



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES  
312 EAST CHARLES STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA  
April 14, 2026  
5:30pm**

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

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

**III. PUBLIC HEARING**

1. An Ordinance to approve a Major Subdivision by Trent Anthony at 401 J. W. Davis Drive, in District 3. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (4-0)

Charles Borchers, explained the item

Trent Anthony, explained the project.

Councilman Wells, entered the meeting.

Aaron Morrison, does not support the ordinance. He stated there's a lot of crime and this will be adding more and the area is too crowded. He stated he had a signed petition and he passed it out to the council.

Christy Morrison, stated there has never been a problem with the lots as far as crime. She asked what would happen if the houses it they doesn't sell.

2. An Ordinance to Name the Pavilion in Martin Luther King, Jr Park, The Maxine Dixon Pavilion in honor of Maxine Dixon.

Councilman Andrews, explained the reason for the ordinance.

No public comment

3. An Ordinance to Name the Softball Field in Martin Luther King, Jr Park in honor of Leon "Blue" McCray.

Councilman Andrews, explained the reason for the ordinance.

No public comment

4. An Ordinance to Name the Basketball Court in Martin Luther King, Jr. Park in Honor of Wilfred Don Stepteau.

Councilman Andrews, explained the reason for the ordinance.

No public comment

5. An Ordinance to Name the Safe Haven Building in Martin Luther King, Jr Park in honor of Dr. Clara V. Robertson.

Councilman Andrews, explained the reason for the ordinance.

No public comment

6. An Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances Regarding Renewal, Suspension and Revocation of Alcohol Permits and Related Matters.

Councilman Andrews, explained the reason for the ordinance.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked about the item and stated that it needed to be cleaned up.

Charles Borchers, stated that on item on 5-27 need to be corrected, number was miss typed.

No public comment.



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MINUTES  
312 EAST CHARLES STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA  
April 14, 2026  
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

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

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

**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 March 24, 2026 Meeting.**

**There was a motion by Councilman Leon second by Councilwoman Gonzales to approve Minutes of March 24, 2026.**

**Vote:** Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 4-0

**VI. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE:**

1. Final adoption of an Ordinance to approve a Major Subdivision by Trent Anthony at 401 J. W. Davis Drive, in District 3. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (4-0)

Trent Anthony asked for approval.

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilwoman Gonzales to adopt an Ordinance to approve a Major Subdivision by Trent Anthony at 401 J. W. Davis Drive, in District 3. The Planning and Zoning Commission, hearing no opposition, recommends adoption (4-0)**

**Vote:** Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (A), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 4-0

2. Final adoption of an Ordinance to Name the Pavilion in Martin Luther King, Jr Park, The Maxine Dixon Pavilion in honor of Maxine Dixon.

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilwoman Gonzales to adopt an Ordinance to Name the Pavilion in Martin Luther King, Jr Park, The Maxine Dixon Pavilion in honor of Maxine Dixon.**

**Vote:** Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (absent), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 3-0

3. Final adoption of an Ordinance to Name the Softball Field in Martin Luther King, Jr Park in honor of Leon "Blue" McCray. (Councilman Andrews)

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilwoman Gonzales to adopt an Ordinance to Name the Softball Field in Martin Luther King, Jr Park in honor of Leon "Blue" McCray.**

**Vote:** Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (absent), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 4-0

4. Final adoption of an Ordinance to Name the Basketball Court in Martin Luther King, Jr. Park in Honor of Wilfred Don Stepteau. (Councilman Andrews)

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilwoman Gonzales to adopt an Ordinance to Name the Basketball Court in Martin Luther King, Jr. Park in Honor of Wilfred Don Stepteau.**

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

5. Final adoption an Ordinance to Name the Safe Haven Building in Martin Luther King, Jr Park in honor of Dr. Clara V. Robertson. (Councilman Andrews)

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilwoman Gonzales to adopt an Ordinance to Name the Safe Haven Building in Martin Luther King, Jr Park in honor of Dr. Clara V. Robertson.**

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

6. Final adoption of an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances Regarding Renewal, Suspension and Revocation of Alcohol Permits and Related Matters. (Councilman Andrews)

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilwoman Gonzales to adopt an Ordinance to Amend the Code of Ordinances Regarding Renewal, Suspension and Revocation of Alcohol Permits and Related Matters with correction to 5-27 to 30 calendar days.**

**Vote:** Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 4-0

**VII. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE:**

1. Introduction of Ordinance to amend the Unified Development Code, (UDC), by the City Planner regarding Applicability and Minimum Requirements.

Charles Borchers, explained the item

**There was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilwoman Gonzales to introduce an Ordinance to amend the Unified Development Code, (UDC), by the City Planner regarding Applicability and Minimum Requirements.**

**Vote:** Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (absent), Councilman DiVittorio (Y), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 4-0

**VIII. RESOLUTIONS:**

1. A resolution to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to La Carreta Restaurant, located at 108 NW Railroad Ave., for our annual Cinco De Mayo celebration, Tuesday, May 05, 2026,

from 11:00 AM to 9:00 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.

Councilman Wells returns to the meeting.

Kayli Payne, explained the event.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales second by Councilman Leon to grant a waiver of the City of Hammond's Open Container Law to La Carreta Resturant, located at 108 NW Railroad Ave., for our annual Cinco De Mayo celebration, Tuesday, May 05, 2026, from 11:00 AM to 9:00 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:** Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y ), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (abstain). Motion approved 4-0

2. A resolution to approve Fuel Market 1 located at 285 S Morrison Blvd, Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol as a convenience store. The owner is Fuel Market 1 LLC.

Charles Borchers, explained that all requirements have been met.

Razinder Sharma, owner was present to answer question.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio second by Councilman Well to approve Fuel Market 1 located at 285 S Morrison Blvd, Hammond, LA 70401 to obtain a permit to sell packaged Hi/Low alcohol as a convenience store. The owner is Fuel Market 1 LLC.

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

3. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to renew insurance coverage for the City of Hammond for the period of May 1, 2026 to April 30, 2027.

Don Steil, explained the coverages and provided recommendations.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon second by Councilman Andrews to authorize the Mayor to renew insurance coverages as presented.

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

4. A resolution accepting a \$10,000 grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts for the installation of public art in Morrison Alley; approving a cash match of \$5,000 from the Grant Match Fund; and authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

Councilman Wells asked about the grant match fund.

Charles Borchers, stated they will probably end the fiscal year end around \$800,000.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales second by Councilman Andrews to accept a \$10,000 grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts for the installation of public art in Morrison Alley; approving a cash match of \$5,000 from the Grant Match Fund; and authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

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

5. A resolution supporting the submission of a \$19,197 application to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase license plate readers for the Hammond Police Department and recognizing there is NO cash match requirement.

Charles Borchers, explained the item.

Councilman Wells asked how many license plate readers the city currently

Charles Borchers, stated that he thinks there are twon and a third one is to be purchased.

Councilman Wells, asked how often do the plate readers come in District 3.

Charles Borchers, stated that he could not answer that question.

Councilman Wells. Stated that the public needs to be made aware of what's going on.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon second by Councilwoman Gonzales supporting the submission of a \$19,197 application to the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase license plate readers for the Hammond Police Department and recognizing there is NO cash match requirement.

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

6. A resolution accepting 1) a \$13,512 grant from from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase license plate readers 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 IV, explained the item.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews second by Councilman Leon accepting 1) a \$13,512 grant from from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program to purchase license plate readers 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:** Councilwoman Gonzales (Y), Councilman Wells (Y), Councilman DiVittorio (Y ), Councilman Leon (Y), Councilman Andrews (Y). Motion approved 5-0

7. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with FAA in the amount of \$37,648.51 to perform a flight inspection of the precision approach path indicators (PAPIs) and runway end identifier lights (REILs) at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport. Funds with come from the Airport.

Charles Borchers IV, explained the item.

Chris Goodman, Hammond, expressed his support for the item.

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** second by **Councilman Leon** authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with FAA in the amount of \$37,648.51 to perform a flight inspection of the precision approach path indicators (PAPIs) and runway end identifier lights (REILs) at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport. Funds with come from the Airport.

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

8. A Resolution Establishing the "City Of Hammond Emergency Shelter Feasibility Committee" to Study the Implementation of Short-Term Warming and Cooling Centers Operated by Volunteer Organizations. Councilman Andrews, explained the item.

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales second by Councilman Leon** Establishing the "City Of Hammond Emergency Shelter Feasibility Committee" to Study the Implementation of Short-Term Warming and Cooling Centers Operated by Volunteer Organizations. Councilman Andrews, explained the item.

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

#### **IX. REPORTS:**

**Mayor:** Incident at Crystal Street School, hearts and prayers go out to the family. There was a vehicle accident with a Hammond employee, hearts and prayers to the family.

#### **Council:**

Councilman DiVittorio, stated that vegetation needs to be cleared out at intersection and stop signs needs to be posted in some locations. He also asked about garbage collection in areas and that it be reviewed. Councilman Wells stated that the trash wasn't picked up in District 3, he also has concerns about guns in the park and request larger signs stating that there are cameras in the park. He asked about the grass and splash pad in the park.

Andre Coudrain, City Attorney, explained the issue with state law allowing guns in parks.

Councilman Wells asked about projects in the budget. He asked Council President Andrews, if he could help get projects done in District 3. Then he asked about blighted houses and requested an update.

Mayor Pete, gave an update.

Councilman Wells, asked about what can be done to reduce the sewer rate.

Charles Borchers stated that they are looking at some options.

Councilman Andrews, stated that May 29, will be the budget meeting. He also stated that there will be an update to applications for council chamber use.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if the electronic billing portal was updated.

Charles Borchers, said yes and explained.

#### **X. ADJOURN:**

**There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon** to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned. Motion to adjourn 5-0

### **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

April 14, 2026

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

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.