

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

City Attorney, Andre Coudrain



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
March 10, 2020
5:30pm**

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

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

III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
March 10, 2020
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales, called the Regular Session to order at 5:33pm

II. ROLL CALL: Carlee Gonzales (P), Kip Andrews (P), Steve Leon (P), Devon Wells (Absent), Sam DiVittorio (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. Melanie Ricketts- Councilwoman Gonzales, stated Mrs. Ricketts wanted to speak concerning the Cemetery at 502 North Wilson Street. Ms. Ricketts asked the Council to protect and maintain the Historic Cemetery at 502 N. Wilson Street. There was no established plan for care and maintenance of the site and the property was donated to the City. She stated that there will be construction on the adjacent sites and this is a concern with foundation work, movement of heavy machinery, the parking of crews, or foot traffic which could endanger and negatively impact the tombstones and crypts and this will disturb any unmarked burials. As the City is the owner of this property she requested the following.

1. that the area be professionally surveyed to ensure all boundaries of the Cemetery are accurate
2. during construction on adjacent properties the cemetery boundaries should be clearly marked
3. the cemetery not be used for storage or parking of vehicles
4. construction not impede access to the cemetery in anyway and be accessible to the public
5. an expert be consulted for maintenance & care of tombstones
6. have the area scanned for unmarked graves
7. develop a plan to stabilize tombstones and crypts
8. place signage & fencing around the cemetery

Councilman Wells Entered the meeting

Mayor, asked if Melanie had a name of a person to consult

Melanie Ricketts, stated there are some from New Orleans

Melvin McElvern, recognized the Louisiana Navy Guard Association and stated the Vice President of the Association has a relative that's located in this graveyard which has historical significance. This is an African American heritage cemetery and he is asking the City to establish boundaries, maintain it, put fences up and preserve the history.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if when this was donated to the City in 1994 or 1995 was there any agreement on who would maintain the cemetery?

Melanie Ricketts, stated the land was donated in 1995 and believe due to it being in a residential area the people near the site maintained the cemetery.

Devon Wells, stated he visited the gravesite and it looks like the property is being divided and the City needs to look at this and it should be taken care of better than it has been. Councilman Wells, also spoke on the new service for trash and a lot of residents have not received trash cans.

Mayor: asked him to give the name and addresses and the City will contact the trash collector to provide trash cans.

Lacy Landrum: stated the City needs addresses if cans have not been delivered so they can contact the trash collector to verify and some areas with concerns will have dumpsters.

Councilman Devon Wells: 805 Mooney Ave is the address that are in need of trash cans

Councilman Kip Andrews: stated on March 21st Cleanup day for District 1 will meet at MLK Park at 10am.

Also, scholarships for District 1 will be going out on Friday for High School Seniors that live in District.

2. Mayor,

A. Andre Monnot – Flood Study: the Council received a report & recommendations from Principal Engineering, Inc. (This report was also available online for review)

Andre Monnot, stated this is the summary for lowering the base flood elevations thru the City and this is offering our opinion. Mr. Monnot went thru each slide from the report.

Dana Gagliano, Hammond: asked questions about the June presentation and the recommendations

Councilwoman Carlee Gonzales, asked to see the Memorandum of Finding referenced in the presentation

VI. Minutes of February 27, 2020: There was a motion by Councilman Kip Andrews and second by Councilman Steve Leon to approve the minutes of February 27, 2020.

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

VII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to authorize the Falcon Alumni Association to host and serve alcohol on Saturday, May 9, 2020 from 11:00am until 4:00pm for the STA Alumni Crawfish Boil within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Ave., and the railroad tracks. John Daniel Guerin, stated the group is looking to bring this fundraiser to downtown Hammond.

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked about wristbands and IDs

John Guerin, stated someone will check IDs to restrict alcohol sales.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Leon to authorize the Falcon Alumni Association to host and serve alcohol on Saturday, May 9, 2020 from 11:00am until 4:00pm for the STA Alumni Crawfish Boil within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Ave., and the railroad tracks

**Vote: Carlee Gonzales (Abstain), Kip Andrews (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y)
Motion Approved 4-0**

2. A resolution to authorize the Falcon Alumni Association to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, May 9, 2020 from 11:00am until 4:00pm for the STA Alumni Crawfish Boil within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Ave., and the railroad tracks. John Daniel Guerin, requested the Waiver of the Open Container law for this event.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman DiVittorio to authorize the Falcon Alumni Association to obtain a Waiver of the Open Container Law on Saturday, May 9, 2020 from 11:00am until 4:00pm for the STA Alumni Crawfish Boil within the downtown parking lots on the west side of the railroad tracks and bounded by Coleman Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Morris Ave., and the railroad tracks.

**Vote: Carlee Gonzales (Abstain), Kip Andrews (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y)
Motion Approved 4-0**

3. A resolution adopting a revised Grievance Procedure under the City of Hammond’s “Section 504 Evaluation & Transition Plan and Summary of Previous & New Actions Taken” and authorizing related housekeeping changes therein. Charles Borchers IV, stated there are Federal guidelines and laws that the City has to comply. The Louisiana Office of Community Development which oversees our Block Grant that provides all the Sewer Improvements between Mooney, Morrison, Thomas, and Palmetto they recommend adopting their grievance procedure.

City Attorney, Andre Coudrain, asked if this is intended to be part of the City personnel policy since it references employees

Charles Borchers, stated it is not a personnel policy it’s a separate stand-alone policy required for compliance for Federal grants.

City Attorney, Andre Coudrain would like time to review for any recommendations concerning the City’s personnel policies.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells to TABLE adopting a revised Grievance Procedure under the City of Hammond’s “Section 504 Evaluation & Transition Plan and Summary of Previous & New Actions Taken” and authorizing related housekeeping changes therein.

**Vote: Carlee Gonzales (Y), Kip Andrews (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y), S. DiVittorio (Y)
Motion Approved To Table 5-0**

4. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Tangipahoa Parish Government, Cypress Pointe Hospital, and The Heights Apartments, LLC for road improvements to John Lambert Drive for a cost of up to \$31,250 (one-fourth of the total cost estimated at \$125,000). Funds are proposed to come from the surplus/available funds. Lacy Landrum, stated this a turning lane added to John Lambert Drive to assist with traffic congestion. This is south of I-12 and there was a traffic study that was completed to analyze if this would be beneficial to this area.

Councilman Devon Wells, requested this item be tabled to review and receive more information he would also like a meeting with the (4) different partners.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to TABLE this item authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Tangipahoa Parish Government, Cypress Pointe Hospital, and The Heights Apartments, LLC for road improvements to John Lambert Drive for a cost of up to \$31,250 (one-fourth of the total cost estimated at \$125,000). Funds are proposed to come from the surplus/available funds.

Vote: Carlee Gonzales (N), Kip Andrews (Y), Steve Leon (N), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y)
Motion Approved To Table 3-2

5. A resolution to accept the work for "MLK Park Improvements" (Project #11913) as substantially complete, commencing the 45-day lien period and withholding 10% retainage. Pierre Theriot stated the , work is complete and recommends to accept the work as substantially complete.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon to accept the work for "MLK Park Improvements" (Project #11913) as substantially complete, commencing the 45-day lien period and withholding 10% retainage. _

Vote: Carlee Gonzales (Y), Kip Andrews (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (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 two (2) Crown Victoria's moveable property as surplus and providing for a donation to benefit public safety. Jana Thurman, stated 3 items were surplus but, (2) are in working condition and asking permission from Council to donate to Rosalind Police Department for public safety.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio to introduce an ordinance declaring two (2) Crown Victoria's moveable property as surplus and providing for a donation to benefit public safety.

Vote: Carlee Gonzales (Y), Kip Andrews (Y), Steve Leon (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y)
Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0
Public Hearing set for March 24, 2020

2. Introduction of an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the sale of the items listed below to sell on GovDeals.com

- 2008 Ford Crown Victoria - VIN# 1FAFP71VX8X125695 (78,715 Miles)
- Bag of Digital Cameras & Video Cameras
- Used Hats & Helmets
- Reflectors/Bag
- Noise Meter
- Box of Cassette Tapes (New)
- Leather Jackets (Bulk)
- Motorcycle Boots (4 pairs)
- 2 Mobile Security Computer Cabinets - Model 273114 (New)

Jana Thurman, stated these items were turned over to be deemed as surplus and asking the Council for approval to surplus and sell on GovDeals

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of the items listed below to sell on GovDeals.com

- 2008 Ford Crown Victoria - VIN# 1FAFP71VX8X125695 (78,715 Miles)
- Bag of Digital Cameras & Video Cameras
- Used Hats & Helmets
- Reflectors/Bag
- Noise Meter
- Box of Cassette Tapes (New)
- Leather Jackets (Bulk)
- Motorcycle Boots (4 pairs)
- 2 Mobile Security Computer Cabinets - Model 273114 (New)

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

Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0

Public Hearing is set for March 24, 2020

3. Introduction of an ordinance for annexation into the Hammond City Limits, initial zoning to C-H, and placement into the City Council District #4 as requested by Express Oil Change & Tire Engineers (applicant) and One Ninety Corp. (owner) for Tract A-1-B (0.830 acres) of the One Ninety Corp Mini Partition located at 2613 W. Thomas St. in accordance with survey by Dennis L. Gowin dated 1/20/2020 (Z-2020-02-00070). Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission. Tracie Schillace, stated this is an annexation of Highway 190 on the South side across from Market Street. This is an Oil Change and Tire business and will be in District #4.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an for annexation into the Hammond City Limits, initial zoning to C-H, and placement into the City Council District #4 as requested by Express Oil Change & Tire Engineers (applicant) and One Ninety Corp. (owner) for Tract A-1-B (0.830 acres) of the One Ninety Corp Mini Partition located at 2613 W. Thomas St. in accordance with survey by Dennis L. Gowin dated 1/20/2020 (Z-2020-02-00070). Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission

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

Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0

Public Hearing is set for March 24, 2020

4. Introduction of an Ordinance for an Expanded Conditional Use request by Paula Middleton (applicant) and Kinchen Investments LLC (owner) to allow placement of a mmanufactured home meeting all code requirements to be placed on Parcel 3B located at 1104 Harvey St. in accordance with survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr., Zoned RS-3 (Z-2020-02-00071). Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission with the following conditions:

- 1) The manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards; and
- 2) The approval shall be with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership by Paula Middleton.

Tracie Schillace, stated the property is in the curve off Harvey Street and they had some items that needed to be completed before brought to the council and asking council approval to introduce.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells to introduce an Ordinance for an Expanded Conditional Use request by Paula Middleton (applicant) and Kinchen Investments LLC (owner) to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements to be placed on Parcel 3B located at 1104 Harvey St. in accordance with survey by Wm. J. Bodin Jr., Zoned RS-3 (Z-2020-02-00071). Recommended approval by the Zoning Commission with the following conditions:

- 1) The manufactured home must meet all requirements of placement and must be constructed to meet the latest HUD standards; and
- 2) The approval shall be with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in occupancy or ownership by Paula Middleton.

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

Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0

Public Hearing is set for March 24, 2020

X. 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 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 March 10, 2020 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.