



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
January 28, 2025
5:30pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

III. PUBLIC HEARING: Old Business

1. An ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Brian Dozier to rezone 1009 C M Fagan Drive from MX-N to MX-C in accordance with the preliminary plat by Martin Surveying Solutions, LLC dated 06/27/2024.

Charles Borchers, Director of Administration, explained the ordinance.
Darby Lambert, represented the owner and was available for questions.
No public comments



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
JANUARY 28, 2025
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

I. CALL TO ORDER Councilman Kip Andrews

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

III. PRAYER: Councilman Andrews

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

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of January 14, 2025 Meeting

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve the minutes of January 14, 2025 meeting.

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

VI. REPORT: YTD budget report for Council

Councilman Andrews stated that the year to date budget report will be on the City website and available to the public. He asked the council to submit any questions to him for the next meeting.

VII. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Brian Dozier to rezone 1009 C M Fagan Drive from MX-N to MX-C in accordance with the preliminary plat by Martin Surveying Solutions, LLC dated 06/27/2024.

Charles Borchers, explained the ordinance

Councilman Wells, asked questions of Darby Lambert, representing the owner.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to adopt an Ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Brian Dozier to rezone 1009 C M Fagan Drive from MX-N to MX-C in accordance with the preliminary plat by Martin Surveying Solutions, LLC dated 06/27/2024.

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

VIII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. An ordinance to increase fees for leases and services at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport.

Charles Borchers, Director of Administration, explained the ordinance. He stated that the airport board meet and approved by the rates. The effective date for the changes will be July 1, 2025.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an Ordinance to increase fees for leases and services at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport.

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

2. An Ordinance Establishing A temporary 180 Day Moratorium on the acceptance and processing of permits for off-premises signs and billboards within the City of Hammond, providing for variances and providing a severability clause.

Councilwoman Gonzales, explained the ordinance and the need for the ordinance.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to introduce an Ordinance Establishing A temporary 180 Day Moratorium on the acceptance and processing of permits for off-premises signs and billboards within the City of Hammond, providing for variances and providing a severability clause.

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

IX. RESOLUTIONS:

1. 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 LLC., held on Saturday, February 8th, 2025 from 11:00am - 6:00pm. The event will take place at Cate Square Park, 200 West Charles Street.

Alec Griffith, 209 Blackburn Rd, explained the event.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilwoman Gonzales 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 LLC., held on Saturday, February 8th, 2025 from 11:00am - 6:00pm. The event will take place at Cate Square Park, 200 West Charles Street.

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

2. A resolution to grant a waiver of the City of Hammonds Open Container law to Benny's Place during the Planet in the Park event hosted by We Didn't Planet LLC., held on Saturday, February 8th, 2025 from 11:00am - 6:00pm. The event will take place at Cate Square Park, 200 West Charles Street.

Alec Griffith, was available to answer questions.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to grant a waiver of the City of Hammonds Open Container law to Benny's Place during the Planet in the Park

event hosted by We Didn't Planet LLC., held on Saturday, February 8th, 2025 from 11:00am - 6:00pm. The event will take place at Cate Square Park, 200 West Charles Street.

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

3. A resolution to approve the appointment of Kayla Morgan, representing largest assessed property owner Regions Bank, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term effective immediately to December 31, 2026.

Michelle Kendall, explained that appointment

Kayla Morgan was available to answer questions and explained her desire to serve.

Councilman Wells left the meeting

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to approve the appointment of Kayla Morgan, representing largest assessed property owner Regions Bank, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term effective immediately to December 31, 2026.

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

4. A resolution to approve the appointment of John Exnicios, representing largest assessed property owner Hancock Whitney Bank, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term effective immediately to December 31, 2026.

Michelle Kendall, explained that appointment

John Exnicios, was available to answer questions and explained his desire to serve.

Councilman DiVittorio, left the meeting

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to approve the appointment of John Exnicios, representing largest assessed property owner Hancock Whitney Bank, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term effective immediately to December 31, 2026.

VOTE: Councilman DiVittorio (absent), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews(Y). Motion Approved 3-0

5. A resolution to approve the appointment of Justin Cashe, representing largest assessed property owner First Guaranty Bank, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term effective immediately to December 31, 2026.

Michelle Kendall, explained that appointment

Justin Cashe, was available to answer questions and explained his desire to serve.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to approve the appointment of Justin Cashe, representing largest assessed property owner First Guaranty Bank, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term effective immediately to December 31, 2026.

VOTE: Councilman DiVittorio (absent), Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews(Y). Motion Approved 3-0

6. A resolution to approve the appointment of Hillory Hracek, representing the West Side Business and Property Owners, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term effective immediately to December 31, 2026.

Michelle Kendall, explained that appointment

Councilman DiVittorio, enters the meeting.

Councilman Wells, enters the meeting.

Hillory Hracek, was available to answer questions and explained his desire to serve.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to approve the appointment of Hillory Hracek, representing the West Side Business and Property Owners, to the Downtown Development District Board for a two-year term effective immediately to December 31, 2026.

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

7. A resolution regarding the Termination and Dissolution of the Hammond Tangipahoa Home Mortgage Authority.

Stan Dameron explained the dissolution.

Mayor Panepinto, thank Mr. Dameron for his service.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio to approve a resolution regarding the Termination and Dissolution of the Hammond Tangipahoa Home Mortgage Authority.

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

8. A resolution 1) accepting a \$15,080 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. There is no match requirement.

Charles Borchers, Director of Administration explained the grant.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales 1) accepting a \$15,080 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. There is no match requirement.

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

9. A Resolution to purchase 5 Dash Cameras for the Hammond Police Department for a total of \$48,423.00 State Contract # 4400028582. (Charles Borchers IV)

Charles Borchers, Director of Administration explained the resolution and state this will come out of the police department budget.

Councilman Wells, asked questions about the cameras.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to purchase 5 Dash Cameras for the Hammond Police Department for a total of \$48,423.00 State Contract # 4400028582.

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

10. A resolution authorizing Hammond BBQ, Inc. to sell, serve, or otherwise handle alcohol on City property within the boundaries of North Cate Street from East Charles Street to approximately 170 feet north of East Robert Street and from North Cate Street to the west perimeter of the adjacent parking mall from 3:00-11:00 p.m. Friday, March 28, 2025, and from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Saturday, March 29, 2025. Brian Shirey, explained the event.

Councilman Wells, asked about a map for the event.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilwoman Gonzales authorizing Hammond BBQ, Inc. to sell, serve, or otherwise handle alcohol on City property within the boundaries of North Cate Street from East Charles Street to approximately 170 feet north of East Robert Street and from North Cate Street to the west perimeter of the adjacent parking mall from 3:00-11:00 p.m. Friday, March 28, 2025, and from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Saturday, March 29, 2025.

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

11. A resolution granting Hammond BBQ, Inc. a waiver of open container law on City property within the boundaries of North Cate Street from East Charles Street to approximately 170 feet north of East Robert Street and from North Cate Street to the west perimeter of the adjacent parking mall from 3:00-11:00 p.m. Friday, March 28, 2025, and from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Saturday, March 29, 2025. Brian Shirey, was available to answer questions.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio granting Hammond BBQ, Inc. a waiver of open container law on City property within the boundaries of North

Cate Street from East Charles Street to approximately 170 feet north of East Robert Street and from North Cate Street to the west perimeter of the adjacent parking mall from 3:00-11:00 p.m. Friday, March 28, 2025, and from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Saturday, March 29, 2025.

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

X. REPORTS:

Mayor: Hammond had snow and we were lucky there was no ice or sleet and he thanked everyone for cooperating.

Council:

Councilman DiVittorio, stated he enjoyed the snow and was happy that no one lost electricity.

Councilman Wells, thanked the Mayor and Administration for how they handled the snow storm. He also thanked Desiree the Park Director for the work they are doing in Mooney Park.

Councilman Andrews, stated they will soon be receiving a water and sewer report and would like to look at the water, sewer and garbage rates.

XI. ADJOURN

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to adjourn meeting. 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
TRANSACTION AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD January 28,

2025

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.