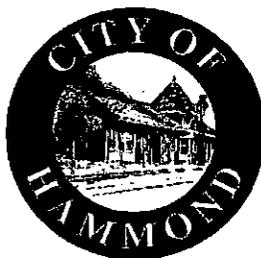


**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
August 13, 2019
5:30pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President, Carlee White Gonzales called public hearing to order @ 5:30pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Kip Andrews (P), Carlee White Gonzales (P), Devon Wells (Absent), Sam DiVittorio (P), Steve Leon (P).

III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
August 13, 2019
6:00pm or at Conclusion of Public Hearing**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President, Carlee White Gonzales called Regular Session to order at 5:31pm.

II. ROLL CALL: Kip Andrews (P), Carlee White Gonzales (P), Devon Wells (Absent), Sam DiVittorio (P), Steve Leon (P).

III. PRAYER: Councilman Kip Andrews

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

Councilwoman Gonzales

Councilman Wells entered the meeting.

V. REPORTS:

1. Council: Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales recognized Judge Scott Schlegel from Jefferson Parish and thanked him for attending the meeting and his interest in the City of Hammond

2. Mayor: Sales tax collections is \$158,000 in the black for the year.

Mayor Panepinto, introduced Stanley Lodat who moved to the City of Hammond 5 yrs., ago

Mr. Lodat informed the council that he and a partner run a Comedy Club over at business in Hammond called the Night Cap. He stated he wants to bring comedy to kids in school.

3. Recognition of New Businesses: NONE

V. Minutes of July 23, 2019:

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Steve Leon to approve the minutes of July 23, 2019.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y).

Motion Approved 5-0

VII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to approve Change Order No. 1 for Canal Improvements [FY'2019], adding \$30,770.26 for pedestrian bridge extension (Project# 420-11910). Webb Anderson, presented this item and recommends approval.

Councilman Devon Wells: how many feet are being added?

Webb Anderson: adding 70 feet

Councilman Devon Wells: how do you stop this from happening again?

Webb Anderson: this work is placing piling where the sidewalk was and this would solve the problem

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to approve Change Order No. 1 for Canal Improvements [FY'2019], adding \$30,770.26 for pedestrian bridge extension (Project# 420-11910). Webb Anderson, presented this item and recommends approval.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to host and serve alcohol on Friday, September 27, 2019 from 4:00pm until 10:00pm for the 10th Annual Brews Arts Festival within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401. Lacy Landrum, informed the Council she is the President of the Arts Center Board and on behalf of the Board she is requesting approval for the 10th Annual Brews Arts Festival. She stated they will have wrist bands and security.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Devon Wells to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to host and serve alcohol on Friday, September 27, 2019 from 4:00pm until 10:00pm for the 10th Annual Brews Arts Festival within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

2. A resolution to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Friday, September 27, 2019 from 4:00pm until 10:00pm for the 10th Annual Brews Arts Festival within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401.

Lacy Landrum on behalf of the Hammond Regional Arts Center Board is requesting a waiver of the Open Container Law for the 10th Annual Brews Arts Festival.

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Sam DiVittorio to authorize the Hammond Regional Arts Center to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Friday, September 27, 2019 from 4:00pm until 10:00pm for the 10th Annual Brews Arts Festival within the boundaries of Morrison Alley Park (between Cypress and Cherry Streets) and the Hammond Regional Arts Center located at 217 East Thomas Street, Hammond, LA 70401.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

3. A resolution supporting the submission of a \$19,198 federal Justice Assistance Grant application to purchase new and replacement Tasers for the Hammond Police Department. Charles W. Borchers IV, stated this is a direct allocation based on demographics & crime statistics. The Police Chief set the priority on how the funds are used and there is no City match.

Councilman Devon Wells: why do police officers need Tasers?

Police Chief Edwin Bergeron: tasers get older, technology changes, they get outdated and cannot be fixed. The department also hires new officers that need new equipment.

Councilman Sam DiVittoio: does every officer have a Taser?

Chief Edwin Bergeron: not everyone has a Taser; 95% do have them in their possession

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Devon Wells supporting the submission of a \$19,198 federal Justice Assistance Grant application to purchase new and replacement Tasers for the Hammond Police Department.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y) Motion Approved 5-0

4. A resolution approving Change Order No. 3 for "Zemurray Park Pool Renovation" (Project 11717) for an increase of \$2,209 and 17 days. Chris Bankston, stated the Change order is adding a handicap ramp and change orientation of steps.

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: is this within budget?

Lacy Landrum: the extra funds will come from surplus funds - all funds for Zemurray have been used

Councilman Sam DiVittorio: how much over?

Lacy Landrum: \$10-\$12,000 over

Councilman Devon Wells: asked about the access of the handicap ramp

Charles Borchers: this will have ramps to assist with access from both sides of the park and the parking lot. The extra ramp access will from Coleman or the interior of the park.

Lacy Landrum: the Tennis Court area is where the parking lot will be

Councilman Devon Wells: did the Masterplan only have one handicap ramp in the beginning?

Lacy Landrum: the Masterplan is only for larger assets with no specifics

Charles Borchers: this will be a permanent connection from sidewalks to the ramp

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Sam DiVittorio approving Change Order No. 3 for "Zemurray Park Pool Renovation" (Project 11717) for an increase of \$2,209 and 17 days.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y). Motion Approved 5-0

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: NONE

IX. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AND SET OF PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Introduction of an ordinance declaring (2 Dodge Durango's) moveable property as surplus and not needed for a public purpose and providing for a donation to Tickfaw Police Department to benefit public safety. Jana Thurman, stated the Police Department has turned over (2) Dodge Durango to surplus to donate to Tickfaw Police Department.

Councilman Devon Wells: stated he asked about having a City Vehicle for City Business and was told no but, we're giving (2) vehicles away.

Mayor Panepinto: stated vehicles are available for out of town meetings or conventions but, not to use around town.

Councilman Devon Wells: stated this was not explained to him during the time he asked

Lacy Landrum: City has policy on use of vehicles they are used for out of town/state travels, moving large equipment, and to escort multiple people to a site.

Councilman Devon Wells: wants everything to be explained clearly because he's new and would like all things clear.

Sal Nicolosi: 3607 Hwy. 190 West: City needs better communicating and why should these donations be made to Tickfaw? He's been inquiring about the vehicles from the purchase department.

Mayor: these cars are worn out - we could help make a community safer

Sal Nicolosi: we should take care of Hammond

Police Chief, Edwin Bergeron: the cars probably have 80,000 miles which was assigned to the Traffic Unit and in bad shape. City works with Tickfaw on a daily basis. The vehicles would be expensive to maintain. This is a benefit for the City to have a working relationship with another law enforcement agency.

Jana Thurman: City gets about \$500-\$1000 on average for similar cars - these vehicles are not like regular citizens vehicles they have been ridden a hard 80,000 miles.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to introduce an ordinance declaring (2 Dodge Durango's) moveable property as surplus and not needed for a public purpose and providing for a donation to Tickfaw Police Department to benefit public safety.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y). Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0

Public Hearing set for August 27, 2019

2. Introduction of an ordinance to re-consider the rezoning request by Jamestown Properties, LLC to rezone 16 lots (9A through 16-B) of the Hundred Oaks Subdivision located on Fern St. from RS-11 to RS-5 in accordance with survey by Brett J. Martin dated 4/18/2019 (Z-2019-01-00056) Recommended approval by Zoning Commission. Previously denied by the City Council.

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: stated she had this added back to agenda after speaking with Mrs. Lee attorney for the applicant concerning questions whether all information was received by the Council and considered.

Jennifer Lee: Representative for Jamestown Properties, LLC;- wants to rezone property on Old Covington Hwy., known as Hundred Oaks Subdivision from RS-11 to RS-5 and that property was originally 16 lots in total 8 lots on Easy Street and 8 lots on Fern Street. The original plans as requested by property neighbors and the lot size was changed on Fern Street. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval and the City Planner recommended rezoning. The question was whether City Council received all information to consider.

Councilman Sam DiVittorio: who or why it was thought that the Council was not given all the information for review?

Jennifer Lee: that was follow up conversation after the last meeting and there was a question about the Staff Report that was presented from the Planning & Zoning Commission of who does what as to the questions on the report.

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: stated she was the one who had questions about what were the issues concerning questions on the Staff Report.

Tracie Schillace: the Zoning Commission looks at those questions and takes them under consideration to make a recommendation to send to the Council but, ultimately it is the Council decision.

Councilman Sam DiVittorio: has anything changed?

Jennifer Lee: nothing has changed.

Councilman Sam DiVittorio: did the person who purchased the property know what the zoning was?

Jennifer Lee: the owner is trying to sell property and place it back in commerce with lot sizes that will sell

Kip Andrews: Is the original report the same?

Jennifer Lee: thinks the City Council was looking for more

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: is there anything you would provide if it is introduced?

Jennifer Lee: she will provide information

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: she went to all Planning & Zoning meetings and she wants to get insight from people from area and this will allow them at the Public Hearing.

Jennifer Lee: wants the opportunity to present again

Sal Nicolosi: what are the lot sizes and where is the property located?

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: by Forbes Farm and the lot sizes are 100' frontage and they want them to be 50'. Its 8 lots turning into 16 lots

Sal Nicolosi: he is not in favor of making 100' to 50' in size and who is Jamestown Properties?

Robert Maurin: owner Representative wants to sell lots and the similar size to other type development in the area. The 100' size lots have not worked

Councilman Devon Wells: if the Council decided one time could it come up over and over again. He stated that he doesn't get information in a timely manner and would like to be able to review all information early. He still looking for the last 5 houses from a demolition.

Reuben Evans: moved to Hammond in January and it was hard to find a place to live. He stated this should be reconsidered because it will be adding more livable space.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales to introduce an ordinance to re-consider the rezoning request by Jamestown Properties, LLC to rezone 16 lots (9A through 16-B) of the Hundred Oaks Subdivision located on Fern St. from RS-11 to RS-5 in accordance with survey by Brett J. Martin dated 4/18/2019 (Z-2019-01-00056) Recommended approval by Zoning Commission. Previously denied by the City Council

**Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (N), Sam DiVittorio (N), Steve Leon (Y). Motion Approved to Introduce 3-2
Public Hearing set for August 27, 2019**

**X. ADJOURN: There was a motion by Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales and second by Councilman Devon Wells to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor
Motion Approved 5-0 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 August 13, 2019
BEING 6 PAGES IN LENGTH**

**TONIA BANKS
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK**

**PRESIDENT, CARLEE GONZALES
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL**

Persons needing accommodations or assistance should contact City Council Clerk Tonia Banks at 985-277-5610. Request should be made at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.