



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
May 14, 2024
5:30pm**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Councilman Kip Andrews
II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (P), Councilman DiVittorio (P), Councilman Leon (P), Councilman Wells (P), Councilwoman Gonzales (P)
III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
May 14, 2024
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Councilman Kip Andrews
II. ROLL CALL: Councilman Andrews (P), Councilman DiVittorio (P), Councilman Leon (P), Councilman Wells (P), Councilwoman Gonzales (P)
III. PRAYER: Councilman Kip Andrews
IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Stella DiVittorio
All veterans and active military, please render the proper salute.
V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of April 23, 2024 Meeting
There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve the minutes of April 23, 2024.
Votes: Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Steve Leon (Y) Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion Approved 5-0
VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE: NONE
VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. Introduction of an ordinance of the Hammond City Council amending the Unified Development Code providing for a supplemental use article of the Unified Development Code and establishing its general provisions, specific provisions for accessory buildings and uses, and specific provisions for accessory garages.

Mayor Pete Panepinto, explained the ordinance and Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended approval.

Councilman Wells asked the Mayor to explain the ordinance.

Mayor Panepinto explained and gave an example. He also stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission voted unanimously to recommend.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance of the Hammond City Council amending the Unified Development Code providing for a supplemental use article of the Unified Development Code and establishing its general provisions, specific provisions for accessory buildings and uses, and specific provisions for accessory garages.

VOTE: Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman Leon (Y) Motion approved 5-0
Public hearing will be held on May 28, 2024

2. Introduction of an ordinance of the Hammond City Council amending the Unified Development Code clarifying minor subdivision review procedure, lot boundary adjustment procedure, related appeal procedures, withdrawing obsolete procedural diagrams, and directing the City Planner, through the Mayor, to make new procedural diagrams available to the public.

Mayor Pete Panepinto explained the ordinance.

Councilman DiVittorio was concerned out the number of items redlined and asked the City Attorney if he had reviewed it.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney stated that he did take a look at it and he spoke with the city planner.

Councilman Wells, suggested that the city planer come to the next meeting.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to introduce an ordinance of the Hammond City Council amending the Unified Development Code clarifying minor subdivision review procedure, lot boundary adjustment procedure, related appeal procedures, withdrawing obsolete procedural diagrams, and directing the City Planner, through the Mayor, to make new procedural diagrams available to the public.

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

Public hearing will be held on May 28, 2024

3. Introduction of an Ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in accordance with the procedures set within Section 5-03 of the City of Hammond Charter.

Mayor Pete Panepinto, this is the process for budget approval.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilwoman Gonzales** to introduce an ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond budget for the Fiscal Year

2024-2025 in accordance with the procedures set within Section 5-03 of the City of Hammond Charter.

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

The public budget work session hearing is scheduled for June 7, 2024, at 8:30am. A second public hearing will be just prior to the regular council meeting on June 25, 2024, at 5:30pm.

Public hearing will be held on June 25, 2024

4. Introduction of an ordinance to re-name Al Ida Street Extension, formerly known as, "Pete Nicolosi Drive", shall be renamed "Pete Nicolosi Street", all signange and records shall be updated and notified pursuant to existing policies and procedures.

Councilman Sam DiVittorio, explained the ordinance to go back to the original plan and street name. **Sal Nicolosi**, 3607 Hwy 190 west, asked that the council support this ordinance.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to re-name Al Ida Street Extension, formerly known as, "Pete Nicolosi Drive", shall be renamed "Pete Nicolosi Street", all signange and records shall be updated and notified pursuant to existing policies and procedures.

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

Public hearing will be held on May 28, 2024

5. Introduction of an ordinance to rezone all of the property in the city limits within the following boundaries which is currently zoned RS11-A to RS-11: Crapanzano Road (west side), US Hwy 190 West (north side), Interstate 55 (east side), and Stein Road (south side).

Councilman Sam DiVittorio explained the ordinance and asked that the item be sent to planning and zoning for their recommendation.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio to introduce an ordinance to rezone all of the property in the city limits within the following boundaries which is currently zoned RS11-A to RS-11: Crapanzano Road (west side), US Hwy 190 West (north side), Interstate 55 (east side), and Stein Road (south side) that the ordinance be sent to planning and zoning commission for their recommendation.

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

IX. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Hammond-Tangipahoa Home Mortgage Authority for the construction of a proposed downtown pavilion. (Attorney Andre Coudrain)

City Attorney Andre Coudrain explained the resolution.

Stan Dameron, 511 W. Robert St, explained who the Hammond-Tangipahoa Home Mortgage Authority is and the plans and money available for the project. The multi-use pavilion is proposed, he stated no parking will be lost and four parking spaces will be added, the pavilion will have lighting and cameras. He also explained that the Authority has funded other project around the city.

Michelle Kendell Director of the Downtown Development District, stated the DDD has had input into the project and they support the project.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews authorizing the Mayor to enter into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Hammond-Tangipahoa Home Mortgage Authority for the construction of a proposed downtown pavilion.

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

2. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center and its approved merchants to serve, sell, or otherwise handle alcohol during the Hot August Stroll Wine & Cheese Stroll held on Saturday, August 24, 2024 from 4:00pm-8:00pm. The event boundaries are E. and W. Robert St., N. and S. Cherry St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Magnolia St. The Wine & Cheese Stroll is hosted in partnership with the Hammond Downtown Development District's event, Hot August Stroll, that includes additional activities held all day on Saturday, August 24, 2024. (Melissa Griffin)

Melissa Griffin, Executive Director of the Hammond Regional Arts Center, explained the event.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews authorizing the Hammond Regional Arts Center and its approved merchants to serve, sell, or otherwise handle alcohol during the Hot August Stroll Wine & Cheese Stroll held on Saturday, August 24, 2024 from 4:00pm-8:00pm. The event boundaries are E. and W. Robert St., N. and S. Cherry St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Magnolia St. The Wine & Cheese Stroll is hosted in partnership with the Hammond Downtown Development District's event, Hot August Stroll, that includes additional activities held all day on Saturday, August 24, 2024.

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

3. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to renew service agreement with Mission Communication for software services in the amount of \$28,758.78. (Mayor Panepinto)

Mayor Pete Panepinto, stated this was the annual renewal that covers wells, lift station and plants.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells authorizing the Mayor to renew service agreement with Mission Communication for software services in the amount of \$28,758.78.

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

4. A resolution to authorize the purchase of (110) Glock G47 9mm weapons and (110) Safariland 639ORDS holsters for use by commissioned Hammond Police Officers with trade-in of (105) similar Glock G17. Total Amount \$36,505.00. State Contract 4400021914 for weapons, State Contract 4400025542 for Holsters. (Mayor Panepinto)

Mayor Panepinto, explained the request.

Councilman Wells, asked about the difference in the weapons.

Mayor Panepinto, explained the difference.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells authorizing the purchase of (110) Glock G47 9mm weapons and (110) Safariland 639ORDS holsters for use by commissioned Hammond Police Officers with trade-in of (105) similar Glock G17. Total Amount \$36,505.00. State Contract 4400021914 for weapons, State Contract 4400025542 for Holsters.

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

5. A resolution to authorize the purchase of essential equipment for the (110) Glock 47 weapons from Practical Tactical. Total Amount \$48,018.30 (Mayor Panepinto)

Mayor Panepinto, explained the equipment

Sal Nicolosi, 3607 Highway 190 W. asked about the purchase and stated he was concerned about the cost.

Lt. Daniel Boudreaux, stated the department desperately needs the guns and equipment. He explained what a red dot was and how they work.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio authorizing the purchase of essential equipment for the (110) Glock 47 weapons from Practical Tactical. Total Amount \$48,018.30

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

6. A resolution to approve the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Daily Star as the Official Journal for the City of Hammond, LA from July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025. (Mayor Panepinto)

Mayor Panepinto, stated it is required by state law and is renewed annually.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon 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, 2024-June 30, 2025.

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

7. A resolution to accept the annual Municipal Water Pollution Prevention report as required by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality in the city's discharge permit for the South Wastewater Treatment Plant. (Nathan Levy)

Nathan Levy, Contract Lab Manager, Lion Environmental, LLC 14938 Jefferson Hwy, Baton Rouge, explained the report.

Councilman Wells, asked about staff training and coverage.

Nathan Levy, explained the training and different levels.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells to accept the annual Municipal Water Pollution Prevention report as required by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality in the city's discharge permit for the South Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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

8. A resolution to approve a request by Michael Davis to review a major subdivision in accordance with the preliminary plat by LandSource Inc., dated March 18, 2024 concerning Tract I-A of Town and Country Plaza (SUB-2024-04-00234). The Commission recommended approval with the following conditions: a. Zoning map amendment approval concerning Parcel 1785907, Tract 1, 2-A, 2-B; 3 from split zoning to uniform zoning. b. Structures straddling the new lot lines will be relocated to a legally conforming receiving lot or demolished or prior to final plat approval. (Mayor Panepinto)

Michael Davis, Ponchatoula, explained the request

Councilman DiVittorio, expressed a concern about the parking.

Michael Davis, stated there was a clarification for an executed out parcel Declaration to be filed and it covers things like parking and access.

City Attorney Andre Coudrain explained the change and correction to the agenda. Planning and Zoning required that the outparcel agreement be recorded in the public record.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Andrews** to approve SUB-2024-04-00234 with the condition recommended by the commission of executed out parcel Declaration be filed and recorded with the approved survey.

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

9. A resolution to approve a request by Silverback Holdings, LLC to review a major subdivision in accordance with the preliminary plat by Max Bodin, Inc., dated December 13, 2023 concerning 515, 513, 511, and 411 Hewitt Rd (SUB-2024-03-00231). The Commission recommended approval with the following condition: a. Executed outparcel declaration to be filed and recorded with the approved survey. (Mayor Panepinto)

Max Bodin, 44052 W. Pleasant Ridge Rd, Hammond, explained the condition. He stated the recommendation was approval based on the consolidation of the existing zoning and the removal of the structures on the plat that are marked to be removed.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Andrews** to approve with the conditions that were set forth by the Planning and Zoning Commission which is a zoning map Amendment to consolidate the existing zoning to one zoning classification and removal of the structures on the plat that are marked to be removed.

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

10. A resolution to approve Tommy's on Thomas located at 216 W. Thomas St. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain an alcohol permit for a restaurant. The owner is Tommy's Pizza 24 LLC. (Mayor Pete Panepinto)

Mayor, stated this was a change of ownership

Michael Liuzza and Scott Henderson, new owners were present to answer questions.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to approve Tommy's on Thomas located at 216 W. Thomas St. Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain an alcohol permit for a restaurant. The owner is Tommy's Pizza 24 LLC.

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

11. A resolution to ratify and reject bids received 5/9/24 for "HEIDD Lift Station & Force Main Improvements (FY2024)" project no. 616-12402. (Jay Pittman)

Mayor Panepinto stated that the bids were over budget and he recommends the rejection of bids.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio to reject bids received 5/9/24 for “HEIDD Lift Station & Force Main Improvements (FY2024)” project no. 616-12402. **Vote: Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion approved 5-0**

12. A resolution to review and reject the bid received on April 2, 2024, for the Hammond welcome sign (project 12327) due to being over budget. (Mayor Pete Panepinto)
Mayor Panepinto stated this was \$30,000 over budget.
Michelle Kendall, Director of Downtown Development District, clarified the process and stated they will do three quotes rather than a public bid because this is under the amount required by public bid law.
There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio to reject the bid received on April 2, 2024, for the Hammond welcome sign (project 12327) due to being over budget. **Vote: Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion approved 5-0**

13. A resolution ratifying proposals and awarding the contract for “Playground Equipment for Jackson Park and Mooney Avenue Park” (RFP 24-24) to Planet Recess, Inc. in the amount of \$103,254. (Mayor Panepinto)
Mayor Panepinto explained the item.
Councilman Wells, recommended the use of the old swings. He is concerned over the cost of swings in Mooney Park. He stated that he asked to have to old swings and benches put back in the park. He did not think it was necessary to spend over forty thousand dollars for swings.
Councilman DiVittorio, asked about cameras in Jackson Park.
Mayor Panepinto stated he would check on the cameras.
There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio to ratifying proposals and awarding the contract for “Playground Equipment for Jackson Park and Mooney Avenue Park” (RFP 24-24) to Planet Recess, Inc. in the amount of \$103,254. **Vote: Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (abstain), Motion approved 4-0**

14. A resolution supporting the submission of a \$10,000 application to the Louisiana Development Ready Community Grant program for improvements to Morrison Alley. There is NO match requirement. (Mayor Panepinto)
Mayor Panepinto explained the item
Stella Matthews, 403 Second Ave, asked where Morrison Alley is.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon supporting the submission of a \$10,000 application to the Louisiana Development Ready Community Grant program for improvements to Morrison Alley. There is NO match requirement. **Vote: Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion approved 5-0**

15. A resolution 1) supporting the submission of an \$8,000 application to the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Beautification Grant Program for improvements to Morrison Alley; and 2) supporting a 15% in-kind match in volunteer hours. (Mayor Panepinto)
Mayor Panepinto explained the grant
There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Leon** 1) supporting the submission of an \$8,000 application to the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Beautification Grant Program for improvements to Morrison Alley; and 2) supporting a 15% in-kind match in volunteer hours.

to Morrison Alley. There is NO match requirement.
Vote: Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion approved 5-0

16. A resolution to authorize a waiver of the open container law for alcohol during the Hammond Downtown Development District's Hammond Main Street 40th Anniversary Celebration held on Thursday, May 23rd from 4:30PM to 6:30PM. The event location is 106 NW Railroad Ave in Railroad Park and the 100-block of NW Railroad Ave. (Michelle Kendall)
Michelle Kendall, Director, Downtown Development District, explained the event.
There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon to authorize a waiver of the open container law for alcohol during the Hammond Downtown Development District's Hammond Main Street 40th Anniversary Celebration held on Thursday, May 23rd from 4:30PM to 6:30PM. The event location is 106 NW Railroad Ave in Railroad Park and the 100-block of NW Railroad Ave. **Vote: Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Motion approved 5-0**

17. A resolution authorizing the Hammond Downtown Development District and its approved merchants to serve, sell, or otherwise handle alcohol, as well as granting a waiver of the Open Container Law, during the Hot August Stroll held on Saturday, August 24, 2024 from 8:00-9:00pm. The event boundaries are E. and W. Robert St., N. and S. Cherry St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Magnolia St. (Michelle Kendall)

Michelle Kendall, Director, Downtown Development District, ask that the time be corrected from 8:00 pm. The hours of the event are 8:00 am to 9:00 pm and she explained the event.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio authorizing the Hammond Downtown Development District and its approved merchants to serve, sell, or otherwise handle alcohol, as well as granting a waiver of the Open Container Law, during the Hot August Stroll held on Saturday, August 24, 2024 from 8:00am -9:00pm. The event boundaries are E. and W. Robert St., N. and S. Cherry St., E. and W. Coleman St., and N. and S. Magnolia St.

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

X. REPORTS:

Mayor: stated over 350lb of catfish was put in Zemurry Pond and encouraged everyone to enjoy the Downtown Development Event.

Council: Councilman DiVittorio asked about lighting issues in Lakewood and Chavin Drive and Church St.

Councilman Wells, thanked the Mayor for bringing his grandson to Mooney Park , He asked for an update on changing Carolina Street name to Willie Grant St. He asked about damage to a city sidewalk by a garbage truck. He ask for the street sweeper to sweep several streets in his area. He asked again for cameras on Live on Street and would like to see it in the budget.

Councilman Andrews, asked about having police details in the park on Saturday and Sunday.

Stella Rouble Matthews asked about the resolution on Home Mortgage Authority.

XI . ADJOURN

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilwoman Gonzales** 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 May 14, 2024 BEING 6 PAGES IN LENGTH

LISA COCKERHAM

HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS

HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL