



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
June 10, 2025
5:30pm**

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. PUBLIC HEARING

1. An ordinance request by Kyle Bratton for a Major Subdivision at 1406 South Holly Street, located in District 2.

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

Kyle Bratton. Independence, was present to answer questions.

2. An ordinance request by Jason Aycock for Annexation of 17028 East Iowa Street into Hammond city limits that will be zoned RS-3 which allows single-family homes to be built. (Will be District 1).

Charles Borchers, explained the item

Jason Aycock, Ponchatoula, explained his plans for the property.

Reginald Seals, stated that his property was adjacent to the request and he asked what is the procedure for annexing property into the city.

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated this was in her district and she has spoken to some of the residents.

3. An ordinance request by Treg Gibson for Annexation of Caroline Drive into Hammond city limits that will be zoned RS-11.A, which allows for mobile homes. District 1.

Charles Borchers explained the item.

Treg Gibson, Hammond, owner was present to answer question.

4. An ordinance to amend the code of ordinances regarding Alcoholic Beverages in City Parks.

Councilman Andrews, stated he attended a meeting regarding the above item and will allow for comments.

Michelle Kendall, Downtown Development Director, thanked Councilman Andrews and Gonzales for attending meeting that they hosted. She would like to see an exemption for the parks located within the downtown district.

Councilman Andrews made a motion to table item until the June 24, 2025 meeting. All were in agreement to table.

5. An ordinance adopt the City of Hammond's budget for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026.(Charles Borchers)

Councilman Andrews asked that this item be tabled until the June 24, 2025 meeting. There will be a meeting on Tuesday June 17, 2025 at 9:00 am to discuss the budget again iron out any issue. All were in agreement to table.



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

June 10, 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 Kip Andrews

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

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of May 27, 2025 Meeting

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to approve the minutes of May 27, 2025.

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

VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance request by Kyle Bratton for a Major Subdivision at 1406 South Holly Street, located in District 2. (Charles Borchers)

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to adopt an ordinance request by Kyle Bratton for a Major Subdivision at 1406 South Holly Street, located in District 2.

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

2. Final adoption of an ordinance request by Jason Aycock for Annexation of 17028 East Iowa Street into Hammond city limits that will be zoned RS-3 which allows single-family homes to be built. (Will be District 1).

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to adopt an ordinance request by Jason Aycock for Annexation of 17028 East Iowa Street into Hammond city limits that will be zoned RS-3 which allows single-family homes to be built.

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

3. Final adoption of an ordinance request by Treg Gibson for Annexation of Caroline Drive into Hammond city limits that will be zoned RS-11.A, which allows for mobile homes.(Will be District 1. (Charles Borchers)

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to adopt an ordinance request by Treg Gibson for Annexation of Caroline Drive into Hammond city limits that will be zoned RS-11.A, which allows for mobile homes. (Will be District 1.

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

4. Final adoption of an ordinance to amend the code of ordinances regarding Alcoholic Beverages in City Parks. (Councilman Andrews)

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilwoman Gonzales** to table the adoption of an ordinance to amend the code of ordinances regarding Alcoholic Beverages in City Parks. RS-11.A, which allows for mobile homes. (Will be District 1.

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

5. Final adoption of an ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond's budget for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026.(Charles Borchers)

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilman DiVittorio** to table an ordinance to adopt the City of Hammond's budget for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

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

VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances Regarding Prohibition on Persons Under the Age of 21 in Stand-Alone Bars and Nightclubs.

Councilman Andrews, explained the ordinance.

Patrick Billings owner of the Brown Door Bar, oppose the item.

Dan Lambert, Cate Street Bar, oppose the item.

Councilman Wells, stated that he is not aware of any problems downtown. there are problems with the young people and a problem with the police chief.

Kevin Johnson, college student, oppose the item and expressed his concerns.

Councilman Leon, state that he's not sure an ordinance is the way to handle this. He thinks there are other avenues to correct problems or challenges.His thoughts are to get law informant, ATF, bars and community involved. He believes and ordinance will be nearly impossible to enforce.

Stanley Campbell, District 1, asked if something was already on the books that could be enforced or ordinance that can be enforced. He asked a question of the bar owners, what type of restriction are they taking on for people under the age of 21 having alcohol. What would cause them to not be able to go to the bar to purchase a drink.

Dan Lambert, bar owner explained the process they use at his bar. He stated the police department does a good job.

Stanley Campbell District 1, he asked why is the police chief not present to provide the council with some input.

Mayor Panepinto, state that the Police have a relationship with the bars and they do a good job. He stated they are being proactive and getting people off the street. He wasn't asked to be present at this meeting.

Stanley Campbell, District 1, asked if the Police Chief could be at the next meeting.

Michelle Kendall, Downtown Development District, talked about crowd control and the police force handling that. It will help all the businesses if they had a permitting process.

Mayor Panepinto, stated communication is key.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilman Wells** to introduce an ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances Regarding Prohibition on Persons Under the Age of 21 in Stand-Alone Bars and Nightclubs.

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

2. Introduction of an ordinance to levy the following millage rates, but not in excess of the prior year's maximum rates, on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the Year 2025 and to use the revenue collected from each millage only for the specific purpose(s) for which that millage was levied:

Millage:

.....	Adjusted Rate.....	2025 Levy
General Alimony, General Fund.....	8.730 Mills.....	9.040 Mills
Fire/Police.....	9.650 Mills.....	10.000 Mills
Public Works.....	1.930 Mills.....	2.000 Mills
Total.....	20.310 Mills.....	21.040 Mills

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

There was a motion by **Councilman Leon** and second by **Councilman DiVittorio** to introduce an ordinance to levy the following millage rates, but not in excess of the prior year’s maximum rates, on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the Year 2025 and to use the revenue collected from each millage only for the specific purpose(s) for which that millage was levied:

Millage:

.....	Adjusted Rate.....	2025 Levy
General Alimony, General Fund.....	8.730 Mills.....	9.040 Mills
Fire/Police.....	9.650 Mills.....	10.000 Mills
Public Works.....	1.930 Mills.....	2.000 Mills
Total.....	20.310 Mills.....	21.040 Mills

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

3. Introduction of an ordinance to adopt the following adjusted millage rates, levied upon the dollar of the assessed valuation of all property subject to ad valorem taxation within the corporate limits of the City of Hammond for the Year 2025, for the purpose of raising revenue::

Millage:

General Alimony, General Funds (5207001).....	8.730 Mills
Fire/Police (5207002).....	9.650 Mills
Public Works (5207003).....	1.930 Mills
Total.....	20.310 Mills (Charles Borchers)

Councilman Wells leaves the meeting

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

Stanley Campbell, District 1, asked how does this compare to similar municipalities of our size.

Charles Borchers, explains.

Jan , Whitmore Dr, asked a question about the assesement of houses in her subdivision.

Councilman Wells returns to the meeting

Councilman Leon, stated he would speak with the assessor and get back to her.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilwoman Gonzales** to introduce an ordinance adopt the following adjusted millage rates, levied upon the dollar of the assessed valuation of all property subject to ad valorem taxation within the corporate limits of the City of Hammond for the Year 2025, for the purpose of raising revenue::

Millage:

General Alimony, General Funds (5207001).....	8.730 Mills
Fire/Police (5207002).....	9.650 Mills
Public Works (5207003).....	1.930 Mills
Total.....	20.310 Mills

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

4. Introduction of an ordinance adjusting the rates for City water and sewer services.

Charles Borchers IV, explained the item.

David Hyde, 504 S. Cherry Street, expressed his concerns regarding a neighbor flushing thing into the sewer storm drains and going into the city water supply.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if he report this and he stated that he called people.

Mayor, stated that they are on it and if he has pictures, that would help.

Councilman Andrews, stated that the council person should be notified when something is brought to the city's administration regarding issues going on in there communities. The city should notify the council person.

Councilman Wells, stated that the department heads needs to be at the city council meetings to hear the constiuents concerns.

Stanley Campbell, District 1, stated that if there is evidence, is this a DEQ violation.

Mayor Panepinto, stated all that parties that needs to be notified has been notified.

Councilman Wells, stated they need to be notified of what's going on in the city and if it has been resolved.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilman Wells** to introduce an ordinance adjusting the rates for City water and sewer services.

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

Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion approved 5-0

5. Introduction of an ordinance adjusting the fee for garbage collection in the City of Hammond.

Charles Borchers IV, explained the item.

Councilman Wells asked if they looked into something for senior citizens and people on a fixed income.

Charles Borchers, stated the fairest way to assess the increase is based on usage

Stanley Campbell, asked it this item would affect the budget 2025-2026.

Charles Borchers, stated that it would affect the new fiscal year.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilwoman Gonzales** to introduce an ordinance adjusting the fee for garbage collection in the City of Hammond.

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

Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion approved 4-0

VIII. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A resolution to Ratify and award bids received 05/22/2025 for "Minnesota Park Concrete Street Improvements"--project no. 420-12515.

Jay C. Pittman, Spangler Engineering, explained the item.He recommend the award to Arbor Construction in the low bid amount of \$421,960.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells to Ratify and award bids received 05/22/2025 for "Minnesota Park Concrete Street Improvements"--project no. 420-12515.

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

Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion approved 5-0

2. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with Peregrine Corporation for Utility Billing Services in the approximate annual amount of \$60,060.00.

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked about the yearly cost on the proposal.

Charles Borchers, explained the cost.

Councilman Wells, asked how much it will cost for in house.He asked if there is anyway that a note can be put on the water bill when the garbage company is not running.

Charles Borchers, stated he will look into it. Charles also stated that the finance director said to do this service in house ia almost double.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract with Peregrine Corporation for Utility Billing Services in the approximate annual amount of \$60,060.00.

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

Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y) Motion approved 4-0

3. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to renew service agreement with Mission Communications for software services in the amount of \$26,108.00.

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon to authorize the the Mayor to renew service agreement with Mission Communications for software services in the amount of \$26,108.00.

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

4. A resolution 1) supporting the submission of an application for up to \$10,000 to the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Beautification Grant Program for plantings and landscaping around the gazebo in Cate Square Park; and 2) supporting a 15% in-match kind in volunteer hours.

Charles Borchers IV, explained the item.

Councilman Andrews, asked if there were other grants that are available under the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Beautification Grant Program for other projects.

Charles Borchers, stated yes and he explained.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales1) supporting the submission of an application for up to \$10,000 to the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Beautification Grant Program for plantings and landscaping around the gazebo in Cate Square Park; and 2) supporting a 15% in-match kind in volunteer hours.

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

5. A resolution ratifying and rejecting all bids received for "Mooney Avenue Park Pavilions" (RFB 25-12) for nonresponsiveness.

Charles Borchers IV, explained item.

Councilman Wells, asked why they couldn't sit down and talk before it came to the council.

Charles Borchers, explained that the grant was received in 2021 and explained what has been done.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells ratifying and rejecting all bids received for "Mooney Avenue Park Pavilions" (RFB 25-12) for nonresponsiveness.

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

IX. REPORTS:

Mayor: Successful fishing tournament fishing in Zemurray Park.

Council:

Councilman Wells, asked about the garbage collector picking up the can for seniors from their driveways but leaving them by the street and not putting them back.

Charles Borchers, stated he would look into it.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the grass on Robinwood Drive, near 150 Robinwood Dr. Who needs to cut it.

Councilman Andrews, thanked the city employees that he met with last week to answer some questions he had.

X. ADJOURN

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilwoman Gonzales** to adjourn the 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

TRANSACTIONED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD

June 10, 2025

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.