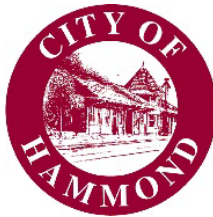




**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025
5:30pm**

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



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
September 23, 2025
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Councilman Kip Andrews
II. ROLL CALL: : Councilman DiVittorio (P), Councilwoman Gonzales (P), Councilman Wells (absent), 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 September 9, 2025 Meeting
There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to approve the minutes of September 9, 2025
VOTE: Councilman Wells (absent) Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y) Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 4-0
VI. PRESENTATION: Southeast Advocates for Family Empowerment (S.A.F.E), Kristi Kyser- Not Present
VII. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE: NONE
VIII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE:
1. Introduction of an ordinance to amend general definitions from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC). The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (3-0)
Charles Borchers, explained the item.
There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilwoman Gonzales to Introduce an ordinance to amend general definitions from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC). The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (3-0)
VOTE: Councilman Wells (absent) Councilman DiVittorio (Y) Councilwoman Gonzales (Y) Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 4-0
2. Introduction of an ordinance to amend definitions and add specific uses for those definitions including: guest house, home occupations and restaurants. Add new Section 2.3.10 from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) regarding specific uses. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (4-0)
Charles Borchers, explained the item
Councilman Wells entered the meeting.
Councilwoman Gonzales, asked City Attorney Coudrain if he reviewed the changes
Andre Coudrain, state that he had not reviewed the changes yet.

Councilman Wells asked what was a guest house

Charles Borchers, explained the definition.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about some of the definitions.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to amend definitions and add specific uses for those definitions including: guest house, home occupations and restaurants. Add new Section 2.3.10 from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) regarding specific uses. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (4-0)

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 amend the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) regarding appeals. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (3-0)
Charles Borchers, explained the item.

Councilman Wells, asked for an explanation of the appeals process.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to introduce an ordinance to amend the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) regarding appeals. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (3-0) Charles Borchers, explained the item.

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 to remove and amend unused/outdated definitions from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) **and requirements for billboards**. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (3-0)

Charles Borchers, explained the item

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to introduce an ordinance to remove and amend unused/outdated definitions from the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) **and requirements for billboards**. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (3-0)

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 to approve a rezoning request by Sherri Brown Jackson to rezone 806 Mooney Avenue from RS-3 to RM-2 in District 3, for new construction of a duplex. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (3-0)

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

Councilman Wells, stated that this was in his district and he was ok with it and that this is family property.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Sherri Brown Jackson to rezone 806 Mooney Avenue from RS-3 to RM-2 in District 3, for new construction of a duplex. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (3-0)

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

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

6. Introduction of an ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Chad Havell to rezone 610 West Morris Avenue from RM-2 to MX-N in District 2 to make his existing building into an office building. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (4-0)

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio to introduce an ordinance to approve a rezoning request by Chad Havell to rezone 610 West Morris Avenue from RM-2 to MX-N in District 2 to make his existing building into an office building. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (4-0)

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

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

7. Introduction of an ordinance to approve a revocation of City right of way for 703 South Cypress Street, which is located on the east side of South Cypress Street between addresses 623 and 703, in the Iowa Addition Overlay District in District 2. The applicant for this revocation is Mark Nettles, who understands that, in accordance with Unified Development Code, the revocation is conditioned on his payment of the costs of the associated survey, transfer of title, and recording. Hearing no objections, the Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval 4-0.

Charles Borchers IV, explained the item.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to approve a revocation of City right of way for 703 South Cypress Street, which is located on the east side of South Cypress Street between addresses 623 and 703, in the Iowa Addition Overlay District in District 2. The applicant for this revocation is Mark Nettles, who understands that, in accordance with Unified Development Code, the revocation is conditioned on his payment of the costs of the associated survey, transfer of title, and recording. Hearing no objections, the Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval 4-0.

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

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

8. Introduction of an ordinance declaring moveable property as surplus and providing for a donation to the Town of Independence. One (1) 2011 Tahoe (k-9 unit)

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

Councilwoman Gonzales asked about the units

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if more units were available

Stanley Campbell, District 1, asked why is the vehicle being declared surplus if it is still running.

Mayor Panepinto, explained that the city was having issues with maintenance costs.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to introduce an ordinance declaring moveable property as surplus and providing for a donation to the Town of Independence. One (1) 2011 Tahoe (k-9 unit)

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

Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 4-1

9. Introduction of an ordinance declaring moveable property as surplus and providing for a donation to St. Helena Parish. One (1) 2016 Tahoe (k-9 unit)

Charles Borchers, explained that it is the same as the previous

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if the purchasing department can provide more detailed information.

Councilman DiVittorio, requested that more information be provided moving forward.

Stanley Campbell, District 1, thinks that more information is needed.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to introduce an ordinance declaring moveable property as surplus and providing for a donation to St. Helena Parish. One (1) 2016 Tahoe (k-9 unit)

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

Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 4-1

IX. RESOLUTIONS:

1. A resolution authorizing Holy Ghost Parish Fair Committee to "serve, sell or otherwise handle alcohol" on Friday, October 24, 2025, from 4pm to 9pm, Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 10am to 9pm, and Sunday, October 26, 2025, from 11 am to 6pm within the boundaries set.

Joe Thomas, was present from Holy Ghost to answer questions.

Councilman DiVittorio, discussed the reasons for his prior vote.

Mayor Panepinto, explained the reasons for ending the event at 9pm.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Wells authorizing Holy Ghost Parish Fair Committee to "serve, sell or otherwise handle alcohol" on Friday, October 24, 2025, from 4pm to 9pm, Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 10am to 9pm, and Sunday, October 26, 2025, from 11 am to 6pm within the boundaries set.

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

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

2. A resolution authorizing Holy Ghost Parish Fair Committee to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for the following dates and times: Friday, October 24, 2025 4pm to 9 pm, Saturday, October 25, 2025 10am to 9pm, and Sunday October 26, 2025 11am to 6pm within the boundaries set.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon authorizing Holy Ghost Parish Fair Committee to obtain a waiver of the Open Container Law for the following dates and times: Friday, October 24, 2025 4pm to 9 pm, Saturday, October 25, 2025 10am to 9pm, and Sunday October 26, 2025 11am to 6pm within the boundaries set.

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

3. A resolution authorizing the purchase of computers and peripherals from Dell in the amount of \$101,416.14 under State Contract 4400028252.

Rick Silewicz, Director of IT explained the need for the purchase.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilwoman Gonzales authorizing the purchase of computers and peripherals from Dell in the amount of \$101,416.14 under State Contract 4400028252.

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

4. A resolution to appoint Judah Richardson to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term ending June 15, 2029.

Mayor Panepinto, explained the appointment.

Judah Richardson, was present and stated he looks forward to the opportunity to serve.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman DiVittorio to appoint Judah Richardson to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term ending June 15, 2029.

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

X. REPORTS:

Mayor: Mentioned the after school program in the recreation department and stated the Downtown Pavillion opened this past Friday.

Council: Councilman DiVittorio, asked if the city could concentrated on grass cutting in the Lincoln Park area.

Councilman Wells, asked for an update on debris in yard on 703 Natchez St, and trees that need to be picked up.

Mayor, explained that they do not generally clean debris off of a person’s property.

Councilman Wells asked for an update on the park

Charles Stated that the splashpad is under construction and they are working on getting the approval for the gazebo

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the servitude.

Charles Borchers, stated that he spoke to Spangler Engineering and they have gone out and surveyed the property and marked where the servitude will go and that will be presented to the property owner.

Councilman Andrews, Asked about emails that he sent regarding police details. He asked about the police detail of an upcoming bar event.

Mayor explained

Councilman Wells, expressed his concern about the bills to the city and the number of people in the city.

Councilman DiVittorio, doesn’t think this should be the city’s responsibility.

XI . ADJOURN

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews 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

September 23, 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.