated that it depends on a case by case basis, from six months to a year.

**Councilman Wells**, stated if the rules was on paper when the department heads come before them they could ask them these questions. He stated when he apply for a job if they ask him to move he would move in that area if he wants the job. If he doesn't want the job he would tell them that he will not be able to move. He stated we need to have discussion about things that are wrong so we can make them right. The board was chosen to make Hammond better.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that if there is no structure on paper, he stated that a lot of this would be cleared up if there was more structure on paper such as what's the standard procedure if someone lives outside of five miles.

Lacy Landrum stated that this proposal is ridiculous. She stated that this is about making Hammond better and recognizing the technology, recruitment and retention situations that we are in today. She stated they are different from when the charter was crafted. She asked why do we want to limit ourselves again when we make this change and reduce it from five miles to two miles. She talked about job performance and stated that proximity to where you live should not be a prerequisite to receiving the job and the capacity for doing that. She also stated that because other municipalities do not have the residency requirement, they can recruit and retain much faster and better then they can. She asked, do they really want that and is that's what's best for Hammond. In her opinion, she stated absolutely not.

**Ms. Knighten**, stated that they talked about this a lot, it was opened to the public for discussion and they weighed both sides trying to figure out what is in the best interest of the city.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if something was broken and is it working at five miles. Is there a reason to make it smaller? She doesn't know or see a problem and doesn't understand why we are shrinking this if there isn't a problem. **Doug Johnson**, stated that they looked at statistic and the affordability of housing. He stated that Dr. Landrum stated accountability and holding people responsible for performance is where the rubber meets the road.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated that wasn't addressed with changing the radius, that might be a problem but this is not the solution to the problem.

Doug Johnson, stated to answer her question is it broken, probably not.

**Councilman Leon** asked if during their discussion if certain department heads needed to be more in a closer radius than other department heads.

Frank DiVittorio, gave his take on the department head situation.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked it this would be simple to not make an aggressive charter change so that this is policies and procedures, ordinance change or review and restructure what are the department heads. Instead of putting this to citizens.

Frank DiVittorio, stated you can't deviate from the five miles because it's in the charter.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated right but going less to two.

Andre Coudrain, Hammond City Attorney, stated that the council could just not confirm that appointment if you felt the person had some requirement or lack of requirement. The council does have the authority for those department heads under the charter, they could just not confirm the appointment.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that when you don't confirm the appointment, you end up being punished. He stated if someone comes before him and he ask two questions the administration doesn't like, his district gets punished. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked what if they take away the five miles and created rules within each department based on the skills and competitiveness of the job.

**Steve Leon**, stated for a charter change, you are giving the public an opportunity to say we bring the radius from five miles to two but we are not giving them an opportunity to choose, should there be a residency requirement at all. Maybe the charter change should be if the City of Hammond should have a residency requirement or not.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he believes certain department heads should live in the city for better performance. **Lacy Landrum**, stated that as a performance issue, we are hearing discussion of people who are not department heads and she proceed to explain.

Councilman Wells, asked if the change was recommended by all the charter member.

Frank DiVittorio, explained the voting process of the member and they all agreed.

**Councilman Wells,** stated if all members agreed to this he is puzzled that the administration has so much rejection against it. If a person wants the job move to the area.

Nick Gagliano, stated that he felt they had to give the proposal to the council and the council would make the decision. Whatever they voted would be a recommendation.

**Marcus McMillian**, stated the Charter Committee did an excellent job. He asked, the current department heads that are here now that has met the obligation of the five miles, if it is change to two miles, what is expected of those department heads?

**Joe Mier**, asked from the recommendations that the council is getting, how does it help them make the city better? Why handcuff yourselves when you are looking for the key positions that are going to help make the city better?

### Proposal #6 (20220314):

For department heads subject to confirmation by the Council, the Council Members shall receive at least 30days prior notice to any Proposed Council Confirmation Hearing information and documentation concerning the potential candidate, including, but not limited to, the candidate's name, application, background check, criminal check, resume, references, and qualifications.

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated this is a good way to get some rules down and he doesn't remember any opposition to this item.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that she did not recall, but asked if they passed an ordinance requiring certain things be given to them. She thinks they addressed this.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that it may have been about a week or two and it was an appointment would be given to them a week or two before notice.

Councilman Andrews, stated that he thinks what they are referencing was sometime this year.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated, her point for bringing that up was, if they have already done it by ordinance if it needs to say thirty why doesn't it say thirty and why are they giving them things they can accomplish by ordinance, why would they put it on the charter. She stated there were a couple of things on the list that can be done by ordinance.

**Ms. Knighten**, stated although there were several things that could be done by ordinance, they decided to put it in as a charter amendment so it could be permanent and wouldn't be easily changed and they thought it was a political hot potato and would be better if the people voted on it and they did not see any action that the council had taken regarding those issues that they thought were important.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that he was glad that it was in the charter, because they are having a problem with the chief of police. Thirty days is enough time to know what the need to know about someone.

### Proposal #7 (20220321):

Amend the Charter to provide for a Planning and Zoning Commission to consist of five (5) persons, each appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the City Council. The Members of the Commission shall be chosen by the Mayor, one (1) from each Council District. Each Member shall be an elector or owner of real estate in the City (either as an individual or through a company).

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked if one from each council district means one who owns or is an elector from district two or district two's choice to choice from someone that does not live in district two. She understands it to mean an elector that owns property in her district and she wants to make sure. She asked is that the correct interpretation?

**Councilman Wells**, he proceeded to share a conversation that he had with a contractor. He stated we need to take this under consideration.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated this doesn't give them a choice, it's the mayor's choice they just have to be from your district and if his concern is not having input on the person from your district that's not as she read it what is says.

Councilman Wells stated he would like to be able to appoint someone.

Lacy Landrum stated that all those confirmations come before the council and they are contractors, developers, and architects and they all live in Hammond.

**Doug Johnson**, stated there was a lot of discussion about who should be on the board. He stated this was an attempt to give people who live in a district more of a voice in unison with their council person because they would choose them to represent the people.

# Proposal #8 (20220321):

To add to the Charter the formation of an Advisory Committee which could create a community forum for discussion of community concerns. The Committee would meet quarterly and take minutes of discussions, but not have any power of investigation or subpoena. The Committee would not take any votes but would keep Minutes and submit the notes from the Meeting to the Council and Mayor for review. The Committee shall consist of the following Members to serve for one (1) year terms: Members appointed by each Council Member, Members appointed by the Mayor, and one (1) Member appointed by each of the following groups: Tangipahoa Chamber of Commerce, local NAACP, Downtown Development District, and Southeastern Louisiana University. The Committee shall elect a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary from among its Members, which shall all be electors of the City of Hammond. The Meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public, subject to reasonable rules of participation.

### **No Comments**

### Proposal #9 (20220321):

Charter Amendment to require Annual Evaluations for each Department Head designated in the Charter which shall be disseminated to the Mayor, the Council, and the Public.

**Marcus McMillian**, stated that Frank DiVittorio advised that all department heads were not in the current and he asked if that was correct. He asked if the new charter will consist of all department heads and if it does how they would do a public evaluation of each department head if they do not deal with the public daily.

**Ms. Knighten** stated if a department head doesn't deal with the mayor, city council or the public she's don't know what their duties would be. There is not a set evaluation in place.

Lacy Landrum asked for clarification, she asked it was for public input and that is different from what it reads in the report.

Joe Mier stated that this sounds like this could be a nightmare for confidentiality in human resources, department heads being put out as a public documents.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if they would need to clean the language up and send it back to them.

Joe Meir, asked to address the council on a possible additional amendment to the charter. He proceeded to read from a prepared statement to the council. He asked that they would add one additional item to the possible amendments to the charter to clear the language up.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated she thinks it's important that people be domiciled within the districts in which they live or in the city if they want to be mayor.

**Doug Johnson**, stated that he agrees with Councilwoman Gonzales and the simplest way to address this in the charter would be to define domicile.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated that domicile is a legal term and she doesn't believe they would need to define it, but using it instead of residence cleans that up.

Councilman Steve Leon, asked what they would need to do today to clean that up.

Andre Coudrain, stated that would be a part of whatever the council decides after a public meeting and public consideration.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated that possibly a good way to make sure it is properly noticed to the public is to have agenda items with each of these issues.

Andre Coudrain, stated for clarification, the actual language is "actually residing," is that different than residency? It uses actually residing. So as the potential drafter you need to be clear if you propose anything to the citizens, be clear about what the rules are for candidates.

### II. A list of eight Recommendations to the Hammond City Council that either did not require amendment to the Charter or while unanimously recommended in part unanimity could not be reached on all terms.

1. **Budget Review** (20220210): Unanimous recommendation that the Council consider retaining a consultant to review the budget contents for compliance with the existing requirements of the Charter.

Based upon discussions that resulted from public input, the resulting analysis of the existing requirements currently contained in the Charter, and what was presented to the Committee as what is generally delivered to the Council as a prospective budget it was discovered that there does not seem to even be a dispute that what the Council has been receiving as a proposed budget does not meet the requirements contained in the Charter.

Lacy Landrum asked if that was meant to be a ballot item or direction to the council.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if these were proposed possible ordinances.

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated that only proposed ballot items were the first nine and the rest of them are things that the council can do by ordinance.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated if they all agree they can address and vote on these in a regular council meeting.

Frank DiVittorio stated that they were not written in ordinance form but yes. These are things that can be done without being on a ballot.

2. **Department Organizational Structure** (20220304): Unanimously recommended that the Council conduct a review of the current departments in relationship to the Charter which provides for certain department heads and a process under Section 4-10 for altering the organizational structure. The current organizational chart does not reflect the department heads listed in the Charter and were not adopted pursuant to a reorganization plan adopted pursuant to Section 4-10.

### **No Comments**

3. Master Plan (20220323): Unanimously recommended the Council update the Hammond Master Plan and adopt an ordinance requiring the systematic and periodic review and update of the Master Plan in the future.

**Councilman Wells**, asked if anyone present was a part of the masterplan or knew anything about the masterplan.

Lacy Landrum stated that the master plan was adopted in 2011 by the city council. This is already a goal of the building department as a whole. It's a matter of getting another committee together to review it and dedicating resource. The last masterplan there was a consultant hired to create the plan which was a 20 year document.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked if the company that did the previous master plan was still around. **Lacy Landrum** stated that this masterplan was developed post hurricane Katrina with special grant funding that came from the North Shore Foundation.

Councilman Wells asked when the plan was last updated.

Lacy Landrum stated in 2011 and adopted, that was the last official update. The Zemurray master plan was done since then and is a component of the larger master plan. She stated that a plan is typically not done every year because it is meant to be a 5, 10 or 20 year plan. She stated what is updated annually and sometimes more is the unified development code which is the specific rules for implementing the masterplan.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that it probably has to do with the percentage of growth.

Lacy Landrum, stated the other component of the master plan, the Downtown Development District did a huge re-visioning of their master plan so two large components have be done as part of the larger plan. Whenever there is growth it's a great time to look at the master plan.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that was his concern, he didn't see the growth in district three. He wants to make sure district three is a part of the master plan and he wanted someone to explain it to him.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated, she thinks the housing committee's findings would have a lot that can be added to the masterplan and that would be a good way of updating it at the same time.

Lacy Landrum stated that the masterplan is based on chapters that looks at parks and recreation services, housing chapter that looks at the housing component and thinks the housing committee and consultants will have changes and ideas, it looks at economic development and what's happening in different places and zoning. It's broken down into chapters by topics and not districts.

4. **Public Records** (20211220): Unanimously recommended that the Council consider action requiring all of its meeting minutes, ordinances, resolutions, codes, and technical regulations be available online in a searchable form for public access and review.

**Councilman Wells**, asked what is the timeframe or how many days does it take to get something for public records.

Andre Coudrain, stated that it depends on the request, but you should get a response within seventy-two hours of making that request. It really depends on what is being requested.

**Councilman Wells**, stated with it being online you can search and find information for yourself then he asked about document he and others received that was pertaining to Doctor Blvd and why they got different information.

Andre Coudrain, stated the same question ought to get the same response. He stated he cannot answer why it was different information.

Councilman Wells asked Lacy Landrum to respond.

Lacy Landrum stated, she did not see public records request related to that and she stated she don't know if the question was asked the same or if it was a different time period or wording, she does not know. It all depends on how the wording of the records request come in.

**Councilman Wells** asked, if you do not receive the information within the seventy-two hours, what would be the fine or penalty.

Andre Coudrain stated, there are penalties on the public records law if you don't respond and then he gave some examples. He stated you should receive an acknowledgement that your public request was received within the seventy-two hours. He also stated that if he or Councilman Wells just send an email to a department head that is not a public records request. He explained the public records request and stated that it was a formal process and you have to pay for the records.

5. **Department Heads** (20210221): The Committee unanimously agreed that, "All department heads shall be appointed by mayor and shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor subject to council approval. Said department heads shall be subject to reconfirmation upon the renewal of each mayoral term." However, the Committee

could not reach a consensus on whether it should require a simple majority to reappoint or a minority (effectively a supermajority to terminate) a serving department head.

Lacy Landrum stated, there was a lot of discussion in the committee and the question becomes as to whether this authority is terminating a department head if someone is appointed by the council, then six months later there is a new election does the person come before the council again for reconfirmation. She stated that we do not have reconfirmation now that they serve at the pleasure of the mayor and their performance is reviewed by the mayor.

Andre Coudrain, stated this would require a charter change, this is not something that the council could do just by an ordinance. If there is a will to have it change to the reconfirmation of department heads that would need to be a charter change.

6. **Public Records** (20210128): Requiring the Independent Audit required by Section 2-07 be made available on the City website.

Lacy Landrum stated, this is already done. The audit for the last two to three years are already there as well as a link to the legislative audit.

**Frank DiVittorio**, stated that the charter gives you the right to conduct your own audit and you can set the criteria as to what is audited or not audited.

**Lacy Landrum** stated this is the annual legislative audit and this is exactly the same thing unless the committee had something different. She stated that this is the annual financial audit performed annually according to the state standards that the city council pays for and gets present to the council.

7. Term limits (20220210): Unanimous recommendation that they be left as they currently stand.

### No Comment

8. Investigations (20220210): Unanimous recommendation that Section 2-06 be left unchanged.

### No Comments

# III. A list of three issues that the Committee unanimously agreed warranted further discussion, but were either unable to reach a consensus on or exceeded the ability of the Committee to complete a thorough review of with its resources and time available.

1. Debt (20210325, 20210524): The issue of the City's ability to incur debt came up and was discussed at length. Initially the Administration offered substantial argument in favor of amending the Charter to allow the City to incur bonded debt without an election of the people. However, the Mayor's nominee to the Committee voiced strong opposition to the removal of the requirement that voters approve bonded debt. The Mayor himself also suggested that the requirement was fine as is. The only argument in favor of removing the requirement completely seemed to be a matter of convenience. There were examples made of when it could be beneficial for the City to incur smaller amounts of debt that the costs of holding an election would not justify. The possibility of a hybrid system where debt up to a certain threshold would be permitted without an election however fixing that threshold seemed somewhat arbitrary with the information available to the Committee so a proposal was not adopted, but it is believed that the issue warrants further consideration by the Council.

Councilman Wells asked if someone could explain.

Lacy Landrum stated that they asked the charter committee to review this because they had a lengthy discussion in public meetings about bonded debt. When bonded debt would follow the state laws verses local laws. The ability of the city to bond debt.

Councilman Wells, asked if as of right now it goes before the people.

Lacy Landrum stated that is correct.

2. Accountability of the Police Chief (20210628): Increasing accountability to public particularly came up regarding police chief. Ideas were discussed such as election versus appointment of the police chief, recall by public petition, etc.

**Councilman Wells**, stated that in his opinion the police chief should be elected by the people and not appointed by the mayor.

**Doug Johnson,** stated the mayor is the highest elected official in the city and he or she is elected by all the people and if there is an issue with any department head that's an administrative issue that needs to be addressed.

**Ms. Knighten**, stated there was a lot of input from the public for the election of a police chief. They looked at the election versus appointment of the police chief and decided that wasn't a decision they should make as a committee. There were people that was concerned about the accountability of the chief.

3. Community Policing (20210712): Calls for implementation of true community policing activities in compliance with national standards on a systemic citywide permanent basis were repeatedly communicated to the Committee by public input. The Mayor's Nominee repeatedly offered his lifelong experience as a city

resident and his desire to achieve true community policing that City residents have long demanded. His calls for improvement were joined by the other members of the Committee.

**Doug Johnson**, shared his experience with community policing. He stated that this was an absolute need for this city and he is passionate about that.

Lacy Landrum stated what was mentioned in the committee meeting is that there are lots of definitions of this term. She stated that it is obvious that our police spend a lot of efforts in neighborhood meetings, homeowners association and public meetings and public outreach. What do we all envision as community policing. Councilman Wells stated, his vision for community policing is police in the neighborhood or in the park.

**Chief Edwin Bergeron**, stated they do a lot of community policing and they are always open to for ideas. It is something that has evolved. He stated officers are assigned districts and neighborhoods in which they are to be patrolling and making contact with citizens.

**Councilman Andrews** stated he has been in contact with some people with the Baton Rouge Police Department to get some information and feedback on how they run some of their programs.

**Councilman Wells**, stated the stats shows from what he read, community policing reduce crime. He stated if you had that not just on paper or speaking about it, if you really had community policing it reduces crime.

VI. ADJOURN: there was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to adjourn. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned. 5-0

I LISA COCKERHAM, CLERK OF COUNCIL DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE

AND FOREGOING IS ATRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS

TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD AUGUST 3,

2022

BEING 8 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.

<u>Hammond City Council Members</u> 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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES PUBLIC HEARING 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA August 9, 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 (P)

### **III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

- 1. An ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com. (Jana Soileau)
- John Deere Backhoe Model 410G
- 4 Backhoe Tires
- 1997 Chevrolet Chassis Panel Truck Unit 611
- (2) STIHL BR 380 Blowers
- STIHL BR 340 Blowers

Jana Soileau stated the items are in poor working condition and are no longer needed.

No Public Comment



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA August 09, 2022 6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing

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

**III. PRAYER:** Pastor Ron Matthews

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Ja'marie Knighten - All veterans and active military, please render the proper salute.

### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of the July 26, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the minutes of July 26, 2022.

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

# VI. PRESENTATIONS:

### **President Andrews - Recognition Students**

**Councilman Andrew** recognized Zoe Ministry and Ms. Deborah McQueen for her reading program over the summer. Students were present and presented with a certificate.

### Grants Committee Representative-

**Lauran Fannelly**, gave us the names of the committee members and read from a prepared statement relating to the task of the committee and their findings. She stated the committee met on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and they reviewed applications. The committee recommended that each organization got the amount they requested but this would require additional funding and a budget amendment. She stated that there was a discussion of the committee's review of applications and they needed more guidance from the council. She stated that the committee would like to meet again to continue the work and guidance from the city council about the scope of the committee's work and it's processes for future years.

**Shauna Seal**, stated that they were there to report the work of the committee. She stated the group meet on Friday to come to a consensus to give each organization what they asked. The agreed to that because they did not have the time to set up the objective criteria need to run a good grants review process. They also discussed what it would take if the council accepted their recommendation and because that would mean it's the sixty-six thousand dollars over budget. So they came to ask the council for guidance. She stated they do want to continue the work. **Councilman Wells**, stated that he did not want to go over budget so he reviewed the numbers and came up with \$98,000 and asked that be divided between the two organizations in question; Tangipahoa African American Heritage Museum and the Urban Market Experience (UMX) giving each \$48,000.

# VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to extend 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 90 days. (Sam DiVittorio)

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated the moratorium was for six months, the housing committee is working with the consultant they hired to get results. He stated we are going to need more time. He thought it would be good to request a ninety day extension to get some feedback and results to improve the situation. **Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if the housing committee is supposed to be done in ninety day or what's the

ninety days for.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated the ninety days because he did not want it to be a long time. He stated it may possibly be six months. The process was not to shut down thing but to have smart growth and improve systems.

Joe Meir, 44065 High Oaks Trail stated that the housing committee will have their next updated on Wednesday August 16 from Civix. He stated that the housing committee has nothing to do with this moratorium. He stated he has an issue with property rights. He also stated that the Civix report was not going to be ready until December.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated that Wednesday was the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Ron Matthews, 905 Del Mar** stated, that the moratorium has nothing to do with the housing committee, but there are several milestones the housing committee is addressing that runs parallel with the moratorium. He stated the moratorium is not stopping anyone from putting an application in for a variance and he is on the planning and zoning commission and they have not received one request. He thinks there are several thing to try and capture with the moratorium, increase the quality and aesthetics of multi-family development. He stated he spoke to member of planning and zoning about assisting in this effort. He asked that the process be continued and he thought that ninety days was a short ask and he thinks it should be six months. **Councilman DiVittorio**, asked Mr. Ron if he thought they need to do a work session with planning and

zoning to try and get some points that might improve the process.

**Ron Matthews**, stated that this was a very positive thing and all the commissioners think so. He stated he was going to ask them to come together and do a work session and invite the entire council.

**Councilman Wells**, stated to Mr. Ron that they are still having sewer issues in district three and the sewer is going into other districts also. He asked that they take it under consideration.

**Ron Logs**, project manager for Barrieaux & Associates and he was representing Mr. Chad Perkins who was doing several projects in the City of Hammond. He has a project on JW Davis and the city asked Mr. Perkins to bore or cut the sewer line out and he asked about pioneering a change to where the city of Hammond does the work if they pay an impact fee and have them do the work.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to introduce an ordinance to extend 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 90 days.

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

# Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday August 23, 2022 at 5:30pm

2. In accordance with Office of Justice Programs grant requirements, the introduction of an ordinance to update Rule XI-6 Information Security of the City's IT Policy and Procedure Manual to include a procedure for reporting an actual or imminent breach of personally identifiable information associated with an OJP-funded program or activity or a federal information system used or operated by the City. (Charles Borchers IV)

Councilman DiVittorio, left meeting

Councilman Wells, left meeting

**Charles Borchers** stated, it's similar to policy updates. This requires an ordinance to amend. It's a requirement of their grants and they are inserting it where most appropriate in their I.T. policy. **Councilman DiVittorio**, returns to meeting

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to introduce In accordance with Office of Justice Programs grant requirements, an ordinance to update Rule XI-6 Information Security of the City's IT Policy and Procedure Manual to include a procedure for reporting an actual or imminent breach of personally identifiable information associated with an OJP-funded program or activity or a federal information system used or operated by the City.** 

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

# Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday August 23, 2022 at 5:30pm

# VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com. (Jana Soileau)

- John Deere Backhoe Model 410G
- 4 Backhoe Tires
- 1997 Chevrolet Chassis Panel Truck Unit 611
- (2) STIHL BR 380 Blowers
- STIHL BR 340 Blowers

Jana Soileau stated again that these are item no longer needed.

Councilman Wells, returned to the meeting

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to adopt an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed to sell on Govdeal.com.

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

# **IX. RESOLUTIONS:**

1. A resolution to appoint Robert Dischler to the Hammond Historic District Commission for the remainder of a four-year term ending on December 31, 2025.

**Mayor Panepinto**, introduced Robert Dischler and stated that he worked in construction and development industry for forty-six years and has a degree in Architecture. Mayor Panepinto asked for the council's approval. **Robert Dischler**, stated that he wants to be more involved in the city.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to appoint Robert Dischler to the Hammond Historic District Commission for the remainder of a four-year term ending on December 31, 2025.** 

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

2. A resolution to approve Shack's located at 201 E. Thomas St. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell on premise Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Greerco, LLC. (Kasey Daigle)

Kasey Daigle, stated they met all the requirements and Luke Greer the owner was present.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve Shack's located at 201 E. Thomas St. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell on premise Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Greerco, LLC.

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

3. A resolution to authorize the Purchase of a M7060HDC Utility Cab Tractor for \$41,505.94 for the Water & Sewer Department. State Contract 4400017852. (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated this was approved in the 2023 budget.

#### Councilman Wells returned to the meeting

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Purchase of a M7060HDC Utility Cab Tractor for \$41,505.94 for the Water & Sewer Department. State Contract 4400017852.

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 a Paratech Heavy Extrication Kit or \$52,140.00 (Chief Folks)

**Chief Folks** stated, this was for heavy duty extrication and would be a great addition to the fire department. **Councilwoman Gonzales** asked what they are currently using.

Chief Folks stated they have a trailer with supplies that they have to construct, with this set up time is critical and it gives them an edge.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked about training.

Chief Folks stated some of their staff is already trained

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the purchase of a Paratech Heavy Extrication Kit for \$52,140.00 VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion Approved 5-0

5. A resolution to submit a grant application to the Natural Resources Conservation Service for a project total of \$1,350,000 for "Fagan Drive Bank Stabilization". The project total includes a match from the Grant Match Fund of \$180,000. (Jay Pittman)

**Jay Pittman, Spangler Engineering**, stated this is for a bulkhead at Arnold's Creek off Fagan Drive that was damaged during Hurricane Ida. He stated this is a 90/10 match and the city pays 10% which is \$180,000. The grant covers all other costs.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to submit a grant application to the Natural Resources Conservation Service for a project total of \$1,350,000 for "Fagan Drive Bank Stabilization". The project total includes a match from the Grant Match Fund of \$180,000. VOTE: Kip Andrews, (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

6. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangipahoa Voluntary Council on Aging for \$60,000 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated this is an annual contract with the Tangipahoa Voluntary Council. This is for bus service.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales to</u> authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangipahoa Voluntary Council on Aging for \$60,000 from July 1, 2022 to June 30,** 

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

7. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Services Agreement between Tangipahoa Parish Government Animal Control and the City of Hammond for \$60,057 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated this is an annual contract with Tangipahoa Parish Government. This is for animal control of dogs and cat and the amount is based on the population.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales to</u> authorize the Mayor to enter into a Services Agreement between Tangipahoa Parish Government Animal Control and the City of Hammond for \$60,057 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

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

8. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Veteran Affairs for \$1,892 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated this is an annual contract with the stated and is based on a percentage of the population.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Veteran Affairs for \$1,892 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 VOTE: Kip Andrews, (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

### X. REPORTS:

**Mayor**: Stated they had a successful backpack giveaway at Hammond Westside, 1200 backpacks were given away and he thanks all those who supported the event.

### Council:

**Councilman DiVittorio,** asked for an update on lighting on Anita and Roma St. He also asked about poles on Timberlane St.

Lacy Landrum, stated she do not have an update as of yet but will get it tomorrow. and Timberlane will be taken care of.

### **XI. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to adjourn the meeting. **Motion Approved 5-0** 

### **CERTIFICATION OF CLERK**

### I LISA COCKERHAM, CLERK OF COUNCIL DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE

### AND FOREGOING IS ATRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS

TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD AUGUST 9,

2022

BEING 5 PAGES IN LENGTH

LISA COCKERHAM HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS

ammond 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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA September 13, 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:**

1. An Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Meshach F. Samuels (owner) to rezone 0.313 acres of land from RS-3 to MX-N, located at 1102 N. Cherry St. per survey by William J. Bodin, PLS dated 2/8/2022: Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-04-00107) (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated the item has been discussed several time and Mr. Samuels wants to rezone the property. When he purchased the property he did not know that it wasn't zoned for what he wanted to use it for. He would like to install a car lot. He went back to the Planning and Zoning Commission and they brought it down to a more restrictive use. It would be rezoning to MX, mixed neighborhood. The Planning and Zoning Commission approved with conditions. They did an expanded conditional use which means it only applies to Mr. Samuels as he owns the property it cannot be transferred to another owner.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that she is concerned with the enforcement of restrictions.

Councilman Andrews, stated that he received calls from residents who do not support this and he is against it.

**No Public Comment** 



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA September 13, 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: Pastor Ron Matthews**

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

### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of the August 24, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the minutes of August 24, 2022.

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

### VI. PRESENTATION- COPE PROJECT- not present

Councilman Andrews made a presentation to Michael Kyles, Principal of Hammond High Magnet School.

Councilman Wells enters the meeting.

### VII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

1. .Final adoption of an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Meshach F. Samuels (owner) to rezone 0.313 acres of land from RS-3 to MX-N, located at 1102 N. Cherry St. per survey by William J. Bodin, PLS dated 2/8/2022: Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-04-00107) (Lacy Landrum)

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilmanan Andrews</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to deny the adoption of an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Meshach F. Samuels (owner) to rezone 0.313 acres of land from RS-3 to MX-N, located at 1102 N. Cherry St. per survey by William J. Bodin, PLS dated 2/8/2022: Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-04-00107)

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Approved to deny the rezoning request 5-0

### VIII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to transfer \$204,158.84 from the Sales Tax (203) fund balance to a new project to pay for city's 10% cost share of the Hurricane Ida debris removal (FEMA paid for 90% of the cost). (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated this is the invoice for the debris collection for all the months from Hurricane Ida through June 30, 2022. She stated that this is debris collection and FEMA required debris monitoring which is also included. This is the total cost to the city through June 30<sup>th</sup> for all debris removal related to Hurricane IDA. FEMA is paying 90% and the city 10% cost is \$204,158.84. She stated that this does not mean that they are 100% complete, there are some pending locations and the parish has some newer programs that they are still qualifying under for house demolition as well.

There were questions from council members on collection of hurricane debris

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to introduce an ordinance to transfer \$204,158.84 from the Sales Tax (203) fund balance to a new project to pay for city's 10% cost share of the Hurricane Ida debris removal (FEMA paid for 90% of the cost).

**VOTE**: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (N) Motion Approved 4-1

### Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday September 27, 2022 at 5:30pm

### **IX. RESOLUTIONS:**

1. A resolution to approve Jacmel Inn located at 903 East Morris Avenue Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain a permit to sell on premise Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Cocina Flores-Robledo LLC. (Kasey Daigle) **Kasey Daigle**, stated this was a change of ownership, all of the requirements have been met. The owners were present.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve Jacmel Inn located at 903 East Morris Avenue Hammond, LA70403 to obtain a permit sell on premise Hi/Low Alcohol. The owner is Cocina Flores-Robledo LLC.

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

2. A resolution to approve Lit Pizza located at 1735 SW Railroad Avenue Suite A Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain a permit to sell on premise Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is BR Guest #9 LLC. (Kasey Daigle)

**Kasey Daigle**, stated this was a new business, they met all of the requirements and everything was in order. The owner's representative Kyle Kennedy was present.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve Lit Pizza located at 1735 SW Railroad Avenue Suite A, Hammond, LA 70403 to obtain a permit to sell on

premise Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is BR Guest #9 LLC. **VOTE**: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion Approved 5-0

3. A resolution to approve Bhagat LLC located at 285 S. Morrison Blvd. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Bhagat LLC. (Kasey Daigle)

Kasey Daigle, stated this was a change of ownership, they met all of the requirements and the owner Mr. Satish Kanchra was present.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve Bhagat LLC located at 285 S. Morrison Blvd. Hammond, LA7040l to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Bhagat LLC** 

**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 Veeam Storage Replacement from CMA Technology Solutions in the amount of \$52,757.00 (Marcus McMillian)

**Marcus McMillian**, stated the currently have Veeam storage replacement but with all of the modifications they are making with the infrastructure that would like to increase that storage to have a week backup of infrastructure. He stated the increase of space is needed in order to be able to back up everything. He is asking for approval to move forward with the project.

Sal Nicolosi, 3607 Hwy 190 West, asked if this went out for bids and if the city is required to bid. Marcus McMillian and the Mayor answered questions on this item.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to authorize the purchase of

Veeam Storage Replacement from CMA Technology Solutions in the amount of \$52,757. **VOTE:** Councilman Wells (Y) Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y)

Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews(Y). Motion Approved 5-0

5. A resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with Roofing Solutions for \$28,950.00 to remove and replace the existing shingle roof at the Mayor's Office. RFP 23-23. (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated she is able to move forward with the insurance process. The got the money and now they are moving forward with the replacement of the roof. She did put it out for bids. She also explained the reason for the two RFPS. Roofing Solutions was the lowest bidder.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Roofing Solutions for \$28,950.00 to remove and replace the existing shingle roof at the Mayor's Office. RFP 23-23

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

6. A resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with Roofing Solutions for \$35,450.00 to remove and replace the existing shingle roof at City Hall. RFP 23-25 (Jana Soileau)

Jana Soileau, stated this was bided out at the same time as the last item and Roofing Solutions came in as the lowest proposal and this is an insurance claim.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into contract with Roofing Solutions for \$35,450.00 to remove and replace the existing shingle roof at City Hall. RFP 23-25

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

7. A resolution to purchase a full Cantilever Hip Shade for Zemurray Park Pool \$35,110.00 RFP 23-19 (Desiree Dotey)

**Desiree Dotey**, stated that there isn't any shade at the pool. The biggest complaint they get is that there is no shade by the pool. This was the lowest bid.

Council members asked questions about the shade.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> approve a resolution to purchase a full Cantilever Hip Shade for Zemurray Park Pool \$35,110.00 RFP 23-19

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

8. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a work authorization for professional services with Michael Baker International for "Runway 18-36 Rehabilitation (Design)" at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport. (David Lobue)

**David Lobue**, stated the airport is in receipt of a grant from the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) to remove remaining World War II concrete from the old runway. He stated that this was the design phase of it. He stated the grant paper work was received last week and the Mayor and City Attorney executed the grant paperwork. Now that can execute the contract with the engineer.

Council members asked questions about the grant and costs to the city.

Ron Matthews, asked if this was for design only.

David Lobue, answered yes.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> authorizing the Mayor to execute a work authorization for professional services with Michael Baker International for "Runway 18-36 Rehabilitation (Design)" at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport.** 

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

9. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Kushner LaGraize, LLC for auditing services for FY 2022 and FY 2023. (Laura Hammett)

**Laura Hammett**, The city sent the RFP to ten companies and they received two responses. The contract is for two years with two one year extensions. They recommend Kuchner LaGraize, LLC.

Council members asked questions about the bids and the company and prior audits. Sal Nicolosi, asked if the company was local.

Laura Hammett, stated they are based out of Metairie and the other company that responded to the RFP was based out of Atlanta, Georgia.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Kushner LaGraize, LLC for auditing services for FY 2022 and FY 2023. **VOTE:** Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (abstain) Motion approved 4-0

10. A resolution for the approval of solid waste service contract with Waste Pro of Louisiana, Inc. (Andre Coudrain)

Andre Coudrain, stated they are asked to approve the contract based on the bids received. He stated the RFP went out and it sets the general terms of the contract. The proposals that were received will set the terms of the price for the services received. He stated the contract is similar to what the city had previously and he would answer questions the council has about the contract.

**Council members** asked questions about the costs to be paid by citizens and price of the proposed contract and service by the prior contractor.

Justin Murphy with Waste Pro was present and made a presentation on behalf of Waste Pro.

Mr. Murphy answered questions from council members.

**Elizabeth Lafarve**, 601 Rue Cannes, stated that she has had a problem with her garbage service and is unable to communicate with her councilman. She asked how communications will be made concerning a change in the collection.

Waste Pro representatives answered questions on communications with citizens.

Tracy Wells, 610 Mooney Ave, asked why they are doing a contract along with Ponchatoula.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they have done that historically for many years because they get a better price.

Tracy Wells, asked about the number of garbage containers and the cost to citizens and questions about the contract.

Andre Coudrain, explained contracts and the language of the contract and answered questions about the contract. Sal Nicolosi, asked questions about the contract and costs to citizens.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve a resolution of solid waste service contract with Waste Pro of Louisiana, Inc.

**VOTE:** Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (N), Motion approved 4-1

# X. REPORTS:

Mayor: None

Council:

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about demolitions and holes in the Winn-Dixie parking lot.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that there will be music in Cate Street Park this Friday. There is a public hearing for the Downtown Development on Tuesday September 20 for input regarding Hot August Night in the council chambers.

Councilman Wells - stated that debris need to be picked up on Brent off of Mississippi St. and Florida St.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated there was an area on Martin Luther King where the trees have grown into the power lines. He said he would send the information to the administration.

**Councilman Wells**, stated they got new lights but the trees on the power line are blocking the light. He stated that the contractors are doing work on Coleman Street and we have had several dry days and he expects to see the cement truck doing more in front of Hammond Junior High.

There was a discussion on funding to non-profits.

# **XI. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to adjourn the meeting. Motion Approved 5-0

# **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 AUGUST 23,

2022

**BEING 5 PAGES IN LENGTH** 

LISA COCKERHAM

PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA September 27, 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:**

1. An ordinance to transfer \$204,158.84 from the Sales Tax (203) fund balance to a new project to pay for city's 10% cost share of the Hurricane Ida debris removal (FEMA paid for 90% of the cost).

Lacy Landrum, stated this was discussed in the prior meeting and this is the invoice for the debris collection for all the months from Hurricane Ida. FEMA will pay 90% and the city pays 10% and the invoice was provided to the council. No Public Comment

2. An ordinance regarding Joe Farris Drive and Susan Drive in Lakewood Subdivision.
Councilman DiVittorio, stated that this was placed on the agenda a few months back and it went to planning and zoning for review. The Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended approval and this has an outpouring of support from the community.
Lacy Landrum, stated attached to the item is the staff report summarizing the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, as well as the changes and updates.
No Public Comment

3. An ordinance to amend the Hammond Unified Development Code Regarding Subdivision Approvals. **Councilman DiVittorio**, stated this was sent to the Planning and Zoning Commission and they unanimously recommended approval.

Lacy Landrum, stated the staff report and summary was attached and the language to be changed is an addition to the Unified Development Code.

No Public Comment



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA September 27, 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: Pastor Ron Matthews**

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

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of the September 13, 2022 meeting There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve the minutes of August 24, 2022.

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

# VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to transfer \$204,158.84 from the Sales Tax (203) fund balance to a new project to pay for city's 10% cost share of the Hurricane Ida debris removal (FEMA paid for 90% of the cost).

Councilman Wells entered the meeting

Lacy Landrum, stated this is to pay 10% city share for the debris removal.

Councilman Wells, asked about the trash pickup on Brent St.

Lacy Landrum, explained that they picked up after the hurricane.

**There was a motion by** <u>**Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u><b>Councilman Leon**</u> to adopt an ordinance to transfer \$204,158.84 from the Sales Tax (203) fund balance to a new project to pay for city's 10% cost share of the Hurricane Ida debris removal (FEMA paid for 90% of the cost).</u>

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (N) Motion Approved 4-1

2. Final adoption of an ordinance regarding Joe Farris Drive and Susan Drive in Lakewood Subdivision.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated the subdivision supports the ordinance.

**Wayne Glasscock**, 9 Oakley Drive, Hammond, He stated that the ordinance is targeted to stop them from developing his property and he proceeded to explain. He stated that Susan Dr. and Joe Farris dead ends into his property. He explained the process he has gone through regarding developing the area. He believes it is arbitrary and capricious against him and he is speaking against it.

**Councilman DiVittorio** stated that this was an ordinance created in 1983 and they are cleaning it up.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked about the new ordinance and language that they will be passing. There was a discussion on the language and legal description.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to adopt an ordinance regarding Joe Farris Drive and Susan Drive in Lakewood Subdivision.

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

3. Final adoption of an ordinance to amend the Hammond Unified Development Code Regarding Subdivision Approvals.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that this was an amendment to the UDC giving more verbiage.

Lacy Landrum, stated that this is just adding language to item #6.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that there is a housing committee that is looking and determining growth, rules, ordinances and everything that should apply to new and existing development and all types of housing but she do understand that the planning commission recommended it and the Housing Commission did not comment on it.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to adopt an ordinance to amend the Hammond Unified Development Code Regarding Subdivision Approvals.

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

# 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.

Mayor Panepinto, stated he is a Southeastern appointment born and raised in Hammond, lives in District one and he requests the council to approve his appointment for three years.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated the letter from Southeastern was not hyperlinked but it was sent to the council. **George Bergeron**, Hammond Police Lieutenant, chairman of the Fire and Police Civil Service Board, He asked the council to oppose the nominee because the process has been done incorrectly. He passed out a document that explained the process and emails to support his position.

Lacy Landrum, stated that this is the first time that this issue has been raised and this is the same process that has been used for years. She discussed the process that they have used.

City Council members asked questions and discussed the documents and process.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to table until the next meeting and direct the council clerk to send the letter to Dr. Crain from the city council requesting the four nominees and have it set for the next meeting.

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

2. A resolution on Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Annual Report on South Wastewater Plants required by LADEQ in Our Discharge Permit.

**Guy Palermo**, stated that this was the yearly DEQ waste water pollution permit. It runs from August 1, 2021 – July 30, 2022. He explained the report and stated starting next year they report will run from January to December. **There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve a resolution on Municipal Water Pollution Prevention Annual Report on South Wastewater Plants required by LADEQ in our Discharge Permit.

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

3. A resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with Rycars Construction for \$134,430.00 to replace the existing metal roof at the City of Hammond Maintenance Garage. RFP 23-21 (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated that the purchasing department put the RFP out for advertisement in the Daily Star, City's Website and Bid Express, all the normal processes they use for bids. They received four proposals and the lowest was Rycars Construction.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if this was paid for by insurance.

Lacy Landrum stated, that it is paid for by insurance and a little by FEMA.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with Rycars Construction for \$134,430.00 to replace the existing metal roof at the City of Hammond Maintenance Garage. RFP 23-21.

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

4. A resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with MRP Contractors, LLC, for Demolition services at 19354 Hwy 190 East, Hammond LA, in the amount of \$26,500.00 RFP 23-35

**David Lobue** stated, as discussed at the last meeting this is for the demolition of four structures on property across from the airport.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked how it is paid for and if it was within budget.

David Lobue stated that this is paid for by the FAA (Federal Aviation Authority).

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with MRP Contractors, LLC, for Demolition services at 19354 Hwy 190 East, Hammond LA, in the amount of \$26,500.00 RFP 23-35

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

5. A resolution 1) accepting a \$4,000 grant from the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership to purchase new and replacement body armor for Hammond police officers; 2) approving a \$4,000 cash match from the Hammond Police Department; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated this was a follow up to an application submitted back in May. They have received the requested amount and he was asking the council to accept the grant so that they could move forward.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> 1) accepting a \$4,000 grant from the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership to purchase new and replacement body armor for Hammond police officers; 2) approving a \$4,000 cash match from the Hammond Police Department; and 3) 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 (no response) Motion Approved 4-0

6. A resolution supporting the submission of a grant application for \$50,000 to the Local Government Assistance Program to make necessary repairs and renovations to the Levy Building. (Charles Borchers IV)

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated this was an opportunity to apply for Government Assistance Programs, this is a share of an amount that was allocated to the parish. The city's maximum eligible amount is fifty thousand dollars. He stated the council appropriated funds for the repairs and renovation of the Levy Building. Due to price increases there is a concern that there may not be enough for the repairs so this could potentially supplement what they have.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> supporting the submission of a grant application for \$50,000 to the Local Government Assistance Program to make necessary repairs and renovations to the Levy Building. (Charles Borchers IV)** 

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

7. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Crime Stoppers of Tangipahoa from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Lacy Landrum as discussed in the past council meetings it is up to council to determine the amounts that will go into the contracts.

**Constituent**, 200 Will Frazier Rd. stated he approves of Crime Stoppers and suggested that the administration and council collaborate on initiating a curfew.

City Council members discussed the resolution

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Crime Stoppers of Tangipahoa for \$11,107 from July l, 2022to June 30, 2023.

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

8. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Child Advocacy Services, Inc. from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Lacy Landrum explained what Child Advocacy Services does.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** suggested that they fund them the same as last year which was \$25,000. **Lacy Landrum**, stated that she did not know that they wanted a representative present, so she did not reach out to the organizations to be present.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if we are funding an organization do they have to turn in receipts. **Lacy Landrum** stated that there are two different ways that it has happened in the past. They can do a monthly amount if the organization has outline how they are going to spend the money or they submit receipts.

City Council and Administration discussed the request and the disbursement of funds.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Child Advocacy Services, Inc. for \$30,000 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

### VOTE: Kip Andrews (N), Carlee Gonzales (N), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (N), Devon Wells (Y). Motion Denied 3-2

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Child Advocacy Services, Inc. for \$25,000 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

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

9. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangipahoa African American Heritage Museum from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. (Lacy Landrum)

City Council members discussed the funding of the Cooperative Agreement – Tangipahoa African American Heritage Museum.

**Ivan Scineaux**, 2009 Corbin Rd, stated that we do not have to give these organizations any money so they should not base their budget around or be dependent on these funds.

Lacy Landrum, read from the application of what they outlined in their application in relation to services they provide.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, expressed his interest in getting the committee together. He called his nominee to the committee forward and asked him about his wishes to continue to serve.

**Ryan Oliphant,** 613 Susan Dr., non-profit committee member - stated that he would like to continue and he explained some of the challenges the committee had.

**There was a motion by** <u>**Councilwoman Gonzales and second by** <u>**Councilman Leon**</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangipahoa African American Heritage Museum for \$50,000 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023</u>

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

10. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Children's Discovery Center from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Lacy Landrum, stated the attached a lengthy proposed application and described the different programs they offer.

**Elsbet Hollywood,** 711 N. Oak St, Holly St, stated that she serves on the board of directors of Louisiana Children's Discovery Museum. She thanked the council for their support and stated they do have a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement that has them on a step down basis. She talked about the services they provide and offered to answer questions.

City Council thanked her for her service.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Children's Discovery Center for the step down amount of \$80,000 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

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

11. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Urban Market Experience from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

Lacy Landrum, stated they generally help business create, thrive and grow. They offer training and outreach to promote business. They are a new group, supported the Downtown Development and other outreach services. They are asking for \$75,000.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated, in the information that has been given, her hesitation is that they are a new group and their budget, expenses and income of \$40,000. She stated \$75,000 to be funding any organization doesn't seem to be good business. Their request is almost double of what their earned income is. UMX has been good for downtown and has helped the city to get the main street award and they are a valuable non-profit in the community.

City Council members discussed this item

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Urban Market Experience for \$25,000 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.** 

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

12. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangi Humane Society from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum stated this group will come out and address all types of animals and on weekends. The parish animal control is strictly dogs and cats.

City Council members discussed this item

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangi Humane Society for \$5000 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

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

### VIII. REPORTS:

**Mayor: NONE** 

### **Council:**

**Councilman Andrews,** Clean up and voter's registration drive will be in Martin Luther King Park from 8am to 10am Saturday October 1, 2022. Monday in Council Chamber at 5pm will have a district one meeting in council Chamber.

**Councilman Wells**, stated he and Chuck Spangler need to sit down and talk about the work being done in his district and he stated he asked for an update on the railroad spur and its \$152,405. He thanked the city councilman that voted on it.

### **IX. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> 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 September 27,

2022

**BEING 6 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.

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



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** 



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 <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> 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 threeyear 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 <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> 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

**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 <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> 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** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> 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** <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> 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 <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> 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 <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> 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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA October 25, 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** 



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA October 25, 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 (P)

**III. PRAYER: Ron Matthews** 

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

### V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of the October 11, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve the minutes of October 11, 2022.

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

# VI. PRESENTATION

**Jeannine Saucier**, 5k Purple Run, LLC, Invited the council and the public to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Purple Run, to bring awareness to domestic violence, Saturday, October 29, 2022 at Cate Square Park. The run will begin at 8am and donations are being accepted.

**Bobby Mitchell,** Code Enforcement- demolition request update status. Bobby answered questions and provided a list of proposed demolitions.

Lois Golden, stated she was concerned over a house in her neighborhood.

### VII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: NONE

# VIII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Hayven LaFrance (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 3605 Delia Randall Road per survey by Gilbert Sullivan, RLS dated 3/1/78; Zoned RM-2 (Z-2022-09-00111) Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission .

Lacy Landrum, stated this was a standard mobile home request, located in the northern section of Councilman Leon's district. Mr. LaFrance was present and the Planning and Zoning Committee unanimously recommended approval.

Councilman Leon, asked if there was any disagreement from residents.

Hayven LaFrance (owner), asked the council to table the item.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to table the Introduction of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Hayven LaFrance (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 3605 Delia Randall Road per survey by Gilbert Sullivan, RLS dated 3/1/78; Zoned RM-2 (Z-2022-09-00111) Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission.** 

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

2. Introduction of an ordinance to approve a rezoning request by RE 3 Properties, LLC (owner) to rezone Lots 60, 61, & 62 of Block 3 of Vacarro Park Subdivision, located at 1409 West Church Street from RM-2 to MX-C (Z-2022-09-00112). Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission

Lacy Landrum stated this will match the adjoining property and is consistent with the land use map. Planning and Zoning unanimously recommended approval.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve an ordinance to a rezoning request by RE 3 Properties, LLC (owner) to rezone Lots 60, 61, & 62 of Block 3 of Vacarro Park Subdivision, located at 1409 West Church Street from RM-2 to MX-C (Z-2022-09-00112).** Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission

Lacy Landrum stated this will match the adjoining property and is consistent with the land use map. Planning and Zoning unanimously recommended approval.

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday November 15, 2022, 2022 at 5:30pm

### IX. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A resolution to approve The Livin Room, LLC located at 1801 Nashville Ave. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell on premise Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Terrie Clemmons LLC. **Kasey Daigle**, stated that the owner was not present and she has asked that the item be tabled.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Wells</u> to table a resolution to approve The Livin Room, LLC located at 1801 Nashville Ave. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell on premise Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Terrie Clemmons LLC.

Pat Macaluso 1200 Lafitte Unit 1, stated she lives close to the above business and she was not in favor of the permit.

Anna File, 1200 Lafitte Unit 2, stated that she agrees with Pat and she opposes the permit. Matt Babin, 1604 Nashville, stated he has lived on Nashville for seventeen years and states that he opposes the permit. Jerry Correjolles, 1410 Nashville, stated that he agrees with everyone and he opposes the permit. Councilman Leon, stated that the establishment has been a problem and he has received several calls and it doesn't need to be there. He that he would make a secondary motion to deny the permit.

There was a substitute motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to deny a resolution to approve The Livin Room, LLC located at 1801 Nashville Ave. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell on premise Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Terrie Clemmons LLC.

# VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Abstain Motion to Deny Approved 4-0)

2. A resolution to approve annual alcohol renewals for 2023.

**Kasey Diagle**, stated that all of the businesses on the list have an existing permit. The list is due on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Jacqueline Taylor stated that there are problems with all the clubs.

Randy Wilson, thanked Councilman Leon for taking a position on Livin Room.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve annual alcohol renewals for 2023.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (abstain), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (abstain) Motion Approved 3-0

3. A resolution to authorize the Downtown Development District and its approved merchants to serve alcohol during the event Starry November Night, held on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 8am-8pm. The event is held within the boundaries of E. and W. Robert St., N. and S. Holly St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Magnolia St.

**Chelsea Tallo Little,** stated that they decided to move the event to Saturday and making it a full day event and it will benefit the community better.

Councilman Wells left the meeting.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to authorize the Downtown Development District and its approved merchants to serve alcohol during the event Starry November Night, held on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 8am-8pm. The event is held within the boundaries of E. and W. Robert St., N. and S. Holly St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Magnolia St. **VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon** (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 4-0

4. A resolution to grant a Waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to the Downtown Development District and its approved merchants during the event Starry November Night, held on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 8am-8pm. The event is held within the boundaries of E. and W. Robert St., N. and S. Holly St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Magnolia St.

Chelsea Tallo Little, same event as previous.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to to grant a Waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to the Downtown Development District and its approved merchants during the event Starry November Night, held on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 8am-8pm. The event is held within the boundaries of E. and W. Robert St., N. and S. Holly St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Magnolia St.

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

Chelsea Tallo Little, invited everyone out to trick-or treat on Thursday downtown 5:30 pm to 7pm. The Lieutenant Governor will be at Railroad Park at 5:00 pm to give a recognition to downtown to kick-off the event and there will be 53 businesses participating.

5. A resolution 1) approving Hammond Northshore Regional Airport's 2023-28 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP); 2) requesting that the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's Division of Aviation provide funds required to complete the airport improvements specifically described in the Airport's CIP Application; 3) agreeing to certain assurances related to the proceeding; 4) authorizing the Mayor and Hammond City Council President to sign CIP documents; and 5) authorizing the Hammond City Council Clerk to attest to these signatures.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated this plan makes a lot of improvements to the airport that are needed and overdue. These are due to the FAA by November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The need to get the council's approval to submit this to FAA. He stated that this was a plan and is not necessarily everything that will be done or the order that it will be done. This is letting the DOTD, FAA, general public and the council know what the plans are moving forward.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> 1) approving Hammond Northshore Regional Airport's 2023-28 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP); 2) requesting that the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's Division of Aviation provide funds required to complete the airport improvements specifically described in the Airport's CIP Application; 3) agreeing to certain assurances related to the proceeding; 4) authorizing the Mayor and Hammond City Council President to sign CIP documents; and 5) authorizing the Hammond City Council Clerk to attest to these signatures** 

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

6. A resolution 1) accepting a \$26,923 grant from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's Division of Aviation for "Runway 18-36 Rehabilitation - Phase II (Design)" (City Project 22301) at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated this was related to what David Lobue presented to the council on June 28<sup>th</sup>, presenting the FAA share of the contract, which is 90% and the state puts in a 10% match. They have received the grant contract from the state for the 10% match and there is no cost to the city. So they are asking the council to approve

Councilman Wells returns to the meeting

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> 1) accepting a \$26,923 grant from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's Division of Aviation for "Runway 18-36 Rehabilitation - Phase II (Design)" (City Project 22301) at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport; 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** 

7. A resolution supporting the submission of a grant application for \$50,000 to the Community Water Enrichment Fund for improvements to the City's water system.

**Charles Borchers IV**, stated that this was similar to the Louisiana government assistance program LGAP which he presented to the council two meetings ago for improvements to our water systems. What they would like to do with the funds is install what are called inserta valves.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if there was a match.

Charles Borchers stated that there is no match requirement.

Councilman Wells, asked about the cutoffs and where they would be located.

Charles Borchers, stated Guy is working on a list and he is not exactly sure where they will be.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> a resolution to supporting the submission of a grant application for \$50,000 to the Community Water Enrichment Fund for improvements to the City's water system.

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

8. A resolution authorizing Lisa Cockerham, Hammond City Council Clerk, to certify authorized signatories and signatures for the Fiscal Year 2022–23 Local Government Assistance Program and Community Water Enrichment Fund.

Charles Borchers IV, stated authorized signatories are required by these documents.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Wells</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> a to resolution authorizing Lisa Cockerham, Hammond City Council Clerk, to certify authorized signatories and signatures for the Fiscal Year 2022–23 Local Government Assistance Program and Community Water Enrichment Fund. **VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y) Motion Approved 5-0** 

## X. REPORTS:

**Mayor:** Spokes and Hopes Bike Drive is going on. Hammond Police Department is reaching out to the local community to donated bikes. Anyone interested should contact the Hammond Police Department.

## Council:

Councilman Wells, asked about a complaint against the police chief.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about speed bumps.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, gave a recap of activities in the community. Halloween Trick or Treat Monday 5 pm to 8pm.

Councilman Leon, encouraged everyone to vote.

#### **XI. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> 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 ATRUE AND CORRECT RECITATION OF THE BUSINESS TRANSACTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD OCTOBER 25,

2022

**BEING 5 PAGES IN LENGTH** 

6 0

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.

<u>Hammond City Council Members</u> 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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA November 15, 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:**

1. An ordinance to approve a rezoning request by RE 3 Properties, LLC (owner) to rezone Lots 60, 61, & 62 of Block 3 of Vacarro Park Subdivision, located at 1409 West Church Street from RM-2 to MX-C (Z-2022-09-00112). Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission (Lacy Landrum)

Lacy Landrum, stated that this was a unanimous decision by the zoning commission. She stated this would bring this property in alignment with the surrounding properties on the map and future land use map. Sally, 1500 West Church, asked what the property is going to be used for

Lacy Landrum and council members had a discussion of allowed uses if the land is re-zoned.



## HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA November 15, 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.

## **V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Approval of Minutes of the October 25, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve the minutes of October 25, 2022.

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

## VI. PRESENTATION- Lois Colson, Civix -Housing Study Update

Joe Mier- Chairman of Housing Committee provided an update on the committee. Lois Colson, Project Manager for Civix gave an update/presentation on the Hammond Housing Growth Study. She stated the final report will be in four to six weeks.

Michelle Gallo, Crime stoppers made a presentation and introduced her new community outreach coordinator. She also thanked the city for the grant they received.

## VII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. Final Adoption of an ordinance to approve a rezoning request by RE 3 Properties, LLC (owner) to rezone Lots 60, 61, & 62 of Block 3 of Vacarro Park Subdivision, located at 1409 West Church Street from RM-2 to MX-C (Z-2022-09-00112). Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission.

Lacy Landrum, stated this re-aligns property with existing and surrounding property and it does conform to the future land use map for this area.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwomanman Gonzales</u> to adopt an ordinance to approve a rezoning request by RE 3 Properties, LLC (owner) to rezone Lots 60, 61, & 62 of Block 3 of Vacarro Park Subdivision, located at 1409 West Church Street from RM-2 to MX-C (Z-2022-09-00112). Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission.

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

# VIII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

# A. OLD BUSINESS

1. Introduction of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Hayven LaFrance (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 3605 Delia Randall Road per survey

by Gilbert Sullivan, RLS dated 3/1/78; Zoned RM-2 (Z-2022-09-00111) with the following conditions: 1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

Lacy Landrum, stated this came before the zoning commission on October 20, 2022 and was tabled at the October 25, 2022 city council meeting at the request of the owner. This item was unanimously approved 5-0 by the commission.

Councilman DiVittorio asked about the utility services.

Cedric Dunomes, asked about utilities at the end of MC Moore.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to introduce an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Hayven LaFrance (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 3605 Delia Randall Road per survey by Gilbert Sullivan, RLS dated 3/1/78; Zoned RM-2 (Z-2022-09-00111) with the following conditions: 1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use; 2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and 3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record. Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday December 13, 2022 at 5:30pm

## **B. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Introduction of an ordinance to approve a request by Locascio LLC to resubdivide parcel 2-A-1 into parcels 2-A-1-A and 2-A-1-B of the Locascio Subdivision located at 1955 Southwest Railroad Avenue, and to accept the dedication of Locascio Drive and the cul-de-sac in accordance with a preliminary survey by David Patterson, PLS, dated 10/4/22; Zoned C-H (SUB-2022-10-00198). Recommend approval by the Planning Commission, 5-0.

Lacy Landrum, stated this was heard by the commission on November 10, 2022 and the Commission recommend approval. This was discussed with Mr. Patterson and Chuck Spangler, City Engineer and Chuck suggested they do some form of a cul de sac towards the end.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to approve a request by Locascio LLC to resubdivide parcel 2-A-1 into parcels 2-A-1-A and 2-A-1-B of the Locascio Subdivision located at 1955 Southwest Railroad Avenue, and to accept the dedication of Locascio Drive and the cul-de-sac in accordance with a preliminary survey by David Patterson, PLS, dated 10/4/22; Zoned C-H (SUB-2022-10-00198). Recommend approval by the Planning Commission, 5-0. **VOTE:** Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 4-0

## Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday December 13, 2022 at 5:30pm

2. Introduction of an ordinance to approve a request by Eric Long (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 1400 Apple Street per survey by Richmond Krebs, PLS, dated 6/3/19; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-10-00114) with the following conditions:

1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

Lacy Landrum, stated this was heard this past Thursday on November 10, 2022 and unanimously recommended by all five commissioners for approval.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to approve a request by Eric Long (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 1400 Apple Street per survey by Richmond Krebs, PLS, dated 6/3/19; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-10-00114) with the following conditions: 1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use; 2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and 3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record. Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.** 

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday December 13, 2022 at 5:30pm

3. Introduction of an ordinance to approve a request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot A, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 712 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-05-0010) with the following conditions:

1. No alcohol sales.

2. No marijuana sales.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

Lacy Landrum, stated this case and the next case are very similar and are next door properties. Councilman Andrews helped to facilitate the process and several people spoke in favor of this property being rezoned. Mr. Ruffin intends to use the property for a restaurant that will mostly be to go food. The zoning commission unanimously approved after hearing support from property owners.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to approve a request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot A, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 712 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-05-0010) with the following conditions: 1. No alcohol sales.2. No marijuana sales. Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.** 

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

Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday December 13, 2022 at 5:30pm

4. Introduction of an ordinance to approve a request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot B, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 706 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-10-00113) with the following conditions: 1. No alcohol sales.

2. No marijuana sales. Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0. (Lacy Landrum) **There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to approve a request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot B, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 706 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-10-00113) with the following conditions: 1. No alcohol sales.** 

2. No marijuana sales. Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

Lacy Landrum, stated this is the same as 712 Magazine.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked about restrictions and future cases.

Councilman DiVittorio, left the meeting

Lacy Landrum, stated this will have attachments and it will be a recorded ordinance and should come up with the restrictions.

**VOTE:** Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Absent), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 3-0

Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday December 13, 2022 at 5:30pm

## **IX. RESOLUTIONS:**

1. A resolution to approve Star Mike Star LLC located at 3151 Highway 190 W. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol. The owner is Star Mike Star LLC.

Councilman DiVittorio, returns to meeting

Kasey Diagle, state this is new ownership and the new owners were present.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Leon

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

2. A resolution to accept the proposed health insurance package for calendar year 2023. (Henry Powell) **Henry Powell**, 110 w. Morris, stated this is for the renewal of employee benefits and ancillary products renewals. He recommends Blue Cross and Blue Shield, there was a 2.8% increase and they were the lowest bidder. He also discussed the funding of the Benny Card.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to accept the proposed health insurance package for calendar year 2023.

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

**Councilwoman Gonzales left the meeting** 

3. A resolution to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the questionnaire.

Laura Hammett stated this is required by the auditor every year.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second <u>by Councilman DiVittorio</u> to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the questionnaire. **Vote**: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Absent), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Absent), Motion Approved 3-0

4. A Resolution authorizing the purchase of equipment (for the New 2022 Police Tahoe's) from Dana Safety Supply, Inc. for the Total of \$64,998.31.

Assistant Chief Monistere, stated this is equipment that will be installed when the new vehicles come in. There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to authorize the purchase of equipment (for the New 2022 Police Tahoe's) from Dana Safety Supply, Inc. for the Total of \$64,998.31.

Councilwoman Gonzales returned to the meeting

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

5. A Resolution authorizing the purchase of equipment and installation (for the New 2022 Police Tahoe's) from Dana Safety Supply, Inc. for the Total of \$108,720.60.

Assistant Chief Monistere, stated this is same as previous.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to authorize the purchase of equipment and installation (for the New 2022 Police Tahoe's) from Dana Safety Supply, Inc. for the Total of \$108,720.60.** 

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

6. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign an Addendum to the Rail Spur Lease with Home Depot extending the term period to 2024.

Lacy Landrum, stated this will match the terms of the Graham Packaging Rail Spur Lease. There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to authorize the Mayor to sign an Addendum to the Rail Spur Lease with Home Depot extending the term period to 2024. **Vote:** Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Absent). Motion Approved 4-0

#### X. REPORTS:

Mayor: Congratulated council members on their re-election and encouraged everyone to go out and vote on December 10, 2022.

Council:

Councilman DiVittorio, thanked his district for re-electing him and asked Lacy Landrum about speed bumps.

Councilman Leon, asked everyone to take part in the activities around the city.

**Councilman Andrews**, stated that he was looking forward to working with everyone and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

## **XI. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to adjourn the meeting. Motion Approved 4-0 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 November 15,

2022

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.

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



HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA December 13, 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:**

1. An ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Hayven LaFrance (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 3605 Delia Randall Road per survey

by Gilbert Sullivan, RLS dated 3/1/78; Zoned RM-2 (Z-2022-09-00111) with the following conditions: 1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0. (Lacy Landrum)

**Lacy Landrum**, stated the zoning commission approved this on October 20<sup>th</sup>, but it was tabled at the request of the owner. It was introduced again on November 15, 2022 and tonight we are here for the public hearing. The existing zoning is for multifamily. It is in council district 5. A property owner Don Zorang who is an adjacent property owner of 115 and 117 Mallard Drive came to the meeting to voice his opposition to this.

**Don Zorang**, stated he represents the owners on Mallard Dr. Units 115, 116, and 117 Mallard and they are in opposition of this and approving the use of the property for a mobile home. He ask that they not approve the expanded conditional use.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked about the mobile home that was in the rear/in the back. He asked Lacy Landrum when it was annexed.

Lacy Landrum, stated she did not know but would look it up.

**Councilman Leon**, stated that he received information from the Woodbridge Homeowners Association and they are in opposition.

**Hayvan Lafrance**, 3605 Delia Randall Rd, stated when they bought the property they were told they could put a trailer back there.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked Mr. LaFrance who told he that he would not have a problem.

Hayvan LaFrnce, stated it was his real estate agent.

**Councilman Leon**, stated the property is in district five and he and some of the constituents are in opposition. **Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that the city is getting a lot of mobile home request and this is something they need to address. Where is the vision of the city going with mobile homes?

2. An ordinance to approve a request by Locascio LLC to resubdivide parcel 2-A-1 into parcels 2-A-1-A and 2-A-1-B of the Locascio Subdivision located at 1955 Southwest Railroad Avenue, and to accept the dedication of Locascio Drive and the cul-de-sac in accordance with a preliminary survey by David Patterson, PLS, dated 10/4/22; Zoned C-H (SUB-2022-10-00198). Recommend approval by the Planning Commission, 5-0.

Lacy Landrum, stated this was heard by the planning and zoning on November 10 and heard at the last council meeting on November 15. This is to dedicate the roadway. The road was originally built to service the area and it was a private road at that time. No Public Comment

3. An ordinance to approve a request by Eric Long (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 1400 Apple Street per survey by Richmond Krebs, PLS, dated 6/3/19; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-10-00114) with the following conditions:

1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

Lacy Landrum, stated this was heard by the planning and zoning on November 10 and heard at the last council meeting on November 15. It has the three conditions that apply to a mobile home placement. It's located in council district one.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that this was styled as an ordinance to approve a request whereas the other one is an expanded conditional use request on the agenda. She asked if they are both expanded conditional use and are all mobile home expanded.

Lacy Landrum, stated yes and that should be an expanded conditional use and that's why it has the three restrictions.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that it is correct in the packet.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the zoning of the proposed location of the mobile home.

Lacy Landrum, explained that this particular lot is not in a mobile home area, but there are mobile homes around it.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if there was a hardship.

**Eric Long,** stated that he purchase the property 1400 Apple Street and he is trying to get a place to help his kids get started.

**Ms. Long**, stated that it is a hardship and they would like to have their daughter close to where they are. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked Councilman Andrews if he had received any feedback from the community. **Councilman Andrews** stated he did not receive any feedback and he attended the planning and zoning meeting and no one from the area opposed.

Lacy Landrum stated that there was not anyone at the meeting but one of the property owners Reginald Reed did send an email.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated he had an issue with mobile homes being brought up with issues that the zoning does not allow.

Lacy Landrum, discussed a conversation she had with planning and zoning regarding mobile home requests. They had a conversation with city attorney regarding things to consider and meeting the fair housing rules and making sure they have an accommodating city.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated we need to look at it and get with planning and zoning to see it they want to rezone areas for mobile homes.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked about the expanded conditional use that list Mr. Long as the owner but the use is for the daughter. She asked if it was for the ownership of Mr. Long or the daughter.

Lacy Landrum, stated that they are both ok, but if it goes to a different child or different owner, then it comes back to planning and zoning.

**Councilwoman Gonzales** asked if something happened with this mobile home would he have to come before council or can he just put another one in place.

Lacy Landrum, stated that is correct but they would still have to make sure he met the UDC (Unified Development Code) and the HUD (Housing and Urban Development) guidelines.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, expressed her concerns regarding deteriorating and old dilapidated trailers and the use of the Expanded Conditional Use. She stated we need to get something in place and not change the way they were doing things. They need to put something in place to give people guidance.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that there needs to be some communication between council and planning and zoning.

**Councilman Andrews** stated again that this was in his district and he did not receive any feedback on it. **Lacy Landrum**, stated to start the conversation she would send the council the proposed mobile home area

maps so that they could see where they are in the districts.

Sal Nicolosi, 3607 Highway 190 West, asked about the mobile home process

Lacy Landrum, stated that they have to come through an approval process.

**Sal Nicolosi**, expressed his concern for people moving here and the need for mobile homes. He stated that there were a lot of mobile homes all over the city and a lot of them were grandfather/annexed in.

Lin Matthews, stated a lot of people cannot afford to buy homes and all everyone want is a chance to have a home.

4. An ordinance to approve a request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot A, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 712 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-05-0010) with the following conditions:

1. No alcohol sales.

2. No marijuana sales.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

Lacy Landrum stated this was heard by the planning and zoning and at the last council meeting on November 15 and is up for public hearing and final adoption. She stated that this case and the one that follows are lots that are adjacent to one another 712 and 706 is following. This area is a mixed area at the intersection between Magazine and MC Moore. Mr. Ruffin would like to build a small restaurant with mostly food to go with no alcohol. He's asking to change his zoning from residential single family to mixed neighborhood which allows for restaurants and offices. The zoning commission heard from several people that attended the public hearing in the surrounding area. There was also a petition of signatures supporting the change and there was one email received that was in opposition and that individual also spoke at the first meeting. She stated that there was a meeting facilitated by Councilman Andrews and they came to an agreement about the no alcohol and no marijuana sales in order for the rezoning to transpire. Mr. Ruffin and others were present to speak.

Larry and Mary Short, 719 Magazine St, she stated that this came before the Planning and Zoning Commission before and was voted no three to two and she stated they were in agreement with that. She stated planning and zoning offered Mr. Ruffin a conditional permit that he could have the restaurant in a residential area and not be rezoned but he refused. He came back and added the lot side by side which is directly in front of their property. The other reason they are opposed and is asking the council to vote no is because a property on the northeast side of her home was given permission to change its business to a restaurant which failed and because it was changed to business it became full bar room next door to their home. Across the street from their home someone opened a sweet shop and it did not make it and now it's a bar room. She stated that Christopher property is directly in front of them and he wants to open a restaurant and they have no problem with that, but if he decides he doesn't want to live there and he told them that he plans to be there for 10 years and after that he would move. They do not want the property rezoned and the next person comes and put a bar there. They are asking the council to vote no.

## Council discussed

**Reverend Gerald Tanner**, present on behalf of Pastor Samuel Brown and Mount Vernon Missionary Baptist Church, 1005 Lavannah Brown Dr., he asked that the council vote no.

Christopher Ruffin, stated this is his property and he is trying to build him a business.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated that she is concerned about the enforceability.

**Christopher Ruffin**, stated that the building is going to be a small walk up where you can order your stuff. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked Mr. Ruffin what was the issue with the expanding conditional use since he withdrew it.

**Christopher Ruffin**, stated he didn't want that and he wanted a regular use like everyone else. **Councilwoman Gonzales** asked why, and stated if you can't have the zoning would he accept the conditional use.

Christopher Ruffin, stated he would just keep on until he gets it.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he Mr. Ruffin was agreeing to no alcohol and no marijuana sales with the rezoning on the property.

Christopher Ruffin, stated yes and he thought they agreed too. He state Councilman Kip was present and they all agreed.

**Councilwoman Gonzales,** asked Councilman Andrews if he had any communication since that resolution. **Councilman Andrews,** stated he had received one text message from Ms. Short. He stated his understanding when he left the meeting that if the no alcohol sales and no Marijuana sales could be added as a special condition would it be ok. He asked Lacy Landrum. At the planning and zoning meeting they added the condition and his understanding was that it was approved to be done this way with no changes. **Council discussion** 

**Covotas Cox, 114 Caroline Dr.** stated she is a member at Mount Vernon and her only concern is if he has the zoning as an MXN, would he be able to get an alcohol license after fact.

**Councilman Andrews,** answered no and it is already stated for the property that it cannot happen. No one can get it. Everything would have to be redone.

Lacy Landrum, stated they would have to go through a full process and there would be notification of property owner, zoning commission and city council as well as an alcohol permitting process with the city and state.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated her problem is granting more use than what Mr. Ruffin wants to do with it. **Mary Short**, stated that she is the owner of Birdies Florist and she addressed an article that was taken from the newspaper regarding the flower shop. She read from the article and stated that is what they are asking for Chris conditional use.

Edna Lee Bean, stated she does not reside in the area but her late husband had a business there and they have a rental property adjacent to Mr. Ruffin's property. She doesn't live there but she is concerned about the neighbors that live there and she doesn't want marijuana or alcohol sold.

**Samuel Wilson,** stated that he lives across the street from Mr. Ruffin's property and he doesn't see a problem with him putting his business up.

**Larry Short Jr.** 1404 Harvard St. stated that he doesn't see anything wrong with him having a business. But he is concerned that if there is no hidden agenda and he can have his business without it being changed why not accept it.

Larry Short Sr., stated that they had some signatures and petition.

5. An ordinance to approve a request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot B, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 706 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-10-00113) with the following conditions:

No alcohol sales.
 No marijuana sales.
 Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.
 Lacy Landrum stated, that this has all the same details of the previous property that they just spoke of. It is the lot to the west an adjacent to 712 Magazine St.
 No Public Comments



## HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES 312 EAST CHARLES STREET HAMMOND, LOUISIANA December 13, 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.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of the November 15, 2022 meeting

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the minutes of November 15, 2022.

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

## VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Hayven LaFrance (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 3605 Delia Randall Road per survey

by Gilbert Sullivan, RLS dated 3/1/78; Zoned RM-2 (Z-2022-09-00111) with the following conditions:

1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

**Debra Swenson**, at large member of the Woodbridge Community Resident Association, 12 Ravenwood St. The association is asking for an extension of the vote so that they can get together to discuss how this would affect their community, if not granted, they are asking that the council vote against it.

Don Zarang, stated they object and request denial of approval.

Councilman Leon, stated that in district five there are several people that are opposed to this.

There was a motion by <u>Councilman Leon</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to deny the adoption of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Hayven LaFrance (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 3605 Delia Randall Road per survey

by Gilbert Sullivan, RLS dated 3/1/78; Zoned RM-2 (Z-2022-09-00111) with the following conditions: 1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

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

2. Final adoption of an ordinance to approve a request by Locascio LLC to resubdivide parcel 2-A-1 into parcels 2-A-1-A and 2-A-1-B of the Locascio Subdivision located at 1955 Southwest Railroad Avenue, and to

accept the dedication of Locascio Drive and the cul-de-sac in accordance with a preliminary survey by David Patterson, PLS, dated 10/4/22; Zoned C-H (SUB-2022-10-00198). Recommend approval by the Planning Commission, 5-0. (Lacy Landrum)

**Michael Davis**, 39229 Jordan Lane, Ponchatoula, stated he represents the surveyor and Locascio LLC and he was there to answer any questions.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve the adoption of an ordinance to approve a request by Locascio LLC to resubdivide parcel 2-A-1 into parcels 2-A-1-A and 2-A-1-B of the Locascio Subdivision located at 1955 Southwest Railroad Avenue, and to accept the dedication of Locascio Drive and the cul-de-sac in accordance with a preliminary survey by David Patterson, PLS, dated 10/4/22; Zoned C-H (SUB-2022-10-00198). Recommend approval by the Planning Commission, 5-0.

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

3. Final adoption of an ordinance to approve a request by Eric Long (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 1400 Apple Street per survey by Richmond Krebs, PLS, dated 6/3/19; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-10-00114) with the following conditions:

1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0. (Lacy Landrum)

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to approve the adoption of an ordinance to approve a request by Eric Long (owner) to allow for a mobile home located at 1400 Apple Street per survey by Richmond Krebs, PLS, dated 6/3/19; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-10-00114) with the following conditions:** 

1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

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

4. Final adoption of an ordinance to approve a request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot A, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 712 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-05-0010) with the following conditions:

1. No alcohol sales.

2. No marijuana sales.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0. (Lacy Landrum)

Mary Short, gave Councilman Andrew a signed petition.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> approve an ordinance request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot A, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 712 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-05-0010) with the following conditions:** 

1. No alcohol sales.

2. No marijuana sales

3. No event or reception hall at the property

**VOTE**: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (N), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 3-1

5. Final adoption of an ordinance to approve a request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot B, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 706 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-10-00113) with the following conditions:

1. No alcohol sales.

2. No marijuana sales.

Recommend approval by the Zoning Commission, 5-0.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> approve an ordinance request by Christopher Ruffin (owner) to rezone Lot A, Block 1 of Pine Ridge Addition, located at 712 Magazine St. from RS-3 to MX-N in accordance with a survey by William Bodin, PLS dated 1/31/22 (Z-2022-05-0010) with the following conditions:** 

1. No alcohol sales.

2. No marijuana sales

3. No event or reception hall at the property

**VOTE**: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (N), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 3-1

## VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Candice T. Bush (owner and applicant) to allow for a mobile home located at 508 Washington Avenue per survey by William J. Bodin, PLS dated 5/18/22; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-11-00115). Recommended Approval by the Zoning Commission with the following conditions:

1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Lacy Landrum stated this was heard by the zoning commission on December 8 and up for introduction and will go to public hearing on January 10, 2022.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked Lacy if this was the item tabled by planning and zoning

Lacy Landrum, stated no, but 119 Kansas St was tabled and stated that it doesn't come before council until planning and zoning makes a recommendation. Lacy stated that there are a mobile homes on the North South and West of the property. The lot is not in a mobile home area several mobile homes throughout the neighborhood.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked what district this was in.

Lacy Landrum, stated district three.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to introduce an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use request by Candice T. Bush (owner and applicant) to allow for a mobile home located at 508 Washington Avenue per survey by William J. Bodin, PLS dated 5/18/22; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2022-11-00115). Recommended Approval by the Zoning Commission with the following conditions:** 

1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

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

2. Introduction of an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use by Willie J. Richardson (owner and applicant) to allow for a mobile home located at 17085 East Hoover Street per survey; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-11-00117). Recommended Approval by the Zoning Commission with the following conditions:

1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

Lacy Landrum, stated it was heard at the December 8 meeting and is for introduction. This is located in district one and is an existing vacant lot, the original home on the lot burned downed. This is in a proposed mobile home.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to introduce an ordinance to approve an Expanded Conditional Use by Willie J. Richardson (owner and applicant) to allow for a mobile home located at 17085 East Hoover Street per survey; Zoned RS-3. (Z-2022-11-**

00117). Recommended Approval by the Zoning Commission with the following conditions:

1. This is a personal right and expires upon a change in ownership of the property from the person originally granted the conditional use;

2. It meets all the requirements in the Unified Development Code Article 3, Section 3.4; and

3. The survey submitted is signed and recorded for the official lot of record.

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

## VIII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with Roofing Solutions for \$74,046.00 for a Roof Replacement at the Police/Fire Fleet Building. RFP 23-38.

Chief Folks, stated the building is located at 1290 Railroad Ave and this is the lowest bid received.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked the Chief to explain where the funds were coming from.

Chief Folks, stated the funds will be coming from millage in the building maintenance.

Sal Nicolosi, 3607 Highway 190 West, asked how many companies have been approached for bids.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated there were four bids.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated this was the lowest bid.

Sal Nicolosi, asked if this was a local company.

Lacy Landrum, stated that there were seven present at the pre-bid meeting, it was advertised on the website and in the newspaper. There were only four that submitted bids out of the seven.

Chief Folks, stated that this was advertised as a public bid.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the Mayor to enter into contract with Roofing Solutions for \$74,046.00 for a Roof Replacement at the Police/Fire Fleet Building. RFP 23-38** 

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

2. A resolution to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 11, 2023, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks.

**Deek Deblieux**, 42532 S. Range Rd, stated this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off for their rotary group and all proceeds go back into the community.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked if they were just serving beer and if there were wrist bands. **Deek Deblieux**, stated that the wrist band is for the chili but they check identification and their members will be serving and they are very strict.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 11, 2023, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks. **VOTE**: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 4-0

3. A resolution to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 11, 2023, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks.

Deek Deblieux, stated this was same as the previous.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> to authorize the Hammond-Ponchatoula Sunriser Rotary Club to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 11, 2023, from 10:00am until 3:00pm for the Chili Cook-off within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Avenue, and the railroad tracks.** 

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

4. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 4, 2023, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401.

**Jordan Kenning**, President of Art Center was present and stated that this was one of their three main events for the year. They are anticipating close to four hundred ticket sales.

It is a closed event so there will not be any outside visitor coming into the tent or building without being checked for identification and wrist bands.

**There was a motion by** <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to sell and serve alcohol on Saturday, February 4, 2023, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401. **VOTE**: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 4-0

5. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 4, 2023, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401.

Jordan Kenning, same as previous.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, February 4, 2023, from 6:00pm until 10:00pm for the Art of the Cocktail within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401.** 

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

6. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) through which DOTD will pay 100% of the cost to construct a roadway lighting system at the I-12 and US 51B interchange provided that, upon completion, the City will assume ownership of and all liability and responsibility for this system, including all future maintenance and operation costs.

**Charles Borchers IV** stated, this is the interchange where they installed the three roundabouts. He stated that this was standard for the DOTD. They build the infrastructure and their cost include the design and build and the city's responsibility is maintain the lights or lighting systems on the roads that they share. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, asked who pays for the utilities.

Charles Borchers, stated that would be us.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) through which DOTD will pay 100% of the cost to construct a roadway lighting system at the I-12 and US 51B interchange provided that, upon completion, the City will assume ownership of and all liability and responsibility for this system, including all future maintenance and operation costs.** 

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

7. A resolution to approve the appointment of John Exnicios, representing the Largest Assessed Property Owners to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024.

Michelle Kendall stated that she submitted the packets and they have four open seats. Three of the large assessed property owner seats. John Exnicious was not present, but she stated that he was an active and current member.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated that he made it clear in the past that people that are being appointed to serve on city boards be present.

**Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated that John has come before them before and she thinks everyone is familiar with him. She stated that she appreciated the summary of his and the other person who is a repeat nomination of their attendance.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve the appointment of John Exnicios, representing the Largest Assessed Property Owners to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024. **VOTE**: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (N), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 3-1

8. A resolution to approve the appointment of Evan Singer, representing the Largest Assessed Property Owners to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024.

Michelle Kendall, stated this is a large assessed property owner seat and Evan Singer is present. Evan Singer, stated it was an honor to serve and he appreciate their consideration.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, thanked Evan for showing up and stated he heard a lot of good things about him and thanked him for his service.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> and second by <u>Councilman Andrews</u> to approve the appointment of Evan Singer, representing the Largest Assessed Property Owners to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024. <b>VOTE**: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Absent) Motion Approved 4-0

9. A resolution to approve the appointment of Kali Norton, representing the Largest Assessed Property Owners to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024.

**Michelle Kendall**, stated this is the last seat for the large assessed property owners. Currently John Daniel Guerin is serving in this seat but he is leaving the board effective at the end of the month. They received a nomination for Ms. Kali Norton and she is present to answer any questions.

Kali Norton, stated she graduated from Southeastern and have been a small business owner since 2011 in Hammond and she passionate about the city, the growth and all that the Downtown Development District is doing and she would like to be a part of it.

Councilman DiVittorio, thanked Kali for coming and for what she do for the community.

**There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman DiVittorio</u> to approve the appointment of Kali Norton, representing the Largest Assessed Property Owners to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024.** 

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

**Councilwoman Gonzales** stated that they had received Michelle's letter regarding the Westside property owner's seat not having received enough applications. She mentioned it to the council to decide if the wanted to amend the agenda and ask that they send it back to the DDD to open up applications again for whatever the period is.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales to amend the agenda to add a resolution to request the Downtown Development District to open applications back up for the Westside property owners.

**Michelle Kendall**, stated for clarification they would open up applications with the nominees they received and when they receive the five letters to come back before the council or their board.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated, whatever their procedure is and would be presented to the council.

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked what the options are, do we leave it like it is for the council to make recommendations. **Councilwoman Gonzales**, stated they would appoint and approve someone who meets the three qualifications, from the letter Michelle sent. The council would find someone.

**Michelle Kendall**, stated that at the beginning of the year that seat would be vacant. They will have a board of six. The Westside property owner which currently holds that seat is Brian Wong and he will be leaving at the end of the month, so in January that seat will be vacant.

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to approve a resolution to direct the Downtown Development District to open up the nomination period for the Westside property owners effective January 1, 2023.

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

## **IX. REPORTS:**

#### Mayor:

**Lacy Landrum**, stated that the Christmas Parade will be Friday at 5:30. This is the last weekend the train will run. City offices will be closed on Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup> and Monday December 26<sup>th</sup>, will also be closed for the New Year's holiday on Friday December 30<sup>th</sup> and Monday January 2<sup>nd</sup> for the holidays. Trash will be picked up as normal.

**Cedric Dunmious**, 106 Magazine St, stated from Hoover Street to the dead end of MC Moore Rd, he was concerned that there were not enough fire hydrants.

Chief Folks, explained the process and solutions.

## **Council:**

**Councilman DiVittorio**, stated he was following up on Brandy Lane. He asked if they could flip a switch at treatment plant because of the coming rain, he was concerned about Aida drive.

Lacy Landrum, explained that the lift station and stated that she would check with the drainage district Kylie Bates and get an update.

**Councilman DiVittorio** ask if she could check with Guy because of the rain that is expected. He is concerned about the water backing up in houses. He also asked her to keep an eye on the Rue Saint Martin light, he would be happy to see them on.

Councilman Andrew, stated our next council meeting will be in January.

## **IX. ADJOURN**

There was a motion by <u>Councilwoman Gonzales</u> and second by <u>Councilman Leon</u> to adjourn the meeting. Motion Approved 4-0 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 December 13,

2022 BEING 9 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.