

Hammond City Council Members

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales – President

Councilman Sam DiVittorio- Vice President

Councilman Devon Wells

Councilman Kip Andrews

Councilman Steve Leon

City Council Clerk

Tonia Banks



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
October 8, 2019
5:30pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Council President, Carlee White Gonzales called the Public Hearing to order at 5:30pm

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

III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
REGULAR SESSION
MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
October 8, 2019
6:00pm or at Conclusion of Public Hearing**

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

II.ROLL CALL: Kip Andrews (P), Carlee White Gonzales (P), Devon Wells (P), 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 Carlee Gonzales

V. REPORTS:

1. Council:

A. Presentation to the Hammond Police Department: Councilman Kip Andrews presented the Hammond Police Department with a photo and plaque to be hung in the department of his Grandfather Charlie Muse who served with the department and in 1978 he became the first African American to be promoted to Sergeant with the Hammond Police Department.

Councilman Devon Wells: asked about trees cut in district #3 he was told the property had to be surveyed and noticed the trees been cut but no property was surveyed and he wants input on rules and regulations of trees on City property.

Mayor: call to streets department to have a work request entered

Robert Morgan: stated they use the maps provided for right-of-ways and measure from the center of right-of-way past the width of the right-of-way if the tree is within that it can be cut. The owner can provide a survey if the city map shows the tree is outside of the right of way. **Robert Morgan:** stated Entergy meet with the homeowner and they worked out a compromise on what they would do and Entergy cut the trees. Mr. Morgan stated he was asked to cut them but, this was not on City property, so the City did not cut them.

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: stated she had the homeowner reach out to Entergy through the contact number that Mr. Morgan provided.

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: participated in Krewe of Omega lunch for the Police Department and it was very well attended

2. Mayor: there was a successful Air Show Fundraiser over 300 people attended

Saturday, October 19, 2019 from 8am – 10am they are meeting at Downtown Oaks Parking Mall for a Cleanup Day

VI. Minutes of September 24, 2019: There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Steve Leon to accept the minutes of September 24, 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: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1.A resolution to approve alcohol renewals for 2020. Jinnie Wilson, stated this is the renewals and a list was submitted to council for review. This is an annual renewal of all existing alcohol licenses.

Sal Nicolosi, 3607 Hwy., 190 West: asked who is on the list and does the City send out notification to everyone on the list or is it automatically renewed.

Jinnie Wilson: everyone gets a renewal form to submit

Sal Nicolosi, is this City or State

Jinnie Wilson, this is the City and they also need to get State approval this is only people who have already been approved by the Council.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Devon Wells to approve alcohol renewals for 2020.

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 appoint Celeste Shields to the Hammond Municipal Fire & Police Civil Service Board for a three-year term from October 9, 2019 – July 29, 2022 to fulfill a university appointment.

Lacy Landrum, presented this item and informed the Council that the Civil Service Board consist of 5 members: (1) elected by the Fire Dept., (1) elected by the Police Dept., (1) Mayor Selection, (2) appointments from SELU. This is all of according to State Law on how the Board is formed. Celeste Shields is an Attorney, has experience with public entities and other aspects of the Law and she will be replacing John Pearson whose term expired July 30, 2019. Her name was from a list submitted by Southeastern.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to appoint Celeste Shields to the Hammond Municipal Fire & Police Civil Service Board for a three-year term from October 9, 2019 – July 29, 2022 to fulfill a university appointment.

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

3. A resolution to appoint Dr. Gabe Willis to the Hammond Municipal Fire & Police Civil Service Board for a three-year term from October 9, 2019 – July 29, 2022 to fulfill a university appointment.

Lacy Landrum, stated Dr. Gabe Willis is the Interim Dean of Students at Southeastern Louisiana University and will be replacing George Sullivan who term expired July 30, 2019. His name was from a list submitted by Southeastern.

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Devon Wells to appoint Dr. Gabe Willis to the Hammond Municipal Fire & Police Civil Service Board for a three-year term from October 9, 2019 – July 29, 2022 to fulfill a university appointment.

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

4. A resolution to appoint John Exnicios to the Hammond Historic District Commission to fulfill the remainder of the four-year term of Marguerite Walter from January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2020.

Mayor Panepinto stated John is a graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University and a local realtor he would be a great asset to the board. He will be taking over the term of Marguerite Walter.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to appoint John Exnicios to the Hammond Historic District Commission to fulfill the remainder of the four-year term of Marguerite Walter from January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2020.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (N), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 4-1

5. A resolution in support of updating Hammond's Strategic Plan through the Louisiana Development Ready Community Program. Stacey Neal, presented this item. In 2011 the City of Hammond went through the process of developing a Strategic Plan for Economic Development. The Louisiana Economic Development assists all of Louisiana communities to become more competitive in today's economy. Ms. Neal suggests the City of Hammond updates its Strategic Plan so basic information could be provided to everyone for economic development. At this time, they are in the process of working on marketing and business recruitment and wants to assist the City with an update of its strategic plan.

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales: stated she asked Stacy to attend the meeting and wants to identify goals. Councilwoman Gonzales stated its time to update the City plan to attract business.

Melissa Bordelon: Director of Greater Hammond Chamber: it's exciting to think what was accomplished and what can be accomplished. She stated collective information is important and goal setting and involvement from other organization will be a great benefit.

Stanley Ledet; 1109 S. Wardline Drive; stated they're a member of Hammond Chamber and think this is a great idea because it helps small businesses owner get word and projects known and seen. This project will be a great asset to the community. Mr. Ledet, stated they spoke with the Columbia to host a Comedy Show to benefit the After School Program and the date will be January 24, 2020 at the Columbia Theatre.

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Sam DiVittorio in support of updating Hammond's Strategic Plan through the Louisiana Development Ready Community Program.

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

6. A resolution to purchase a F-250 Crew Cab and a F-150 SSV for the Fire Department from Bill Hood Ford for a total of \$58,464.01 Jana Thurman, present this item and stated both are on Louisiana State contract and Fire Chief, Folks emailed the usage that these vehicles will bring to the Fire department.

Councilwoman Gonzales and Councilman Steve Leon thanked Chief Folks for the email explaining this matter.

Ivan Scioneaux Jr., 2009 Corbin Road, Hammond LA.: asked if these were replacement vehicles

Fire Chief, Daniel Folks: stated one vehicle is an actual replacement and every so often Fire Prevention vehicles are updated and it's pulled back. The vehicle that's being replaced has experienced mechanical issues and will still be used in the area. This will allow another truck in the fleet to become an emergency services vehicle.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to purchase a F-250 Crew Cab and a F-150 SSV for the Fire Department from Bill Hood Ford for a total of \$58,464.01

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

7. A resolution to approve Hammond- Harley Davidson to obtain a waiver of the Open Container law to serve beer on premise at its Bikeoberfest Beer Tasting on Saturday, October 19, 2019 from 11am-3pm. Jaden Deshotels, stated there will be on site beer tasting and Ids will be checked and wristbands will be enforced.

Councilman Devon Wells: attended an event and they follow the rules and guidelines by checking Ids and providing wristbands and he likes how they operate their events.

There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Devon Wells to approve Hammond- Harley Davidson to obtain a waiver of the Open Container law to serve beer on premise at its Bikeoberfest Beer Tasting on Saturday, October 19, 2019 from 11am-3pm.

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

8. A resolution 1) accepting a \$19,198 federal Justice Assistance Grant to purchase new and replacement Tasers for the Hammond Police Department; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents. Charles W. Borchers IV, stated this is a follow up to an application and funding was obtained - there is no match.

There was a motion by Councilman Sam DiVittorio and second by Councilman Devon Wells 1) accepting a \$19,198 federal Justice Assistance Grant to purchase new and replacement Tasers for the Hammond Police Department; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

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

9. A resolution 1) accepting a \$13,757.57 Bulletproof Vest Partnership grant to purchase new and replacement body armor vests for Hammond police officers; 2) approving a \$13,757.57 cash match from the Hammond Police Department; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents. Charles W. Borchers IV, stated the match is dollar for dollar and will come from Hammond Police Department budget.

Councilman Devon Wells: asked are officers required to wear vest

Police Chief, Edwin Bergeron: stated all are issued a vest and most officers wear a vest.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews 1) accepting a \$13,757.57 Bulletproof Vest Partnership grant to purchase new and replacement body armor vests for Hammond police officers; 2) approving a \$13,757.57 cash match from the Hammond Police Department; and 3) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

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

10. A resolution to approving contract Change Order No. 1 for “Sewer System Rehabilitation FY-2018- City of Hammond, LA” (Project 31813) for an increase of 60 days. Chuck Spangler, stated this is a \$0 dollar change order – it is only increasing days and will account for rain days.

Councilman Devon Wells: asked about Sewer System being worked on and signs being placed on residents doors informing them not to use the water. Issue he has is the contractor said its 12 hours’ notice.

Chuck Spangler, stated that was an error and the contractor is wrong it’s a 2 day notice.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to approving contract Change Order No. 1 for “Sewer System Rehabilitation FY-2018- City of Hammond, LA” (Project 31813) for an increase of 60 days.

Vote: Kip Andrews (Y), Carlee White Gonzales (Y), Devon Wells (N), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Steve Leon (Y)
Motion Approved 4-1

Councilman Wells Left the Meeting

11. A resolution to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the questionnaire. Syeda Naeem, stated this is required by the auditor every year.

There was a motion by Councilman Steve Leon and second by Councilman Kip Andrews to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the questionnaire.

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

Motion Approved 4-0

12. A resolution (1) approving Hammond Northshore Regional Airport’s 2020–25 Capital Improvement Plan; (2) requesting that the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development’s Division of Aviation provide funds required to complete the airport improvements specifically described in the Airport’s CIP Application; (3) agreeing to certain assurances related to the preceding; (4) authorizing the Mayor and Hammond City Council President to sign CIP documents; and (5) authorizing the Hammond City Council Clerk to attest to these signatures. David Lobue, presented this item and stated this is done once a year and due to the State by November 1, 2019. The list depends on what gets funded in those years but, it can be a dream list looking 5 yrs. out.

Councilwoman Gonzales: how does this relate to a Master Plan?

David Lobue: at the end of this month there will be a public participation session in Council Chambers on a Master Plan and Michael Baker has been working on this and will present to the public

Councilman Wells returned to the meeting

Councilwoman Gonzales: does the Master Plan reflect the items on the list?

David Lobue: yes, what’s on the Master Plan will be used to inform this list

Councilwoman Gonzales: why would this list be done before the Master Plan?

David Lobue: this is required to State by November 1, 2019 and FAA. A Capital Improvement Plan is important to FAA and State. The Master plan was done with 80% funding from FAA and 20% from State until we had this funding we had no funding. The Master Plan will populate the Capital Improvement Plan.

Councilman Sam DiVittorio: asked about runway

Brian Smith; 2600 CitiPlace Drive Baton Rouge, LA: FAA requires certain standards for thresholds on runways

David Lobue: stated if City does not buy land, then several projects go away

Councilwoman Gonzales, what is being constructed?

Brian Smith: only the runway

Councilman Sam DiVittorio: where is funding coming from?

Brian Smith: State & FAA providing funds

Mayor: the list is not submitted without State & FAA input

Councilman Sam DiVittorio: when is the tower getting approved?

Charles Borchers: approval have been received and he will get with contractor to start project

There was a motion by Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales and second by Councilman Steve Leon (1) approving Hammond Northshore Regional Airport’s 2020–25 Capital Improvement Plan; (2) requesting that the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development’s Division of Aviation provide funds required to complete the airport improvements specifically described in the Airport’s CIP Application; (3) agreeing to certain assurances related to the preceding; (4) authorizing the Mayor and Hammond City Council President to sign CIP documents; and (5) authorizing the Hammond City Council Clerk to attest to these signatures.

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: NONE

X. ADJOURN: There was a motion by Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales and second by Councilman Kip Andrews 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 **October 8, 2019** BEING **6 PAGES** IN LENGTH

TONIA BANKS
HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL CLERK

PRESIDENT, CARLEE WHITE 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.