

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
July 14, 2020
5:30pm**

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilwoman Gonzales, called Public Hearing to order at 5:30pm**
- II. ROLL CALL: Carlee Gonzales (P), Sam DiVittorio (P), Kip Andrews (P), Devon Wells (Absent), Steve Leon (P).**
- III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE**



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
July 14, 2020
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilwoman Gonzales, called Regular Session to order at 5:31pm**
- II. ROLL CALL: Carlee Gonzales (P), Sam DiVittorio (P), Kip Andrews (P), Devon Wells (Absent), Steve Leon (P).**
- III. PRAYER: Councilman Andrews**
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All veterans and active military, please render the proper salute.
Councilwoman Gonzales**

V. REPORTS:

1. Council:

A. Councilman Andrews – Certificate of Recognition – this matter was postponed due to the recipient's unavailability to attend

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about work in District #4 on Brandi Lane, Tina, Brenda & Tammy Drive Is there a projected start date on those improvements?

Webb Anderson, drainage project work is beginning and the City does not dictate where they start. Webb, stated he will provide a schedule of the work

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about dumpsters on Rue St. Martin

Lacy Landrum, an email was sent out with update with information due to the staffing challenges the City will take this on once more staff returns

Councilman Wells entered the meeting

Councilman DiVittorio, asked about the metal building on the Firestone Building located by the Mall

Cyril Gaiennie, stated composite paneling will be installed

Councilman Divittorio, asked about Joe Ferris Drive

Lacy Landrum, stated the request was sent out and will be out soon as they can

Councilman Kip Andrews, thanked the Hammond Fire & Police Departments for escorts for graduates and asked about the garbage company pickup and making late pickups

Mayor, stated will get better deal on garbage pickup by coordinating with Ponchatoula & Parish. The City has been documenting the complaints- the company said delays are due to COVID. The Parish & Ponchatoula are also having problems and he's looking into and will address the problems.

Lacy Landrum, stated the City has a running spreadsheet on missed pickups

Mayor, people need to call in- we need to document complaints

Councilman Leon, stated he's working with Mrs. EJ (Keep Hammond Beautiful) concerning the clothing donation boxes and they are becoming a problem because they are not being maintained.

Councilman Wells, stated an issue we're having is residents would like to enter MLK Park & Mooney Park just to play ball - the application for the Recreation Dept. is stating they would need insurance to enter into the Park. The other issue he's having are the 4 wheelers and dirt bikes- police need to do road blocks to get them off the streets.

Mayor, stated he is trying to allow people in the park to play ball but still follow state regulations and guidelines. The insurance issue is for basketball tournaments that would like to host in the parks, not just play. Yes, 4 wheelers are a problem and golf carts.

Police Chief Edwin Bergeron, stated he has been keeping track and has written 17 citations and many are being towed- a road block is not feasible and there has been enforcement in the area. Judy Warren in records is keeping track of the citations and the towing.

Councilman Wells, asked is it on record that a 4 Wheeler hit a 5 yr., old child on Natchez street?

Chief Bergeron, if police came out there is a report on the accident. Parents are getting the 4 Wheelers out of tow yards and giving them back to their kids - there are records and towing has been implemented.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if there is there a sound ordinance on dirt bikes

Chief Bergeron, stated there is a sound ordinance and follow the criminal statue of disturbing the peace

2. Mayor:

A. Pam Lightfoot (DOTD)- Community Rating System- **Not Able to Attend**

Mayor, thanked everyone for what they're doing to fight COVID and continue to mask up, wash your hands, and practice social distancing.

VI. Minutes of June 23, 2020: There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells to approve the minutes of June 23, 2020.

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

VII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Services Agreement between Tangipahoa Parish Government Animal Control and the City of Hammond for \$60,057 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Lacy Landrum, stated this is the annual contract for animal control and is based on census numbers- it is budgeted.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked do they keep record stats of how many they pick up

Lacy Landrum, stated she will provide information on pickups

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Services Agreement between Tangipahoa Parish Government Animal Control and the City of Hammond for \$60,057 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

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

2. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Crime Stoppers of Tangipahoa for \$9,383 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Lacy Landrum, stated this is the allocation that was in the budget and Crime Stoppers operates a crime prevention tip line- they also sponsor several crime prevention activities.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Crime Stoppers of Tangipahoa for \$9,383 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

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

3. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Child Advocacy Services, Inc. for \$20,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Lacy Landrum, stated this amount was allocated in this year's budget. CASA does a lot of Child Abuse prevention strategies and performs forensic interviews with children who have had traumatic experiences.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Child Advocacy Services, Inc. for \$20,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

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

4. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangipahoa Voluntary Council on Aging for \$50,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Lacy Landrum, Stated this is the annual allocation for this fiscal year. The Tangipahoa Voluntary Council on Aging supplies the City bus system.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangipahoa Voluntary Council on Aging for \$50,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

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

5. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangipahoa African American Heritage Museum for \$35,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Lacy Landrum, stated this is the annual allocation -this is part of the City Economic Development effort as they bring in people across the state and nation to visit the museum and they offer STEM Camp in the summer for kids and this is what the funds are used.

Samuel C. Paul, 103 Garrett Drive Hammond; thanked the Council for the appropriation

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman DiVittorio to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Tangipahoa African American Heritage Museum for \$35,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

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

6. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Children's Discovery Center for \$90,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Lacy Landrum, stated this is allocated in the budget. They provide Economic Development and Education- the Museum attracts from all over the state and other states to visit this educational center.

Councilwoman Gonzales, noted the agreement contains a paragraph of the City dialing down \$10,000 every year until they reach \$50,000 if the money is available

Councilman Wells, stated we also talked about the pool for nonprofits

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman DiVittorio to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Children's Discovery Center for \$90,000 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

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

7. A resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Veteran Affairs for \$1,962 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Lacy Landrum, stated this is an allocation based on the population.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Veteran Affairs for \$1,962 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

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

Councilwoman Gonzales stated she will circulate an email for discussion about creating a pool for nonprofits.

8. A resolution to urge and request all Departments within the City of Hammond to utilize every available avenue and resource to promote and encourage response to the 2020 Federal decennial census.

Councilwoman Gonzales, the resolution urges the City to promote Census responses

Lisa Lambert (Streaming question for public) what resources would be used?

Lacy Landrum, to remind people through every possible medium

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to urge and request all Departments within the City of Hammond to utilize every available avenue and resource to promote and encourage response to the 2020 Federal decennial census.

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

9. A resolution 1) accepting a \$5,000 grant from the Walmart Local Community Grant Program for improvements to Zemurray Dog Park; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents. Charles Borchers IV, stated the City has already received a check and the money will be applied to benches for the park.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews 1) accepting a \$5,000 grant from the Walmart Local Community Grant Program for improvements to Zemurray Dog Park; and 2) authorizing the Mayor or his designee to complete and sign related documents.

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

10. A resolution supporting the submission of an application for reimbursement to the Coronavirus Relief Fund for necessary expenditures incurred in preparation for, mitigation of, response to, or recovery from the Coronavirus Pandemic between May 1 and June 30, 2020. Charles Borchers IV, stated the State is dividing these funds into phases until they run out. The City applied for \$64,000 and that's what was awarded. This one will be less due to transitioning out of COVID.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked how did the \$64,000 come about?

Charles Borchers, stated the majority was Police and Fire overtime and unexpected expenses

There was a motion by **Councilman Andrews** and second by **Councilman Leon** resolution supporting the submission of an application for reimbursement to the Coronavirus Relief Fund for necessary expenditures incurred in preparation for, mitigation of, response to, or recovery from the Coronavirus Pandemic between May 1 and June 30, 2020.

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

11. A resolution to approve Q's Seafood and Deli located at 1705 CM Fagan Dr., Hammond, La. 70403 to obtain a permit to sell High/Low alcohol on premise. The owner is Fagan Food Mart, LLC.

Laura Hammett, stated there is a correction this is for sale of packaged alcohol not on premise.

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Leon** to Amend the Agenda to read to approve Q's Seafood and Deli located at 1705 CM Fagan Dr., Hammond, La. 70403 to obtain a permit to sell High/Low packaged alcohol.

Laura, informed the Council that this is a change in ownership and they have met all requirements and the owner is present.

Owner, Mahmoud Hemaïd, 1705 CM Fagan Drive, Hammond,

Councilwoman Gonzales, asked if employees are trained for alcohol sales

Mr. Hemaïd, replied yes

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman Leon** to approve as amended Q's Seafood and Deli located at 1705 CM Fagan Dr., Hammond, La. 70403 to obtain a permit to sell High/Low packaged alcohol. The owner is Fagan Food Mart, LLC.

Motion Approved 5-0

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

12. A resolution to ratify and award bids received June 11, 2020 for "Concrete Street Improvements [FY2020]" Project 420-12022. Webb Anderson, stated there were 8 competitive bids and within budget and recommend award to Richard Price Contracting Co. in the amount of \$786, 999.00 - this includes repairs in the Iowa district, Brandy Lane, Westin Oaks, and Zemurray Park Pool parking lot.

Councilman Wells, thanked Webb for having more than one contractor bidding on the job

There was a motion by **Councilman DiVittorio** and second by **Councilman Wells** to ratify to ratify and award bids received June 11, 2020 for "Concrete Street Improvements [FY2020]" Project 420-12022.

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

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE: NONE

IX. INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Introduction of an ordinance to accept completion of work on the Commerce Street improvements and cul-de-sac, to release performance bond/letter of credit in the amount of \$287,935.00, and acceptance of 2 year maintenance bond in the amount of \$28,793.50 in accordance with as built plans by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 6/17/2020 (Case#ROW-2019-07-00009). Tracie Schillace, presented this item as an introduction for public hearing and final adoption next Council meeting – the work is completed. This is located in District #3

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to accept completion of work on the Commerce Street improvements and cul-de-sac, to release performance bond/letter of credit in the amount of \$287,935.00, and acceptance of 2 year maintenance bond in the amount of \$28,793.50 in accordance with as built plans by Wm. J. Bodin Jr. dated 6/17/2020 (Case#ROW-2019-07-00009).

**VOTE: Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Kip Andrews (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Steve Leon (Y).
Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0
Public Hearing is set for July 28, 2020**

2. Introduction of an ordinance for an Expanded Conditional Use request by Vashaun L. Moore to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lots 8 & 9 Blk 10 Greenville Park Subdivision located at 108 & 110 W. Louisa West Street; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2020-05-00076). Recommend approval (4-1) with the following conditions by the Zoning Commission:

- a) This approval shall be with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in ownership of Vashaun L. Moore; and**
- b) Must meet all placement requirements for a manufactured home.**

Tracie Schillace, stated the Planning and Zoning Commission voted 4-1 for approval and it's not in a proposed mobile home area but, adjacent owners are in support. This is located in District #3

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells to introduce an ordinance for an Expanded Conditional Use request by Vashaun L. Moore to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lots 8 & 9 Blk 10 Greenville Park Subdivision located at 108 & 110 W. Louisa West Street; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2020-05-00076). Recommend approval (4-1) with the following conditions by the Zoning Commission:

- a) This approval shall be with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon a change in ownership of Vashaun L. Moore; and**
- b) Must meet all placement requirements for a manufactured home.**

**VOTE: Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Kip Andrews (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Steve Leon (Y).
Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0
Public Hearing is set for July 28, 2020**

3. Introduction of an ordinance for an Expanded Conditional Use request by Dianne W. Hooks to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 20 Rosehill Park Subdivision located at 2401 Center Ave.; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2020-06-00077). Recommend approval (5-0) with the following conditions by the Zoning Commission:

- a) This approval shall be with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon change in ownership of Dianne W. Hooks; and**
- b) Must meet all placement requirements for a manufactured home.**

Tracie Schillace, stated this is in Council District #4 and is in a proposed mobile home area.

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Wells to introduce an ordinance for an Expanded Conditional Use request by Dianne W. Hooks to allow placement of a manufactured home meeting all code requirements on Lot 20 Rosehill Park Subdivision located at 2401 Center Ave.; Zoned RS-3 (Z-2020-06-00077). Recommend approval (5-0) with the following conditions by the Zoning Commission:

- a) This approval shall be with the understanding that such use is a personal right that expires upon change in ownership of Dianne W. Hooks; and**
- b) Must meet all placement requirements for a manufactured home.**

**VOTE: Carlee Gonzales (Y), Sam DiVittorio (Y), Kip Andrews (Y), Devon Wells (Y), Steve Leon (Y).
Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0
Public Hearing is set for July 28, 2020**

4. Introduction of an ordinance to create the Accrual Buyout Fund. Lacy Landrum, stated the funds are reserved to only pay out accrued time and is similar to the witness fee fund.

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an ordinance to create the Accrual Buyout Fund.

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

Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0

Public Hearing is set for July 28, 2020

5. Introduction of an ordinance to amend the City of Hammond budget for FY 2020 - 2021 and to transfer \$300,000 from the Police Administration Retirement line item into the Accrual Buyout Fund.

Lacy Landrum, stated funds in a new line item to this specific fund

Janice Carter Beard, is this just for police?

Lacy Landrum, stated it will be for all employees and will be a savings account for retirements

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to introduce an Ordinance to amend the City of Hammond budget for FY 2020 - 2021 and to transfer \$300,000 from the Police Administration Retirement line item into the Accrual Buyout Fund.

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

Motion Approved to Introduce 5-0

Public Hearing is set for July 28, 2020

X. ADJOURN: There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Leon to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor to adjourn 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 July 14, 2020 BEING 7 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.