



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
AGENDA
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
December 12, 2017
5:30pm**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Council Vice President Janice Carter Beard
Public Hearing was called to order by Vice President Janice Carter Beard @ 5:30pm.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Johnny Blount (A), Jason Hood (P), Janice Carter Beard (P), Lemar Marshall (P), Mike Williams (P)
- III. PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. An Ordinance Amending Section 7-64 of the Code of Ordinances regarding exemptions to the Prohibition on Animal Sales in Restricted Areas. Councilman Mike Williams, presented this item and informed the council that he was asked about the selling of specific small animals at the Hammond Farmer's Market.

Olivia Graziano- 2 West Thomas Street Hammond, LA: Hammond Farmer's Market Manager- she stated that Farmer's Market vendors asked about selling small animals at the Farmer's Market. This will not be large livestock this will be smaller animals similar to those in a petting zoo.

Mayor: Will cages be used for the animals?

Olivia Graziano- Stated they will have cages and will develop rules and regulations for best practices on handling small animals.

Councilman Lemar Marshall: How will the DDD protect the consumers?

Olivia Graziano: The vendors will have to follow State & Federal guidelines.

There were public comments:

Louise Bostic: 112 Elm Drive- Is this permit only for the Farmer's Market

City Attorney Coudrain: The city generally prohibits the sale of live animals with a few exceptions. This ordinance adds exceptions for the Farmer's Market or any other event that is approved by the city. The existing exceptions will remain.



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA
REGULAR SESSION
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
December 12, 2017**

6:00pm Immediately following Public Hearing.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Council Vice President Janice Carter Beard
Regular session was called to order by Vice President Janice Carter Beard at 5:45pm.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Johnny Blount (A), Jason Hood (P), Janice Carter Beard (P), Lemar Marshall (P), Mike Williams (P)
- III. PRAYER:** Councilwoman Janice Carter Beard
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All veterans and active military, please render the proper salute.
Tyquan Pittman
- V. REPORTS:**

1. Council:

Councilwoman Janice Carter Beard recognized the members from the Steering Committee for the Overlay District for the Greenville Park Area.

Stella Remble Matthews: 403 2nd Avenue, Hammond LA- She stated she's overjoyed at being a part of this project. She thinks an Overlay District will be beneficial for the Greenville Park Area.

Councilman Lemar Marshall: Thanked members of the overlay district for being at the Council Meeting. He stated the Overlay District will add value to the area and he informed the members that Louise Bostic could be of assistance to the Committee. Zemurray Park is an important part of the neighborhood and informed the committee that the council will assist as needed.

Councilman Lemar Marshall: Planned to put on agenda the Election of Officers for next year on the next meeting

A. Update on the 5 year capital project for 2017-2018. Councilman Lemar Marshall asked how the Council can get updates on Capital Projects. He asked the administration to send a report of the capital projects quarterly to allow the Council to stay informed and advise constituents.

Chuck Spangler- city engineer: Council Members can call him and get a status on an individual project. He presented the council with an updates on the status of projects.

Councilman Lemar Marshall: Asked for status on quarterly basis of all projects. He requested a format that would be consistent for him to review the projects.

Councilman Jason Hood: Asked if contract start and completion dates can be included in project information.

Chuck Spangler: Stated the information will be provided

Councilman Lemar Marshall: How many jobs are sunset because of no activity?

Chuck Spangler: Stated it's rare but only if there are permitting issues

Joyce Yvonne Sanders, 210 East Greene Street: Stated she has been calling about the drainage at her home since 2002. She stated she's been having problem with drainage and been calling trying to get the help with drainage. It's causing problems with the structure of her home and water is sitting on the street.

Mayor Panepinto: Stated somebody will be out to look at it

Joyce Sanders: Said City Employee told her that the City does not have funds to fix it.

B. 2016-2017 Audit Report from Kushner LaGraize, LLC. - Ernest Gelpi- Completed audit report for year ending June 30th, 2017 all Councilmembers have received the electronic copies of the audit report. It's required to be submitted to the Legislature Auditor no later than December 31st and that deadline will be met.

He stated the Audit Opinion is an unmodified opinion which is a clean opinion and the best opinion that you could receive. The City's net position increased by \$ 5 million dollars but, the General Fund balance decreased by \$1.3 million as of June 30, 2017. He stated that they recommend that the fund balance be \$4 Million. There were no findings of non-compliance with Uniform Guidance; on internal controls there was one finding which is documentation, but found no misuse of credit cards. He informed Councilman Marshall that Capital Projects are shown in one fund. He thanked the Mayor, Lacy, Syeda, and all of her staff for assisting in the audit procedure and the Council for the opportunity to provide the information.

Councilman Jason Hood: Asked how long their company has been preparing the audit

Ernest Gelpi: 4 years

Councilman Jason Hood: Asked how long has there been the recommendation for the General Fund Balance

Ernest Gelpi: Stated he was not sure but, it has been awhile

Councilman Jason Hood: Only remembers 2 yrs., of it being a vocal recommendation

Ernest Gelpi: Recommends the City has adequate savings and to keep an eye on the General Fund Balance

Syeda: Stated the current General Fund Balance is \$825,000.00

2. Mayor: Due to the Snowstorm from last week 3400 people was out of power but, down to 88 people that are still out of power. The City was closed Friday, December 8, 2017 because of the snow. Christmas lights in the park are up and the park is open and the train in Zemurray will run 6pm to 9pm on Friday, on Saturday & Sunday 5pm to 9pm. The Mayor thanked all the merchants who placed lights on their store fronts in honor of the holidays.

3. Recognition of New Businesses: NONE

VI. Minutes of November 28, 2017: After review it was motioned by **Councilman Lemar Marshall** and second by **Councilman Mike Williams** to approve the minutes of November 28, 2017.

Vote: Janice Carter Beard (Y), Mike Williams (Y), Lemar Marshall (Y), Jason Hood (Y), Johnny Blount (A). Motion Approved 4-0

VII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution (1) accepting, as the fiscal agent for and on behalf of the Hammond Downtown Development District, a Louisiana Main Street Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper Grant award of \$4,000, for which the DDD will match at least \$1,000, to relocate the Francis G. Stewart Monument; and (2) authorizing the Mayor and/or his designee to sign grant documents. Charles W. Borchers IV, presented this item stating the City is the fiscal agent for the DDD. The monument that is being relocated is between La Caretta and the DDD office. The monument will be moved is to make room for the pavilion that will be built for the Farmer's Market. This is a DDD project. The DDD has approved this and they will be responsible for the match but, the City will sign for the DDD since the City is the fiscal agent.

Mayor: Stated the monument will be moved to the Southeast side of the DDD building.

Mike Williams: Informed the administration that he has heard from a constituent who opposes moving the monument and thinks the DDD should not move the monument because it is disrespectful to the family, and the green space should not be cemented and it may cause problems with drainage. Councilman Williams stated he just wanted this objection on the record.

There was a motion by Councilman Mike Williams and second by Councilman Lemar Marshall (1) accepting, as the fiscal agent for and on behalf of the Hammond Downtown Development District, a Louisiana Main Street Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper Grant award of \$4,000, for which the DDD will match at least \$1,000, to relocate the Francis G. Stewart Monument; and (2) authorizing the Mayor and/or his designee to sign grant documents.

Vote: Janice Carter Beard (Y), Mike Williams (Y), Lemar Marshall (Y), Jason Hood (Y), Johnny Blount (A). Motion Approved 4-0

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:

1. Final Adoption of an ordinance Amending Section 7-64 of the Code of Ordinances regarding exemptions to the Prohibition on Animal Sales in Restricted Areas.

There was a motion by Councilman Lemar Marshall and second by Councilman Mike Williams to adopt an ordinance Amending Section 7-64 of the Code of Ordinances regarding exemptions to the Prohibition on Animal Sales in Restricted Areas.

Vote: Janice Carter Beard (Y), Mike Williams (Y), Lemar Marshall (Y), Jason Hood (Y), Johnny Blount (A). Motion Approved 4-0

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING: NONE

X. ADJOURN: There was a motion by Councilman Lemar Marshall and second by Councilman Mike Williams to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

CERTIFICATION OF CLERK

I TONIA BANKS, 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 **December 12, 2017** BEING **4 PAGES** IN LENGTH

**TONIA BANKS
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK**

**PRESIDENT LEMAR MARSHALL
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL**