

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
September 22, 2020
5:30pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilwoman Gonzales, called public hearing to order at 5:30pm

II. ROLL CALL: Leon (P), Andrews (P), Gonzales (P), DiVittorio (P), Wells (P)

III. PUBLIC HEARING:

1. An ordinance to adopt the following adjusted millage rates and they are hereby levied upon the dollar of the assessed valuation of all property subject to ad valorem taxation within said corporate limits of the City of Hammond for the Year 2020, for the purpose or raising revenue:

MILLAGE

General Alimony, General Fund (5207001)	9.010 Mills
Fire/Police (5207002)	9.970 Mills
Public Works (5207003)	1.990 Mills
Total	20.970 Mills

Lacy Landrum, this is a reassessment year which happens every 4 years. This is what the assessor's office provides to us as the adjusted rates. Brady Sledge is in attendance from the assessor's office to answer any questions about this process. The assessor provides the millage rates that balances out to revenue neutral. It is important to take public comments and to affirm that we have taken public comments.

There were no public comments

2. An ordinance to increase the millage rate(s), but not in excess of the prior year's maximum rate(s), on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the year 2020, and when collected, the revenues from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied . Said millage (rate(s) are:

(5207001)

Fire/Police (5207002)	9.970 Mills	10.000 Mills
Public Works (5207003)	1.990 Mills	2.000 Mills
Total	20.970 Mills	21.040 Mills

Lacy Landrum, this will roll forward to rates approved by the voters. What is levied is what was approved by voters. It is important to take public comments and to affirm that we have taken public comments.

There were no public comments

3. An ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com.

- Bobcat Stump Grinder Model #SGx60/B950
- District of America, Auto 2-post lift Model 9000EB
- Scottsman Ice bin
- Portable Air Compressor 1HP
- Bobcat Jaw
- Woods 3240 Bat wing model 9580
- Unit 604 Kubota Tractor M110
- Tracks off a Kubota Excavator
- Tracks off a Bobcat skid steer
- Kohler 180K W Model 180RZD Generator serial 0702759
- Bobcat Breaker Model B

Jana Thurman, the equipment is not repairable or the cost to repair exceeds the value of the equipment.

There were no public comments

4. An ordinance to accept permanent servitudes related to drainage improvements on Brandi Lane.

A. Frances Ard, 406 Brandi Lane, Hammond, LA 70403

B. Louis & Angela Billiot, 408 Brandi Lane, Hammond, LA 70403

Lacy Landrum, stated the City has met with both property owners and they have signed initial affidavits that they are granting to the City a temporary servitude during construction and a permanent servitude after construction for the installation of draining infrastructure and to improve the Brandi Lane area.

There were no public comments

5. An ordinance regarding use of the Hammond Rail Spur for a minimum fee of \$350 per rail car.

Lacy Landrum, this is has been in the works for some time and it ends up to be \$100 per square mile of the rail spur - its 3 ½ miles long and charging \$350 for a round trip. Lacy stated worked with (2) businesses that use the rail and is proposing to introduce and start this fee February 1, 2021 which will be at the start of their new fiscal year.

Councilwoman Gonzales, the money we collect from this will it be set in a designated fund?

Lacy Landrum, have not discussed but will be shown in the budget separate. It will under revenues but have its own line item. Revenue will be shown under revenues and expense for railroad maintenance as whole will be shown under street department budget.

Councilman Andrews, will the additional amount be put in place just for maintenance on the railroad tracks

Lacy Landrum, yes, this will go to supplement that maintenance. She doesn't know if it would be a total revenue neutral yet it will take the first year seeing how many cars go through and how many end up paying the fee. It will not be revenue neutral for this fiscal year since it will not be implemented until February of this fiscal year.

Councilman DiVittorio, asked if other municipalities do they evaluate the fee every year. Has it stayed the same or has is gone up?

Lacy Landrum, fee has stayed the same and this sets the minimum and it can change and leases will be signed with each one of the users

Councilman Wells, asked if money was set aside in July of this year in the amount of \$150,000 for maintenance

Lacy Landrum, do not know right of hand what the railroad maintenance is but, the budget was cut by \$100,000 because we were trying to work out the details of this ordinance and see if this could assist to generate some revenue to go back into those areas.

Councilman Wells, \$150,000 was set aside but removed \$100,000 and it left \$50,000 in the account to maintain the railroad. Stated he estimates 20 cars per week in this process come up with \$7000 a week and in 4 wks., \$28000 and 12 months \$336,000 a year. This is a plus due to researching and homework on this. The City did not want to do this but was pushed and thanked the City for being pushed. This is a plus because it does not cost the tax payers no money and can pay for itself.

Lacy Landrum, the car number can vary per week and she is hoping for a revenue boost in this area. This is something we have been working for 2 yrs., and for many years the rail has been stable has not have the required maintenance and know it is of age and this is a good way to move forward.

Councilman Wells, \$85,000 was provided to help repair

Lacy Landrum, this was an emergency repair and stated she appreciates Councilman Wells work on this revenue proposition.

Councilman Wells, thanked Lacy for the work she has done

There were no public comments

6. An Ordinance to accept the re-dedication of a portion of Parker Blvd. right of way (60' x 284.81'), and Acceptance of a 1-year Performance Bond/Letter of Credit in the amount of \$10,000 for the construction of an "L" turnaround at the north end of Parker Blvd. located at the intersection of a 19' alley in accordance with survey by Andrew N. Faller dated 1/18/2020 (SUB-2020-01-00117) Recommended approval by the Planning Commission. Tracie Schillace, asking for (2) things (1) accept re-dedication of an abandonment of Parker Blvd (2) acceptance of a \$10,000 performance bond. This money will cover the cost to build a turn around that was required by the Planning Commission at the end of Parker Blvd.

Councilman Wells, what district is this in?

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated this is her district next to Forbes Farm

There were no public comments



**HAMMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
312 EAST CHARLES STREET
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA
September 22, 2020
6:00pm or at conclusion of Public Hearing**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Councilwoman Gonzales, called Regular Session to order at 5:45pm

II. ROLL CALL: Steve Leon (P), Kip Andrews (P), Carlee Gonzales (P), Sam DiVittorio (P), Devon Wells (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:** Councilman Andrews recognized citizens of District #1

Catherine Davis-recognized for community service for providing food during COVID

Benny Jackson-resident of district #1 for over 40 plus yrs. She's a member of First Church of God In Christ, served as Church district #12, Assistant Missionary for 10 yrs., and District Missionary of 13 yrs. She was employed by the Tangipahoa Parish School System for over 30 yrs.

Donald Bell- presented to Lady Bell on his behalf- The minister of New Life World Outreach Center for over 28 yrs., a district resident for over 40 plus years. Greatly appreciate his love for his church and community he will always be in our memories.

Councilman Andrews stated on October 3rd, 2020 from 9am- 12pm at the African American Heritage Center there will be a voter registration drive on that day. Also, information will be available for convicted felons that could re gain their rights back to vote.

Councilman Wells stated he attended a racial sobriety introduction - they spoke on Black, White, & Hispanics trying to mend a community. There was a lot of information and in the process, it took him back to August of the booking room incident and it went downhill. He stated he spoke with Andre and he was trying to get him to turn it into a community meeting stated he needed everyone to come out. In the process of the meeting the emails that he received from the Council about social distancing when we had previous meetings where no one was worrying about social distancing. Council Andrews decided to have meeting at the Recreation Center which gave the social distancing and he thanked Councilman Andrews. Our Council President Carlee, did not want this meeting to happen - the reason I'm stating this is because if I did not attend this racial sobriety introduction at First Christian Church this is amazing how the Church wants to assist and we the City Council members can't do anything to try to heal the community and the community is hurting. On September 8th, 2020 the Council meeting was about him the same video that he saw had a chance to see but, the entire video never seen it and at this meeting the Mayor answered one question from Jennifer Payne stood and asked him would he fire the Chief the Mayor stated no. Stated he knew he was going to have issues when he took office. He stated to the Mayor if anything take place its all on you because you let this take place you did nothing to heal or help situation you said nothing would happen to the Chief. If something happens to me do not let this die!

Carlee White Gonzales stated she was following the advice of Counsel which was not to have a special meeting that it should be a Townhall- thinks something what has been implied is not accurate. Informed the citizens there is few days left for the Census which is important -it assists with federal funds for schools, hospital, roads etc., please complete the census. Old Covington Hwy is getting sidewalks thanked the City, Engineers, and workers, waiting on benches for Zemurray dog park, and wanted to mention that at previous meetings we had citizens that stated the Council is not working together and Councilman Leon had an idea of a work session to come together to tackle topics that are on the agenda and it will be open to the public.

Councilman Leon, stated he wants to have something set up

Councilman DiVittorio, stated he was not available this week but would look at his schedule. Asked about Old Covington Hwy., sidewalks - getting a road study completed considering the expansion since it is narrow has anyone looked into this to get a study?

Lacy Landrum, spoke with the Regional Planning Commission out of New Orleans about funding this project, and we need corporation from the Parish and has yet to come to a consensus on the study.

Councilwoman Gonzales stated herself and Councilman Leon have been approached by residents in their district regarding the Flood Study and would like this to be on the work session agenda.

Councilman Leon, there will be some road work done on Whitmar Drive on October 4th this project is the City and the Parish. Everything is working on compliance issues and thanked Guy Palermo for fixing broke water main on Pecan Street.

2. Mayor: Pam Lightfoot CRS Program

Mayor Panepinto, stated he had 2nd meeting with local State NAACP - this meeting was very successful, and have received a lot from the Community and as Councilman Wells stated the Community is hurting and he understands change is necessary and plans on working with the NAACP and the Community to make this happen. The Census is important and needs to be completed by the end of the month.

Pam Lightfoot (CRS Program) stated she is the State CRS program manager. She reviewed a Powerpoint slide that provided information on the FEMA/NFIP program, voluntary program, and information on reduced flood insurance premiums where there is better floodplan management. Mrs., Lightfoot shared the goals of CRS and stated that 41 Louisiana communities, which makes up 80% of the States flood insurance policies. In the powerpoint she reviewed the benefits of participation and the community responsibilities.

VI. Minutes

Tracy Wells, 610 Mooney Ave., from the minutes of September 8th, 2020 it read in the minutes that the meeting was adjourned and then reopened to reconsider an item that was tabled and the YouTube feed had ended before the public could ask question. (1) is there a violation of the open meetings law (2) don't the Council have to take a vote of the Council before you move something from the table before the final vote.

Councilwoman Gonzales, someone came up and asked for this item to be reconsider. I asked Counsel the procedure and Andre informed us of the procedure we took a vote to reopen and that vote failed and the meeting was not re opened.

Tracie Wells, stated that the Council should allow the full public participation through every outlet including you tube

Lacy Landrum, you tube participation is not a state requirement.

A. September 8, 2020: There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon to approve the minutes of September 8, 2020.

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

VII. RESOLUTIONS

A. OLD BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to purchase Ten (10) fully equipped Police Tahoe's from Dana Safety Supply in the amount of \$438,872.00 RFP 21-06. Chief, Edwin Bergeron, stated this was originally on the agenda for August and was postponed and had to ask Dana Safety if they would hold over the 30 day bid they agreed form the first meeting and after tabled last meeting had to ask them to hold again and their response was they agreed as long as there is availability - as of 3:30pm today they advised the units were sold and not available. He is requesting that this item be removed from the agenda.

Online Question Lt. Bergeron, President of the Fraternal Order Police Lodge#34 -127 Oak Street, Hammond asked that the council approve the much needed police vehicles for the department

Stephen Quinn, 900 S. Mooney asked Chief Bergeron if they looked into Ford Explorers for comparisons of pricing or just looking at Tahoe's

Chief Bergeron, Tahoe's are most reliable and best suitable

Councilman Andrews, stated he met with one of the Sgt., of the police department and discussed things that were going on with the vehicles. The Sgt., expressed his concerns about the fleet and he discussed with me coming out to speak with his shift. Councilman Andrews stated he appreciated the Sgt., for reaching out and understood and is looking to continue to move forward.

Chief Bergeron, the vehicles are necessary for police work

Councilwoman Gonzales, do you anticipate rebidding the same

Chief Bergeron will look at the 2021 contract and state contract

Councilman Wells, asked Lacy for documents on the police and fire vehicles that was totaled, and wrecked for the last 2 yrs., including the name of drivers, date happened, defensive driving course completion, and drug test. Stated he asked this 2 yrs. ago saying everyone that has an accident attends a defensive driving course this is why the insurance rate was up. There is a certain timeframe 2hrs to take a drug test and take a defensive driver class this is important because they would be more aware knowing they would have to take a test thru this training.

Chief Bergeron, he spoke with his training coordinator and they have held a drivers class once a quarter and the last one was in November and plan on having one in March but, due to COVID did not hold a class. The class is a three day class and they have people in this class now and will continue for every quarter and as of this month classes have been held.

Councilman Wells, ask questions because his constituents ask him questions. This information need to be truthful with public.

Councilman DiVittorio, remembering this coming up in budget about the insurance -is there a policy on a time limit they have to attend.

Chief Bergeron, the last class was in November of 2019 and was trying for every quarter but the next quarter was in March and there is a class going on now.

Councilman Wells, asked how many people are in the class now

Chief Bergeron, 7 or 8 in the class

Lacy Landrum, policy does not have a time line on classes- it also depends on severity of the accident it's not going to be required of an insurance policy and not affect your insurance if it's a minor collision - if it is a major collision that will impact your rates. As part of discipline, a letter of instruction, letter reprimand or other disciplines is what the mayor signs off on -and hopes to have the information ready by this week.

Patrick Strahan, 19480 Dr. John Lambert Drive Council continues to delay the issues and this should not be delayed. Agrees defensive driving courses should be in place and reviewed all information has been presented and reviewed. There is no reason for this to continue to be pushed back.

Online Question: Carolyn Harrell 2208 Cherie Drive, shouldn't those who have had an at fault crash participate. Did you ask how many of these crashes are at fault this is probably the most important question?

Mayor, the City does look to see who is at fault this is part of the process

Stephen Quinn, 900 Mooney stated this item was tabled and this is getting personal and learned from Mayor Pete that personal relationships mean a lot to him and relationship to the City comes second and it divides the City. There has to be a healing and it has to start with this Council first because we have people picking sides no one is taking accountability to do what's right.

George Tucker, 44019 Forbes Farms Drive, Hammond, stating he's hearing some very concerning discourse and lot of half answers and is attending for clarity for his self. There was a request for documents asked 2 years ago about the names, date of accidents, whether classes taken, and drug test taken. There needs to be full disclosure and transparency- it does not take a lot - there are some real issues going on at this time. If there is an answer give a complete answer because the public needs to be informed. Councilman DiVittorio, asked a question related to Old Covington he wanted to know what study or decision have been done and the conversation went to another subject - the question is what's being done? There needs to be complete discussions and need to come together.

Councilman Andrews, agrees there is a need for healing and we need to come together for the common cause which is the Citizens of Hammond.

George Tucker, yes, police need adequate vehicles but police need to protect and serve not arrest and harass

Councilman Andrews, need accuracy but, need to make sure tax payers money is spent correctly

Lacy Landrum, the sidewalks that are proposed is in much later phases that goes past Range Rd. The current construction is a small segment that is by the nursing home on Old Covington - that section has been approved for this fiscal year. We're trying to find consensus with the Parish on the Old Covington Road traffic study - the majority of Old Covington Hwy between Range and Airport is actually in the Parish jurisdiction not the City. We have to have their buy in on this project. The Traffic Study has to show the full flow.

Councilwoman Gonzales, this was addressed to me from constituents in my district that had concerns of the nursing home residents taking their wheelchairs and driving down Old Covington Hwy., and walking to and from the dollar store. Stated she had an infrastructure meeting after she was elected and this was the number one thing they stated was needed.

Christine Monistere, 208 Camilla Ave, Stated each Council member speaks for their district residents. When people of their districts ask questions they would like the answers. There are (3) districts that are in turmoil - hopes that we could come to a peaceful resolution and start healing this community.

Cpt. Charles Monistere, HPD if someone is in a wreck you will get drug tested whether you're at fault or not at fault.

Councilman Wells, think its fair that everyone gets drug tested right or wrong

Pam Palmer, 43502 Robinson Road, asked Councilwoman Gonzales if her constituents asked for the sidewalks but, Lacy stated it was prior authorized, is it approved?

Councilwoman Gonzales, stated after she was elected she had and infrastructure meeting for district #2 and this meeting was to discuss the 5 yr., capital outlay - this is when citizens in my district who requested this and stated this was a need for this area.

George Tucker, stated Cpt. Monistere said they are drug tested. When are they drug tested and the timeframe?

Cpt. Monistere, tested within hour or two if the test is positive goes to HR and there are consequences.

Online Question: Anthony Giovingo, 47635 Montecello Drive Hammond, wants Council to approve the purchase of the vehicles – it become an office for patrol officers

There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to REMOVE the purchase Ten (10) fully equipped Police Tahoe's from Dana Safety Supply in the amount of \$438,872.00 RFP 21-06.

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

2.A request for proposals for legal services for City Council attorney. Councilman Andrews, stated he drafted a resolution to have Council retain an Attorney on issue by issue basis.

Councilman Wells, thanked Councilman Wells for preparing the resolution

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman Leon to approve request proposals for legal services for City Council Attorney.

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

B. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A resolution to approve Wingstop #1748 located at 1712 SW Railroad Ave., Suite 2, Unit B Hammond, La. to sell for low alcohol on premise. The owners are Gabbywings Enterprises, LLC. Syeda Naeem, stated this is a new business that has met all requirements.

Owner Present: James Garrett, Houston Texas

Councilman Andrews, how long has the business been operating

Jason Garrett, 3 weeks

Councilman Andrews, has alcohol been sold in the last 3 weeks

Jason Garret, no

Councilman Wells, Congratulations & Welcome to Hammond

Councilwoman Gonzales temporarily left meeting

There was a motion by Councilman DiVittorio and second by Councilman Andrews to approve Wingstop #1748 located at 1712 SW Railroad Ave., Suite 2, Unit B Hammond, La. to sell for low alcohol on premise. The owners are Gabbywings Enterprises, LLC.

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

2. A resolution to approve The Rind Cheese Shop currently located at 1307 W. University Ave., Hammond La. 70401 to sell High/Low packaged alcohol at its new location 212 SW Railroad Ave., Hammond La. 70403. The owners as The Rind LLC. Syeda Nacem, stated owner is relocating the business and has met all requirements.

Councilwoman Gonzales returned to the meeting

Owner, **Ashely Piquet**, stated she is relocating but, will only sell package alcohol - no alcohol will be poured on premise.

Councilman Wells, welcome to Hammond again

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews to approve The Rind Cheese Shop currently located at 1307 W. University Ave., Hammond La. 70401 to sell High/Low packaged alcohol at its new location 212 SW Railroad Ave., Hammond La. 70403. The owners as The Rind LLC

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

3. 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 July 1 and September 30, 2020. Charles Borchers IV, this is the 3rd round of funding and will be one of the larger requests.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon 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 July 1 and September 30, 2020.

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

4. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to authorize Airport Consultant Michael Baker International to design the Terminal apron joint reseal at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport (this \$34,945 work authorization is to be funded entirely by the \$35,000 grant accepted by Resolution 20-0908-14). Lacy Landrum, stated this grant was accepted earlier and to be in compliance with both State and Federal Funds - is giving work authorization by task and the task they received is \$34,945 and is entirely covered by the grant.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells authorizing the Mayor to authorize Airport Consultant Michael Baker International to design the Terminal apron joint reseal at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport (this \$34,945 work authorization is to be funded entirely by the \$35,000 grant accepted by Resolution 20-0908-14).

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

5. A resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration for air traffic control services at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport. Lacy Landrum, the City is working with FAA for this - does not change operations but allows FAA reimbursement to natural guard & City will equipment.

David Lobue, available to answer questions

There was a motion by Councilman Leon and second by Councilman Andrews authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration for air traffic control services at Hammond Northshore Regional Airport.

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

6. A resolution to ratify and award bids received 9/22/2020 for “Mooney Park Improvements.” (Project #420-11919). Chuck Spangler, recommend to award the bid to low bidder Wainwright Construction Maintenance Inc. for \$238,800 subject to the approval by the State. This is City funds but this is still a land and water control park, this is the second phase.

Councilman Andrews, asked what was the State approval

Chuck Spangler, all of the parks at one time received land and water conservation funds- this is a federal funded project - it's a 50/50 match the City put up funds and the State put up funds. The State will have to evaluate anything you do in that park before they assist with the funding.

There was a motion by Councilman Wells and second by Councilman DiVittorio to ratify and award bids received 9/22/2020 for “Mooney Park Improvements.”

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

7. A resolution to purchase 100 new body camera packages from Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a total cost of \$286,514.40 to be paid over five years at \$57,302.88 annually. The annual funds will come primarily from police millage and from court awarded cash if needed. Chief Edwin Bergeron, Jr., stated the department needs a better body camera system with better reliability the current system has malfunctions. Axon body cameras are currently used by Baton Rouge Police Dept., and State Police.

Marcus McMillian, IT Director, this system is needed for accountability and the current system has issues. This company offers one solid piece and has paper trail this will go to cloud storage for backup and will provide better storage and will be cheaper in the long run.

Councilman Andrews, would it come on when a Taser is engaged?

Corey Morse HPD, yes it's made by the same company and would be connected to body camera and the body camera is constantly recording once engaged it would go back up to a duration of 2minutes so it will catch 2 minutes prior. The current body camera is not secured and the mount breaks off if an altercation takes place - the new system is magnetic. We would like to purchase 91 and currently have 79 officers and 12 reserved officers Axon are giving 9 for free. The price will also include (4) administration licenses and this is for audit trail only for review only - cannot edit or change - all on cloud view only.

Councilman DiVittorio, is the officer able to turn the current system on/off whenever

Chief Bergeron, yes, and the current system now they can and there is no log but the Axon body system has a log

Councilman DiVittorio, is there a policy in place for officer that turn body camera off for disciplinary action

Chief Bergeron, no way to know if it is officer error or malfunction but the new system will log it at all times

Marcus McMillian, less moveable parts and less area of destruction

Councilman Andrews, with the new system if Taser is pulled the body camera comes on

Corey Morse, it has a 30ft., radius so if I turn a Taser on everyone in the area it will turn everyone's body camera and back track up to 2 min

Chief Bergeron, Tasers will be integrated with body camera

Councilwoman Gonzales, will this change how long it is saved

Marcus McMillian, the policy does not need to be changed - data will be available

Lacy Landrum, will be sure it is aligned with State record retention schedule

Shaun Meyer, Representative of Axon, would like to clarify that the 90 day time frame is not limited so its free and will assist with getting own data - you still own it.

Councilman Wells, asked Marcus if he will have all the technology he needs to operate these cameras. Will the cameras still work without the new cars?

Marcus McMillian, will be enhanced when new cars are purchased and to integrate with body cameras

Councilman DiVittorio, what if technology changes?

Shaun Meyer, City will get credit if there is an upgrade

Marcus McMillian, this is good for the IT Department to have data and the link can be set for enforcement and court purposes

Councilman Wells, how long to train officers working the cameras

Marcus McMillian, the company has been dedicated to this contract

Chief Bergeron, stated he informed Shaun he would like someone to come in and train the officers and they are going to train everyone in the department and peer to peer training. Corey will be a certified trainer within the Axon body cameras so that he could train new officers.

Lemar Marshall, 1104 Rue Chalet, suggests that the replacement plan to be added to the contract. Asked the Chief is there a policy on use of camera? Does the camera have to be on?

Chief Bergeron, not saying we don't implement the policy - we're saying due to faulty equipment we have had a hard time taking action against officers.

Lemar Marshall, there should be a policy and be sure it is implemented - just can't say due to equipment not reliable

Chief Bergeron, Axon system will log all information and State police stated it works well for them

Paulette Hebert Walker, 543 S. Second Street, Ponchatoula, President of the African American Women's Network, and National Action Network with Rev. Sharpton, (1st Question) how long after an incident will the public of families be able to see the video?

Chief Bergeron, our current system is the Public Records Request that's done and it goes to the City Attorney to determine whether it can be released or not.

Paulette Walker, is the Council requesting something providing 80% credit

Mayor, this is the for the 80% credit for the replacement plan

Paulette Walker, how often is the equipment going to be checked

Chief Bergeron, this will be a random check

Paulette Walker, will there be extra cameras for backup and warranty

Chief Bergeron, yes

Paulette Walker, Read statement from Rev Al Sharpton in reference to body Cameras

Mrs. Walker provided 750 plus signatures for body cameras of Citizens of Hammond Louisiana and was given to the Clerk for City records. This started on June 7, 2020 the people of Hammond is interested in body cameras. We want to make sure when incidents occur that it is recorded safely, securely, and people held accountable. I provided you the motto for the National Action Network "No Justice No Peace" but our motto for African American Women Network "Great Women Do Great Things" ladies teach your children to do the right things and please go vote.

George Tucker, mentioned there is policy but you either have no effort to or way of enforcing it

Chief Bergeron, having problems with the current body camera system so it becomes problematic when we want to discipline an officer for not using his body camera because we're unable with the current system to prove whether or not they actually disabled or did not turn on

George Tucker, does the public know that they really have no protection if there is a question about footage from body camera. There is no way to enforce the discrepancy between what may be said by a citizen vs a police officer

Lacy Landrum, the majority of public records request that come in that's requesting body camera footage are fulfilled by body camera footage

George Tucker, that's a different question because the information given is that there is no way to enforce it. The question is the public aware and has it been enforced. The community should be told about the problems with cameras.

Corey Oubre, 706 S. Orange Street, how are current body camera turned on? Informed that his fiance experienced firsthand and with her incident they did not camera everything and has been getting the run around.

Marcus McMillian, the new system that we're purchasing now officer has to engage it

Corey Oubre, why are we buying for officer's cameras if they might not turn them on and what is the disciplinary action.

Chief Bergeron, it depends on the call

Lacy Landrum, thinks it is days of suspension

Corey Oubre who checks to see if every officer has a camera

Chief Bergeron, shift supervisor

Councilman Wells, we still need to answer questions

Councilwoman Gonzales, we're been hearing that there are problem with the current system and many reasons have been given that the new system are better and this is my appreciation and this purchase provides a better way of doing things and more transparency which is what everyone wants

Online Question, Is there preventative maintenance required for the new cameras

Shaun Meyer, the cameras break at low rates their waterproof, shockproof and has a low rate of failure

There was a motion by **Councilman DiVittorio** and second by **Councilman Andrews** to AMEND to add to contract 80% credit toward the purchase of any upgrade to the hardware of the system in the future in the contract with Axon.

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

There was a motion by **Councilwoman Gonzales** and second by **Councilman DiVittorio** to approve the purchase 100 new body camera packages from Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a total cost of \$286,514.40 to add 80% credit toward the purchase of any upgrade to the hardware of the system in the future to be paid over five years at \$57,302.88 annually. The annual funds will come primarily from police millage and from court awarded cash if needed.

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

8. A resolution creating a housing advisory committee. Councilman DiVittorio, this will be a committee to look at housing issues in the City.

Lemar Marshall, thanked the Councilman for the effort to look at this issue and this will be good for the City.

There was a motion by **Councilman DiVittorio** and second by **Councilman Wells** approving a resolution creating a housing advisory committee.

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

VIII. FINAL ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Final adoption of an ordinance to adopt the following adjusted millage rates and they are hereby levied upon the dollar of the assessed valuation of all property subject to ad valorem taxation within said corporate limits of the City of Hammond for the Year 2020, for the purpose or raising revenue:

MILLAGE

General Alimony, General Fund (5207001)	9.010 Mills
Fire/Police (5207002)	9.970 Mills
Public Works (5207003)	1.990 Mills
Total	20.970 Mills

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells to adopt the following adjusted millage rates and they are hereby levied upon the dollar of the assessed valuation of all property subject to ad valorem taxation within said corporate limits of the City of Hammond for the Year 2020, for the purpose or raising revenue:

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General Alimony, General Fund (5207001)	9.010 Mills
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Public Works (5207003)	1.990 Mills
Total	20.970 Mills

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

2. Final adoption of an ordinance to increase the millage rate(s), but not in excess of the prior year's maximum rate(s), on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the year 2020, and when collected, the revenues from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied . Said millage (rate(s) are:

(5207001)

Fire/Police (5207002)	9.970 Mills	10.000 Mills
Public Works (5207003)	1.990 Mills	2.000 Mills
Total	20.970 Mills	21.040 Mills

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second Councilman DiVittorio to adopt an ordinance to increase the millage rate(s), but not in excess of the prior year's maximum rate(s), on all taxable property shown on the official assessment roll for the year 2020, and when collected, the revenues from said taxes shall be used only for the specific purposes for which said taxes have been levied. Said millage (rate(s) are:

(5207001)

Fire/Police (5207002)	9.970 Mills	10.000 Mills
Public Works (5207003)	1.990 Mills	2.000 Mills
Total	20.970 Mills	21.040 Mills

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

3. Final adoption of an ordinance to declare as surplus and authorize the sale of items listed below to sell on Govdeal.com.

- Bobcat Stump Grinder Model #SGx60/B950
- District of America, Auto 2-post lift Model 9000EB
- Scottsman Ice bin
- Portable Air Compressor 1HP
- Bobcat Jaw
- Woods 3240 Bat wing model 9580
- Unit 604 Kubota Tractor M110
- Tracks off a Kubota Excavator
- Tracks off a Bobcat skid steer
- Kohler 180K W Model 180RZD Generator serial 0702759
- Bobcat Breaker Model B

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

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

4. Final adoption of an ordinance to accept permanent servitudes related to drainage improvements on Brandi Lane.

- A. Frances Ard, 406 Brandi Lane, Hammond, LA 70403
- B. Louis & Angela Billiot, 408 Brandi Lane, Hammond, LA 70403

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells to adopt an ordinance to accept permanent servitudes related to drainage improvements on Brandi Lane.

- A. Frances Ard, 406 Brandi Lane, Hammond, LA 70403
- B. Louis & Angela Billiot, 408 Brandi Lane, Hammond, LA 70403

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

5. Final adoption of ordinance regarding use of the Hammond Rail Spur for a minimum fee of \$350 per rail car.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Wells to adopt an ordinance regarding use of the Hammond Rail Spur for a minimum fee of \$350 per rail car.

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

6. Final adoption of an ordinance to accept the re-dedication of a portion of Parker Blvd. right of way (60' x 284.81'), and Acceptance of a 1-year Performance Bond/Letter of Credit in the amount of \$10,000 for the construction of an "L" turnaround at the north end of Parker Blvd. located at the intersection of a 19' alley in accordance with survey by Andrew N. Faller dated 1/18/2020 (SUB-2020-01-00117) Recommended approval by the Planning Commission.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon to adopt an ordinance to accept the re-dedication of a portion of Parker Blvd. right of way (60' x 284.81'), and Acceptance of a 1-year Performance Bond/Letter of Credit in the amount of \$10,000 for the construction of an "L" turnaround at the north end of Parker Blvd. located at the intersection of a 19' alley in accordance with survey by Andrew N. Faller dated 1/18/2020 (SUB-2020-01-00117) Recommended approval by the Planning Commission.

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

IX. INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE:

1. Introduction to an Ordinance for a rezoning request by Best Team in Town LLC of a lot being the W 2/3 of the NW 1/4 of Block 4 of the Iowa Addition located at 600 & 602 E. Morris Ave. in accordance with survey by Brett Martin from RM-2 to MX-C (Z-2020-08-00081) Recommend approval by Zoning Commission. Tracie Schillace, would like to introduce tonight and set for public hearing approved by Zoning Commission - is located at 600 & 602 E. Morris Ave for mixed use commercial.

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon to introduce an ordinance Introduction to an Ordinance for a rezoning request by Best Team in Town LLC of a lot being the W 2/3 of the NW 1/4 of Block 4 of the Iowa Addition located at 600 & 602 E. Morris Ave. in accordance with survey by Brett Martin from RM-2 to MX-C (Z-2020-08-00081) Recommend approval by Zoning Commission.

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

Public Hearing is set for October 13, 2020

2. Introduction of an Ordinance to 1) Accept the dedication of Covington Ridge Subdivision infrastructure improvements, 2) Approve final subdivision (Lots 1-17, CA-1, CA-2, & CA-3) all in accordance with final plat and as built plans by McLin Taylor, Inc., 3) Accept a 2 year maintenance bond in the amount of \$51,110.80, and 4) Accept a 1 year performance bond in the amount of \$336,040.00 5) Accept a 1 year performance bond in the amount of \$25,000 (SUB-2020-07-00134) Recommend approval by the Planning Commission with the following conditions: 1) Final approval from Sewer District for lift station test 2) Final approval for City street light test. Tracie Schillace, the subdivision being developed

There was a motion by Councilman Andrews and second by Councilman Leon to introduce an Ordinance to 1) Accept the dedication of Covington Ridge Subdivision infrastructure improvements, 2) Approve final subdivision (Lots 1-17, CA-1, CA-2, & CA-3) all in accordance with final plat and as built plans by McLin Taylor, Inc., 3) Accept a 2 year maintenance bond in the amount of \$51,110.80, and 4) Accept a 1 year performance bond in the amount of \$336,040.00 5) Accept a 1 year performance bond in the amount of \$25,000 (SUB-2020-07-00134) Recommend approval by the Planning Commission with the following conditions: 1) Final approval from Sewer District for lift station test 2) Final approval for City street light test.

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

Public Hearing is set for October 13, 2020

X. ADJOURN: There was a motion by Councilwoman Gonzales and second by Councilman Andrews to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor of adjourning the meeting 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 September 22, 2020 BEING 14 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.