



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
February 27, 2024
5:30pm**

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews
 - II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (P), Councilman Leon (P), Councilman Wells (Absent), Councilwoman Gonzales (P), Councilman DiVittorio (P)
 - III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE
- Wilbert Dangerfield Award of Excellence Ceremony will be immediately following our regular session.



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
February 27, 2024
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Kip Andrews
- II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (P), Councilman Leon (P), Councilman Wells (P), Councilwoman Gonzales (P), Councilman DiVittorio (P)
- III. PRAYER: Councilman Andrews
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All veterans and active military, please render the proper salute.
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Leon** to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2024 meeting.
Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Motion Approved 5-0

- VI. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE:
 - 1. Introduction of an ordinance to accept the dedication of the sewer lift station property and improvements at The Waters at Hammond

Attorney Andre Coudrain stated this was off Baurle Road, the inspections has been completed and include parts along with the generator and manufactures warranty on parts.

Councilman Wells asked that he be provided information on all the work that developers and the city has done on the lift station. He asked if he could get it a week before the next meeting.

Attorney Andre Coudrain, stated that he would make that request.

There was a motion by **Councilman Wells** and second by **Councilman Andrews** to introduce an ordinance to accept the dedication of the sewer lift station property and improvements at The Waters at Hammond.

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

PUBLIC HEARING March 12, 2024

2. Introduction of an ordinance to abandon to the donor the well lot and oxidation pond in Whitmar Acres and the sewer processing plant on North Oak Street donated to the city of Hammond as no longer needed for a public purpose in accordance with the terms of the donation.

City Attorney Andre Coudrain, requested to table this item because, additional investigation and reports are needed from the DEQ and EPA. He stated that there still needs to be further investigation.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked if he could explain the item for some people in the audience.

City Attorney Andre Coudrain, explained the item.

There was a motion by **Councilman Leon** and second by **Councilman Wells** to table an introduction of an ordinance to abandon to the donor the well lot and oxidation pond in Whitmar Acres and the sewer processing plant on North Oak Street donated to the city of Hammond as no longer needed for a public purpose in accordance with the terms of the donation.

Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (abstain), Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Motion Approved 4-0

PUBLIC HEARING March 12, 2024

3. Introduction of an ordinance of the Hammond City Council amending the Official Zoning Map from RS-3 to MX-C at 516 Magazine Street.

Lacy Landrum, explained the request is in District one and they would like to install a laundromat at that location. The commission voted unanimously to approve.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilman Wells** to introduce an ordinance of the Hammond City Council amending the Official Zoning Map from RS-3 to MX-C at 516 Magazine Street.

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

PUBLIC HEARING March 12, 2024

4. Introduction of an ordinance to amend the City of Hammond Unified Development Code to collect fees equal to the costs assumed by the city to record documents through the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court and the advertisement and notice of public meetings required of Planning and Zoning Commission meetings.

Lacy Landrum, explained that the ordinance was a recommendation by Planning and Zoning adopt the change to pass on fee.

Councilman Wells, asked about software that they previously approved in the budget.

Lacy Landrum, explained the process and work flow with the software company.

Councilman Wells, asked for an update on a time frame, price and fees.

Lacy Landrum, stated she would provide the pricing tomorrow. She stated these are not new fees or an increase to fee this is passing on the clerk of court fees and advertising fees.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the other fees.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Wells** to introduce an ordinance to amend the City of Hammond Unified Development Code to collect fees equal to the costs

assumed by the city to record documents through the Tangipahoa Parish Clerk of Court and the advertisement and notice of public meetings required of Planning and Zoning Commission meetings.
Vote: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Motion Approved 5-0
PUBLIC HEARING March 12, 2024

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A resolution to designate Tuesday, March 19, 2024 as Main Street Day in conjunction with Louisiana Main Street celebrating the 40th anniversary of Louisiana Main Street and Hammond's Main Street program maintained by the Hammond Downtown Development District and Hammond Historic District. **Michelle Kendall Director**, Downtown Development District, explained the event.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to designate Tuesday, March 19, 2024 as Main Street Day in conjunction with Louisiana Main Street celebrating the 40th anniversary of Louisiana Main Street and Hammond's Main Street program maintained by the Hammond Downtown Development District and Hammond Historic District.

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 contract with Choctaw Construction Services for railroad track repairs in the amount of \$59,270.00 (RFP 24-21)

Lacy Landrum, Director of Administration, explained the resolution and inspection report. She stated four bids were received. Choctaw Construction Services was the lowest bid of \$59,270 and it is within the railroad repair, within the streets department budget.

Councilman Wells about an area of track near the grain elevator that is in need of urgent repair.

Councilman Andrews, stated he has been asking about the repair of that area since his first term and it still hasn't been taken care of. The area is terrible

Lacy Landrum, stated she would speak to someone at the railroad about that area and would add it to the list as an urgent request.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to authorize the mayor to enter into contract with Choctaw Construction Services for railroad track repairs in the amount of \$59,270.00 (RFP 24-21)

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

3. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Change Order, totaling \$163,200, with Hendrick Construction, Inc. for "Rehabilitate Runway 18/36" (City Project 22401) at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport. FAA, which is funding 90% of project costs, has approved the Change Order and green-lit work to proceed. DOTD, which is funding 10% of project costs, is processing the Change Order now.

Lacy Landrum, Director of Administration, explained the resolution. She stated this is within budget and is paid by the FAA and DOTD. The changes that are needed are still below the original contract cost and there is no charge to the city.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to authorize the Mayor to execute a Change Order, totaling \$163,200, with Hendrick Construction, Inc. for "Rehabilitate Runway 18/36" (City Project 22401) at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport. FAA, which is funding 90% of project costs, has approved the Change Order and green-lit work to proceed. DOTD, which is funding 10% of project costs, is processing the Change Order now.

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

4. A resolution 1) supporting the submission of a revised application for \$413,400 to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program to purchase new turnout gear and gear washers for the Hammond Fire Department (HFD); and 2) supporting a cash match of \$37,582 to come from the HFD's millage fund. **Lacy Landrum, Director of Administration**, stated that this was approved at the last meeting to purchase seventy four sets of gear and four gear washers. The increase will come from fire millage.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio 1) supporting the submission of a revised application for \$413,400 to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program to purchase new turnout gear and gear washers for the Hammond Fire Department (HFD); and 2) supporting a cash match of \$37,582 to come from the HFD's millage fund.

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

5. A resolution ratifying quotes and awarding the contract for "Windows and Façade Renovations at the Levy Building" (Project 12328) to Staub Window Restorations in the amount of \$33,300.

Lacy Landrum, Director of Administration, stated they were working with Hammond Historic District on the changes to the building. She explained the process and the need to preserve and restore.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon ratifying quotes and awarding the contract for "Windows and Façade Renovations at the Levy Building" (Project 12328) to Staub Window Restorations in the amount of \$33,300. (Lacy Landrum)

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

6. A resolution to authorize Benny's Place to serve, sell, or otherwise handle alcohol during the Planet in the Park event, hosted by We Didn't Planet Clothing Co., held on Saturday, April 6, 2024 from 10:00am - 5:00pm. The event will take place at Cate Square Park, 200 West Charles Street.

Alec Griffith, Explained the event.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to authorize Benny's Place to serve, sell, or otherwise handle alcohol during the Planet in the Park event, hosted by We Didn't Planet Clothing Co., held on Saturday, April 6, 2024 from 10:00am - 5:00pm. The event will take place at Cate Square Park, 200 West Charles Street.

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

7. A resolution to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container law to Benny's Place during the Planet in the Park event, hosted by We Didn't Planet Clothing Co., held on Saturday, April 6, 2024 from 10:00am - 5:00pm. The event will take place at Cate Square Park, 200 West Charles Street.

Alec Griffith, same as previous.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container law to Benny's Place during the Planet in the Park event, hosted by We Didn't Planet Clothing Co., held on Saturday, April 6, 2024 from 10:00am - 5:00pm. The event will take place at Cate Square Park, 200 West Charles Street.

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

VIII. REPORTS:

Mayor:

LHSSA has been in Hammond for Soccer and basketball, they will finish up on Saturday.

Council:

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about lights on I-55 on the Westside, the lights or out. He met with the state and was told the city has the contract to maintain them.

Mayor Panepinto said he will follow-up with the state tomorrow. He also asked about street light, **Mayor**, stated he will follow-up.

Councilman DiVittorio, he also asked about street light,

Mayor stated he will follow-up.

Councilman DiVittorio, stated there was still a problem with shopping cart in the neighborhoods as well as abandoned cars and Joey has been doing a good job but he wanted to check to see if they have a plan.

Councilman Wells asked about several street lights being out in the district: Mooney Ave & Phoenix Square, Mooney Ave & Coleman St, Washington Ave & Green Street, Mary Alley all lights need to be checked. 114 Marilyn St light is out. All of the lights that are out are on the corners. On the Northside Coleman St and JW Davis the tie downs need to be repaired, 605 Washington Ave, there are holes in the servitude, 1005 Magnolia Street are having sewer issues when it rain, 103 ½ White St are having sewer issues. 212 White St has an abandon house that needs to be taken care of; He asked Lacy about the conversation they have been having about naming the street after Willie Grant

Lacy Landrum, gave an update on re-naming the street.

Councilman Wells, thanked the city and light company for cutting tree limbs down in district three as well as the administration for cutting trees in Mooney Park.

Councilman Andrews, asked for a follow-up on the stripping of Industrial Park Road and he stated code enforcement needs to take care of a house on Moran Street with serious issues.

Councilman Wells, thanked the Wilbert Dangerfield Committee and congratulated Mr. Dunn & Ms. Joycelyn Lee the award recipients.

IX. ADJOURN

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Wells** 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 February 27,

2024

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.