



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES  
312 EAST CHARLES STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA  
July 23, 2024  
5:30pm**

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

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

**III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE**



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
312 EAST CHARLES STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA  
July 23, 2024**

**6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

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

**II. ROLL CALL:** Kip Andrews (P), Sam DiVittorio (P), Carlee White Gonzales (P), Steve Leon (P), Devon 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 July 11, 2024 Meeting

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to approve the the Minutes of July 11, 2024 meeting.**

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

**VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE: NONE**

**VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE:**

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

1. 2013 Kia Soul
2. Unit 728 2008 Dodge Ram
3. 2 Wanco Digital Messaging boards
4. Hot water pressure washer Model # HW2-1100
5. Rear seats and cages from Police Vehicles
6. 18 wooden chairs
7. 15 tables
8. 2013 Kia Soul
9. Unit 728 2008 Dodge Ram
10. 2 Wanco Digital Messaging boards
11. Hot water pressure washer Model # HW2-1100
12. Rear seats and cages from Police Vehicles
13. 18 wooden chairs
14. 15 tables
15. Light bars, wire and camera heads

(Mayor Panepinto)

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon** to introduce an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com

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

## VIII. RESOLUTIONS

1. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to serve, sell, or otherwise handle alcohol during the beer-tasting event Brews Arts Festival held on Saturday, November 2, 2024 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The event boundaries include the Morrison Park Alleyway. The Brews Arts Festival is hosted by the Hammond Regional Arts Center as a primary fundraiser for the organization. Activities include craft-beer tasting, art vendors, live music and local food vendors.

**Michelle Griffin, Director** explained the event.

**There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Leon** to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to serve, sell, or otherwise handle alcohol during the beer-tasting event Brews Arts Festival held on Saturday, November 2, 2024 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The event boundaries include the Morrison Park Alleyway. The Brews Arts Festival is hosted by the Hammond Regional Arts Center as a primary fundraiser for the organization. Activities include craft-beer tasting, art vendors, live music and local food vendors.

**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 grant a waiver of the city of Hammond's Open Container Law to the Hammond Regional Arts Center during the beer-tasting event Brews Arts Festival held on Saturday, November 2, 2024 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The event boundaries include the Morrison Park Alleyway. The Brews Arts Festival is hosted by the Hammond Regional Arts Center as a primary fundraiser for the organization. Activities include craft-beer tasting, art vendors, live music and local food vendors.

**Michelle Griffin**, same as previous.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews** to grant a waiver of the city of Hammond's Open Container Law to the Hammond Regional Arts Center during the beer-tasting event Brews Arts Festival held on Saturday, November 2, 2024 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The event boundaries include the Morrison Park Alleyway. The Brews Arts Festival is hosted by the

Hammond Regional Arts Center as a primary fundraiser for the organization. Activities include craft-beer tasting, art vendors, live music and local food vendors.

**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 grant La Carreta a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law for Hammond's annual Hot August Stroll celebration Saturday, August 8, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM in the closed area of West Charles Street in front of the restaurant and in the south of the Case de Fresa parking lot.

**Kayli Payne**, 108 N. W. Railroad Ave, explained the event and stated that they will provide security.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to grant La Carreta a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law for Hammond's annual Hot August Stroll celebration Saturday, August 8, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM in the closed area of West Charles Street in front of the restaurant and in the south of the Case de Fresa parking lot.**

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

**Councilwoman Gonzales stated that someone noticed the Hot August Stroll date was incorrect on the item they just approved and it should be August 24, 2024.**

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to go back and amend the date to grant La Carreta a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law for Hammond's annual Hot August Stroll celebration Saturday, August 24, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM in the closed area of West Charles Street in front of the restaurant and in the south of the Case de Fresa parking lot.**

**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 by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to approve the date as amended to grant La Carreta a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law for Hammond's annual Hot August Stroll celebration Saturday, August 24, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM in the closed area of West Charles Street in front of the restaurant and in the south of the Case de Fresa parking lot.**

**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 appoint William Wainwright to the Hammond Airport Authority Board for a five-year term ending July 24, 2029.

**Mayor Panepinto**, provided information on the nominee and stated that he will be an asset to the board.

**Councilman Wells**, stated again, that all appointees should attend the meetings.

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to appoint William Wainwright to the Hammond Airport Authority Board for a five-year term ending July 24, 2029.**

**VOTE:** Councilman Wells (N) Councilman DiVittorio (abstain) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y) Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews(Y). Motion Approved 3-1

**5.** A resolution to appoint Susan G. Spring, to the Hammond Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board for a three-year term ending from July 29, 2024 to July 29, 2027. (Mayor Panepinto)

**Councilman Andrews**, asked that this item be removed from the agenda.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio to remove the appointment of Susan G. Spring from the agenda.**

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

6. A resolution supporting the submission of an \$18,000 application to the State Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase portable radios for the Hammond Police Department.

Mayor Panepinto, explained the item and stated there is no match for the city.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio** supporting the submission of an \$18,000 application to the State Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase portable radios for the Hammond Police Department.

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

7. A resolution approving Hammond Northshore Regional Airport's FY25-29 Capital Improvement Plan.

Mayor Panepinto, explained that this is the annual plan for capital improvements at the airport and is required by the FAA and State.

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman DiVittorio** approving Hammond Northshore Regional Airport's FY25-29 Capital Improvement Plan.

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

8. A resolution to purchase one 2024 F350 dump body truck for Parks & Grounds department from Courtesy Automotive Group for \$69,720.80 State Contract 4400023793.

Mayor Panepinto, stated this was approved in the budget.

Councilman Wells, asked that they move fast on items for District 3.

**There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman Andrews** to authorize the purchase of one 2024 F350 dump body truck for Parks & Grounds department from Courtesy Automotive Group for \$69,720.80 State Contract 4400023793.

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

9. A resolution to authorize the purchase and installation of a 20 ton American Standard Unit for the Recreation Department for a total of \$34,250.00

Mayor Panepinto, stated this is to replace a broken unit and the money is coming from sales tax.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews** to authorize the purchase and installation of a 20 ton American Standard Unit for the Recreation Department for a total of \$34,250.00

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

10. A resolution to purchase two 2024 F350 dump body trucks for Street Department from Courtesy Automotive Group for \$139,441.60 State Contract 4400023793.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon** to authorize the purchase of two 2024 F350 dump body truck for Street Department from Courtesy Automotive Group for \$139,441.60 State Contract 4400023793.

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

## **IX. REPORTS:**

**Mayor:**

Veterans Breakfast is Thursday at 8:30 am at the recreation center. On Friday July 26, 2024 from 9am to 12 pm is the Back to School BASH at Hammond Westside Montessori School.

**Council:**

**Councilman DiVittorio**, asked for an Entergy representative to attend the next meeting.

**BJ Couvillion** Project Manager of Entergy was present and gave an update at certain locations, light repair and replacement.

**Councilman Wells**, thanked the Mayor for coming out to Mooney Park. He also asked about trimming tree limbs and tracking devices on city vehicles. He talked about the water fountain in Mooney Park not working and stated that it hasn't work since it was installed. Councilman Wells asked Phyllis McCraney to come forward to speak about a problem she having.

**Phyllis McCraney**, 605 JW Davis Drive, stated she has been having trouble with suspicious people around her home. She stated her door has been kicked in, things has been thrown at her house and the police has been called out several times and she needs more protection. She also stated that the sewer in her area still needs to be fixed and the lights in front of her home haven't worked in years.

Councilman Wells asked for more patrols in the area and he also stated that he had been hearing from city workers that the did not get their pay raise..

Mayor, stated he is going to look into the pay issue and speak to the street crimes division.

**Councilman Andrews**, mentioned the Memorial Service for Pete Lentini to be held on August 3 at First Baptist Church at 5:00 pm. He also asked about having some broken down vehicles removed near the corner of MC Moore and Magazine St.

**X . ADJOURN:**

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Leon** 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 July 23, 2024 BEING 4 PAGES IN LENGTH

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LISA COCKERHAM  
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

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PRESIDENT, KIP ANDREWS  
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL