

The regular meeting of the Hammond Common Council of the City of Hammond, Lake County, Indiana was held on October 11, 2022 in the Hammond City Council Chambers and was available to be viewed at gohammond on Facebook, gohammond.tv live and per Zoom.

Council President Dave Woerpel presided.

City Clerk Robert J. Golec facilitated.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by all.  
Invocation by Councilwoman Alexander.

ROLL CALL

PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Woerpel

ELECTRONICALLY PRESENT PER ZOOM: Rakos

ABSENT: None

TOTAL: 9

MAYOR'S ADDRESS

Chief of Staff Phil Taillon - Good evening, Mr. President and Council. Mayor McDermott asked me to give his report as he is out of town. Let's start with some good news. As of last week the Bank Calumet Project or the NW IN Development Project has officially started. They've started the interior demolition and abatement of what will eventually be a \$30 million, 104 unit, apartment building that will have some commercial and communal space on the ground floor. I think if I gave this report in the past, it was probably less than \$30 million, but as all of you are aware, costs have changed these days so the project costs for this has gone up. Not that it's necessarily import to the Council but they did have to go back to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation down state, ask for additional dollars, and the IADC did say yes for that. Because they understand how important this project is. Not only for Hammond, but also with the train project that's going on that this is gonna be one of the first projects to come to fruition and really show off what we are gonna be able to do in Downtown with that train having an eventual station right there. So, we're excited about that. Hopefully it's one of several and we'll be hearing about one or two others that will be starting in the near future. Let's talk real quickly about some of the agenda items. I know we have a lot on the agenda so I'll be relatively short. We have some different rezone and intents to consider for the YMCA and Huhtamaki projects. For those that don't recall, the YMCA, again, used to be a little less expensive but now is about a \$70 million project. You may not be aware that when it's completed it will be the largest YMCA in the country. Overtaking the Crown Point YMCA, which currently is the largest. I don't think a lot of people are aware of that. The items that are on the agenda, obviously, support this project. I know we talked about it a little bit about it in caucus. One thing that we didn't hit on is that is that we are working with INDOT on a new traffic signal into the, what I'll call, the old Woodmar Mall development. Obviously, with the increased traffic with some of the things that are being proposed at the Walmart, which is currently ... it's not vacant because you do have Northshore Health and I believe there's a store in there. But there's bigger things in store for that building as well. Then we still are talking about ideas at the Sportsplex also. So we know there's gonna be increased traffic. We know there's increased parking needs. One of the things that I think is that we're lucky on is that the owner of of the Walmart and his group have

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*

## MAYOR'S ADDRESS cont.

Chief of Staff Phil Taillon cont. - agreed to have shared parking agreements with everybody. So, although you might think to yourself, well if we're gonna have this extremely large YMCA, where's all the parking gonna be? I believe there's somewhere between 500-600 spots at the Walmart site. Most of which are not utilized. So that's gonna be able to be used as well. Then, from a city's perspective, we're looking at the property we own right behind the Walmart, which would be just south of Walmart, and also the property we own right behind the Food for Less, which is also south of the Food for Less, and potentially are going to make parking in those areas as well. So, in the end, there's gonna be a lot of additional parking. I think that's the question I get a lot when we're talking about this particular project. But it's exciting for Hammond. I've talked to many people in Crown Point and what the YMCA has done there. I'm talking about development around the YMCA, what it's done for their community and I think it's gonna do the same thing for Hammond. I imagine that Hammond, that residential prices in the area are gonna eventually go up with some of this increased development. Then, of course, Huhtamaki across the street is doing \$100 plus million expansion, adding jobs, cleaning up their facility, constructing a new building, demolishing one that we have hoped would be demolished a long time ago, the old Pizza Hut building that's been there forever. So there's just a lot of good things happening in this area. We just have to work together with everybody to make sure that it's as cohesive and functional as possible from the city perspective. Lastly, this evening, we are introducing the budget. I know you're all very aware of that. I've had conversations with many of you, maybe not all, but many of you, in regards to the budget. Megan Flores, and I should mention condolences to Megan and her family, obviously, for the unexpected death of her fiances father. So, our condolences, Megan. Is making herself available to all of you. I believe she's reached out to the Council Office and said if you need a meeting, call me, let's discuss, ask me questions. I believe she just met with Councilwoman Alexander, which was great, and I hope all the rest of you are taking advantage of that. If you'd like to speak with me at any of the meetings, I'm happy to. Although when it comes to the budget, obviously, Megan is the expert. It's tough times, it has been, not just in Hammond but in this country over the last, you know, since 2020. So, the budget is what it is. We're doing the best we can. I think the city has done well, as far as making sure all our departments have been functional through all the issues that we've gone through, the pandemic, and everything else, labor shortages that are out there. I think we're doing a pretty good job trying to curtail some of that. So, but, you know, we're happy to present the budget to you. You know, Megan and her team, as you could see she has some of her team here as well, Tinisha and Jessica, have met with every department head in the city and talked about where their opportunities to potentially cut a position, combine positions, where we could save money on the budget. Sometimes there's a department saying, "Look, we need to add a position here because of certain circumstances". But I think in the end, they do the best they can to present to you the most efficient budget possible. So when you meet with her, I hope you find that. I don't know if Mayor, I might have missed it if Mayor talked about this at a previous meeting, but, you know, we recently had a bond rating, I don't know if he spoke about that, and our outlook, actually, moved up. It actually went in the right direction. Which is very positive. We're excited about that. It shows that decisions, not just the administration, that you, as the Council, have been making or have been good ones, specifically when we talk about the Rainy Day Fund and the way we run the Capital Improvement Board and are spending money after we receive it as opposed to spending it ahead of time and hoping that it comes in. So, I just want to bring that up as well. That's positive for the city of Hammond. But that's all I have and I'm happy to answer any questions.

Councilman Kalwinski - Phil, you mentioned that the IEDC or IAOC was going to give more to the Bank Calumet, how much more are they getting?

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*

MAYOR'S ADDRESS cont.

Chief of Staff Phil Taillon - I know it's at least \$2 million. It may not be that exact number, but it's at least two. So I'll say \$2+ million.

Councilman Kalwinski - And it was \$15 million originally?

Chief of Staff Phil Taillon - That the IADC was contributing? No. So I think the whole project, you know, initially when we went, when they came forward, and again, I'm going by memory here, I believe they were asking, the entire project was about \$25 million. I believe the city stepped up with an incentive to the tune of around \$5 million, it might be a little less than that. The IEDC matched our incentive. So it was probably around \$5 million as well. The IADC has a, I don't know if it's official rule or guideline that they won't incentivize a project unless they know it's being incentivized locally for the same amount. So, a lot of times when we come to you and ask for an incentive and we know that they're approaching the IADC, that's part of what we'll, you know, we'll explain that part of the picture to you. So I would say at this point they are probably in the \$7 million range.

Council President Woerpel - I know the early out period closed, how many took that offer of the early out deal? Are you aware of that yet?

Chief of Staff Phil Taillon - Although I don't have that number off the top of my head, I'll bet you Megan does. I'm glad you brought that up. Obviously, we offered the early retirement to people that qualified under certain conditions. From my perspective, it's been pretty successful. As far as the folks that are taking it, obviously, they're excited because they've been with us for a very long time and they're getting a little extra reward for all the hard work and what they've done for the city. Then from our perspective, you know, people are leaving that potentially have a lot more vacation, a lot more benefits, a lot more vacation days, sick days, so it actually in the end save the city money as well. I'll ask Megan if she has that number. Twenty one people have signed up for the early retirement.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Spitale, supported by Councilman Emerson, moved to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2022 and place on file.

ROLL CALL VOTE (minutes)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

MINUTES APPROVED

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Councilman Rakos, supported by Councilwoman Venecz, moved to approve the claims from September 29, 2022 through October 5, 2022. Claim #5853 through #6170.

ROLL CALL VOTE (claims)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

CLAIMS APPROVED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 22-39 An Ordinance Reclassifying Certain Lands in the City of Hammond for Zoning purposes and Amending Ordinance No. 8514 for Property Commonly known as 1918 & 1940 165<sup>th</sup> Street Sponsored by Councilman Tyler & Petitioned by Crossroads YMCA
- 22-40 An Ordinance Reclassifying Certain Lands in the City of Hammond for Zoning purposes and Amending Ordinance No. 8514 for Property Commonly known as 6539 Indianapolis Blvd Sponsored by Councilman Tyler & Petitioned by Huhtamaki
- 22-41 Amending Ordinance No. 9378 which is an Amendment to Ordinance 8514 to Amend the Hammond Sportsplex Planned Unit Development District Ordinance as a Supplement to the Zoning Ordinance for Property at 6600 Indianapolis Blvd & 1918-1940 165<sup>th</sup> Street Sponsored by Councilman Tyler & Petitioned by Hammond Plan Commission
- 22-42 2023 City of Hammond Budget Proposal Sponsored by Thomas M. McDermott, Jr.
- 22-43 2023 Hammond Redevelopment Budget Proposal Sponsored by Dan Spitale & Janet Venecz
- 22-44 2023 Hammond Sanitary District Budget Proposal Sponsored by Janet Venecz & Pete Torres

George Stoya - Last meeting the Mayor mentioned this thing about the Sanitary District and the spiking costs that we were gonna be seeing. Has there been a cost of service study been published or anything like that to compare it to how it works with the budget and extra debt we're gonna take on soon? I'm in the dark about this. I've heard no discussion on this.

Marty Wielgos, Sanitary District CEO - The Sanitary District, for the last ... since 1996, has been working with the Federal Government putting a Consent Decree Order together. This is happening across the country. What the Federal Government wants from Sanitary Districts across the country is upgrades to modern day standards. The old ways of treating sewage back 40, 50, 60 years ago just doesn't make sense anymore. They're not

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*

## PUBLIC HEARINGS cont.

Marty Wielgos, Sanitary District CEO - efficient, they're old, and they're not working. So over the last ten years that I've been involved, we finally finished wrapping up an agreement with the Federal Government on a long term control plan and basically what the Mayor alluded to several meetings ago was the number that we've agreed to do over the next twenty eight years. Close to \$250 million of improvements. The good thing is that I've not had to come to this Council to ask for a rate increase since the last one we did over seven years ago. The reason why I've not had to do that is because of the fact that we run the Sanitary District more efficiently than it has in the past. We utilized different changes in operations that have actually saved us money and those cost savings and reductions have allowed me and my staff to do improvements against this \$250 millions over the last ten years. It's amazing, and we look at different things that we always think that in order to get something done it's gonna cost more money and the Sanitary District is rate based, that's how we fund the District to provide the services that we do. It's my job, along with the Business Manager, Rachel, to make sure we spend those monies wisely and prudently. The worst thing that I could do is to continually come to this Council to ask for more money when I haven't cleaned our house and put everything in order. One of the main things of cleaning the house at the Hammond Sanitary District was addressing our customer communities and I wanted to do that so that we were able to get a rate that we thought was fair and equitable compared to the citizens of Hammond that they were paying along with the residents of Munster. Because as you know, Munster has one member of my board. We've done that. We did a rate study for our customer communities. At the end of that study, which just recently had been finished, we found out that our customer communities, as I had thought for a long, long time, were not paying their fair share. So, getting our house in order was to first of all get our customer communities in order. Which took a long time. Because they also had long term contracts, twenty five years, thirty years, that had clauses in those contracts when they were originally drawn up back in the early nineties with automatic renewals. It is what it is, right? You can't go back and change things. I've learned long ago you deal with the cards that are given to you the best way you can and we've done that. Not always easily and for most of the time very painstakingly. We had to go through the courts with our customer communities. It ended up going all the way down, if you remember, many years ago, five six years ago, to the Indiana Supreme Court. What they told us is that, "Hammond, you have contracts with these communities. You have to abide by them." We thought that we could get lucky, but, you know what, luck actually turned in our favor because it put the conversation at the top of discussion with our customer communities. Because of that, and because working with the Federal Government on our long time control plan, it has all come together to the fact that we got a rate study done that our customer communities agreed to be bound by and it proved that they're underpaying. So, as I'm speaking right now we are working with finalizing our agreements with our three customer communities, Whiting, Highland and Griffith. Those are the three customer communities that the Hammond Sanitary District has. And I can assure you that once we get those agreements in place, I should not have to come to you to ask for rate increases to do the commitment of the \$250 million. Not tomorrow, not next year, not two years from now. Because of the fact of how we put our house in order and because of the fact that I knew we were being underpaid. We're talking large amounts of money. So, to answer the question, and hopefully I did and I'll open it up for any questions that you may have of me, that's exactly what we've done. We've prepared for the future. We've learned what we needed to do and we have been doing it ahead of time. We didn't wait to start addressing that \$250 million. I can tell you right now four projects that the Sanitary District just finished and of which we're waiting to, you know, probably early next year to have all of you come down and take a tour of what additions we've made. We did a \$14 million addition to headworks. That's the

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*

PUBLIC HEARINGS cont.

Marty Wielgos, Sanitary District CEO -cont. - main building that was the original building that sat on Columbia Avenue. The one that you go past every day. That building had a \$14 million improvement, 99% of that was electronic based. Imagine the cost efficiencies we're going to have just with that. New equipment and the things that we needed that were long overdue. All of those expenditures go towards knocking that \$250 million down, knocking it down, knocking it down. So, we're actually ahead of the game because we knew it was coming and I'm not one to wait. Nor am I one to have to come and ask you for rate increases, Which, eventually, I have to. I can tell you over, not only the Sanitary District, but the entire city. Everyone is eating up new costs. My chlorine costs have quadrupled in a year and half, and we pay our bills on time. We're lucky to have a little bit of money as our Rainy Day Fund set aside at the District. We're prepared. I'll answer any questions that you may have.

Councilman Kalwinski - You had four projects that you completed and are you able to take that amount of all those four projects and apply it to the \$250 million?

Marty Wielgos, Sanitary District CEO - The answer is yes.

Councilman Kalwinski - So do you have a number?

Marty Wielgos, Sanitary District CEO - I don't have an exact number but I can tell you that, you know, \$14 million, almost all of that is gonna knock down from that \$250 million. We did some new clarifiers at about \$7 million in the plant. We added two of those. That's gonna come off almost 100% from the \$250 million. So we're chipping away at it. But I'm also with the environment that we're in today, with what Covid has changed as far as cost, from keeping good employees to just the basic operations of the District. I'm very frugal on where we spend our dollars. More frugal than I've probably been in the past. But I'm not one to stick my head in the sand and let maintenance go unappreciated. It has to be done. Just like the Water Department, they have to do the things in those drying beds, that I'll call them, because of the facts that if they don't imagine what chaos you will have. They're addressing those costs, Councilmen, that are skyrocketing, just like the city is, because when our cost analysis people come in for a project, like I do at the District, the numbers a floating number anymore because you just don't know where the materials are or how long it's gonna take you to get them. We're doing more long range planning now than I've ever seen us doing because of that fact. Because we know somewhere down the line some of these numbers are gonna have to come back down. But it's a guessing game. So, like the City, like the Sanitary District, like the Water Department, we have to do what we have to do because if we don't do what we have to do, our services could come to a stop and you can imagine the chaos that would cause on the city, either Water or Sanitary. It's just, you can't wait.

Councilman Emerson - The Council, we, and I don't want to single anybody out, but we took a tour of the Sanitary District and it's very, it's awesome. I mean, where everything ends in Hammond. So I wondered if, loosely related to the discussion, the EPA had said we'd need to have storm water districts and one of them is in the 4<sup>th</sup> District and I wondered if you could elaborate on that because that's what they said, no they said, "Well you don't have to but you can pay a million a year". That was one of the numbers that was thrown around and that's probably gone up. So, I guess we have to eventually. So can you elaborate on that.

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*

PUBLIC HEARINGS cont.

Marty Wielgos, Sanitary District CEO - You know there was a major push for many, many years for separation, alright, separate storm water from the wastewater. Because the thought was, well the storm water doesn't have all the contaminants in it as the waste water. So the storm water doesn't really need to be treated and doesn't need to have all of that process like the waste water does. We can just send it to the streams of the United States. Well, what has happened is reality is setting in and the thought now is starting to change where by the storm water has a lot of contaminants in it. Think about it. All of the run off of every major road, gasoline, salt, oil products. Imagine us not treating that. Going directly into the waterways. So, some of the thought is that almost everything is going to be treated again, and we're preparing for that. And preparing the district to accommodate that. On any given day, at the Sanitary District, 33 million gallons come into that plant. Every single day. When we get a little bit of rain that can jump up within minutes to 45 million, and we treat it or we store it in the basin to wait for the rain to stop and then bleed it back in and treat it. So we're not putting raw sewage storm water into the river. Look at, I mean I grew up here, like many of you have, and there used to be the skull and bones signs on the Grand Calumet River. You would look at it and not want to spend any more time looking at it off the bridge. It was full of garbage, debris, tires, you name it and those signs were everywhere. Look at it today. Look at how things have changed and we're doing the right things to bring the environment back to where it should be. I can only tell you that there's more live animals on our 24 acre site than I've ever seen before, fox, wild turkeys, imagine it, along the Grand Calumet River in our plant, deer, you name it, the water life, fish, have come back, the geese, the ducks. It truly is amazing the turnaround from the last twenty five years. I can only tell you we welcome that. I know it's expensive sometimes, but, you know, it's doing the right thing for the generations to come after we are all long gone. I think we have a dire need to continue on that path. So, my job is, and I know anytime I come before you, I see everybody start squirming a little bit because, "Oh, Marty's here, he needs money." The thing is I'm happy to come here at times like this to discuss the fact I don't need money today. I don't need money tomorrow. Because of all the things that we've done internally. I have a great staff. We have really good, strong, committed people, and I'm just happy to be the guy that's running this facility for now doing the things I need to do so that when the guy that comes after me or the lady that comes after me, they can say, "Hey, we're gonna continue with the efforts of not only the past but farther past of those people that brought the district and accepted the responsibilities of keeping our waters clean. You got to remember, one last thing in closing, in California, because of their water shortage, and I'm gonna predict soon to be in Arizona, they take the effluent, is what I end up with and put back into the Grand Calumet River, which goes right back to Lake Michigan. Instead of them putting their effluent into a waterway, they send it back to the filtration plant. So that it can be reprocessed and sent to your drinking water. I told the Mayor I would challenge him to a test, we'll go down to our outfall is into the river and I'll take a glass and he'll take a glass, I'll pour his glass and I'll have one of my guys give me my glass and we'll drink together. That's how clean it is. Our effluent has stronger guidelines than your potable water. We have to meet higher standards because it's going back into the river, than the water that's pulled out that the Hammond Filtration Plant processes that becomes your potable water.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council as a Whole Committee - Councilwoman Venecz - Brought out 22-37, 22-38.

Council as a Whole Committee - Councilman Tyler - Brought out 22-39, 22-40 and 22-41.

Capital Improvement Board - Councilwoman Venecz - Meeting was cancelled. Next meeting is October 17, 2022. Work study at 4:30 p.m. and the meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Community and Crime Watch Committee - Councilwoman Venecz - Upcoming meetings:  
Community Watch at Mt. Zion Pleasantview Plaza; Wed., Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> ; 1 p.m.  
East Ham'd Pullman Crime Watch; Tues., Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> ; 6 p.m.; Ophelia Steen Center  
Thur., Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>; Hessville Crime Watch; Jean Shepard; 6:00 p.m.  
South Hohman Neighborhood Watch; Thur., Oct 13<sup>th</sup> ; Trinity Lutheran Church; 6:30 p.m.  
Whiting/Robertsdale Crime Watch; Thur., Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> ; 6:30 p.m.; Calumet College

ORDINANCE 3<sup>RD</sup> READING-FINAL PASSAGE

22-37 An Ordinance Amending 99.65 of the Hammond Municipal Code, Pertaining to Park Traffic Rules

Councilwoman Venecz, supported by Councilwoman Alexander, moved for passage.

Councilwoman Venecz, supported by Councilwoman Alexander, moved to Amend in 22-37A in it's entirety

Councilwoman Venecz- Yes, this ordinance is with regard to the prohibition of parking around parks. Uh, as it reads no person shall between dusk and dawn, park a vehicle in or along any street or park street. Except those persons participating in programs approved by the City or Board of Park Commissioners. Uh, the hours may otherwise be restricted by a police order, or Board of Park Commissioners Resolution or action by way of posting signage clearly indicating a restricted date and time. So that is this ordinance.

ROLL CALL VOTE (amendment)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried 9/0/0 AMENDMENT ADOPTED

ROLL CALL VOTE (22-37A)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried 9/0/0 ORDINANCE NO. 9568 PASSED  
(as amended)

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*



ORDINANCE 3<sup>RD</sup> READING-FINAL PASSAGE cont.

22-38 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 7554, Ordinance 8452, and Ordinance 9168 as it pertains to Councilmanic Districts in Second Class Cities

Councilwoman Venecz, supported by Councilman Spirtale, moved for passage.

ROLL CALL VOTE (passage of 22-38)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

ORDINANCE NO. 9569 PASSED

22-39 An Ordinance Reclassifying Certain Lands in the City of Hammond for Zoning Purposes and Amending Ordinance No. 8514 (An Ordinance Establishing a Zoning Plan for the City of Hammond including the Regulations and Maps to Administer the Zoning Plan in Order to Provide for Orderly Growth and Development Within the City, all in Accordance with the Comprehensive/Land Use Plan, as Amended) for Property commonly known as 1918 & 1940 165<sup>th</sup> Street Hammond, IN, 46320

Councilman Tyler, supported by Councilwoman Venecz, moved for passage.

Councilman Tyler- As we spoke about it last meeting and of course tonight during the caucus, the purpose of this ordinance is just updating the zoning for that area that will be added into addition to the new Crossroads YMCA that will be built on the corner of 165th Indianapolis Blvd. I know we have a representative from the YMCA here if we want to open it up for them to speak.

ROLL CALL VOTE (passage of 22-39)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

ORDINANCE NO. 9570 PASSED

ORDINANCE 3<sup>RD</sup> READING-FINAL PASSAGE cont.

22-40 An Ordinance Reclassifying Certain Lands in the City of Hammond for Zoning Purposes and Amending Ordinance No. 8514 (An Ordinance Establishing a Zoning Plan for the City of Hammond including the Regulations and Maps to Administer the Zoning Plan in Order to Provide for Orderly Growth and Development Within the City, all in Accordance with the Comprehensive/Land Use Plan, as Amended) for Property commonly known as 6539 Indianapolis Blvd.

Councilman Tyler, supported by Councilwoman Venecz, moved for passage.

Councilman Tyler- Once again, this is connected to the expansion of Huhtamaki and we'll update the zoning of the new additional parcel property to be included in that expansion.

ROLL CALL VOTE (passage of 22-39)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

ORDINANCE NO. 9571 PASSED

22-41 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 9378 which is an Amendment to Ordinance 8514 to Amend the Hammond Sportsplex Planned Unit Development District Ordinance as a Supplement to the Zoning Ordinance for Property at 6600 Indianapolis Blvd. and 1918-1940 165<sup>th</sup> Street

Councilman Tyler, supported by Councilman Spitale, moved for passage.

Councilman Tyler, supported by Councilwoman Venecz, moved to Amend in 22-41A in it's entirety.

ROLL CALL VOTE (amendment)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

ROLL CALL VOTE (22-41A)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

ORDINANCE NO. 9572 PASSED  
(as amended)

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*



INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES cont.

22-45 An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries and Wages of all City Officials & Employees of the City of Hammond, Indiana other than those fixed by statute or by Ordinance heretofore Enacted, and fixing the effective date thereof

Councilwoman Venecz, supported by Councilwoman Alexander, moved the proposed ordinance to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and referred it to the Council as a Whole Committee with a meeting on October 24, 2022 at 4:30p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of 22-45)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

MOTION CARRIED

22-46 An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries and Wages of all Policemen & Firemen of the City of Hammond, Indiana other than those fixed by statute or by Ordinance heretofore Enacted, and fixing the effective date thereof

Councilman Rakos, supported by Councilman Kalwinski, moved the proposed ordinance to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and referred it to the Council as a Whole Committee with a meeting on October 24, 2022 at 4:30p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of 22-46)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS

22R-15 An Resolution of the City of Hammond Approving the Issuance of Revenue Bonds of the Waterworks District of the City

Councilman Rakos, supported by Councilwoman Venecz, moved for adoption.

ROLL CALL VOTE (adoption)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

RESOLUTION NO. R15 ADOPTED

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilman Tyler- Last week, I know several of us attended the unveiling of the dedication of the Black Box at Hammond Central, which is their theater in honor of the late Superintendent Dr. Walter Watkins. Just want to congratulate his family on that accomplishment on that achievement. He was somebody that dedicated his life to the children and families of the City of Hammond. Uh, and he is dearly missed but I know that his family was happy with the ceremony, with the dedication, and I encourage anybody, if you like the arts to go visit Hammond Central and their Black Box, their art department will put on several plays this fall. I think they just wrapped up Clue. They're planning to do Lion King later on. But you can check the Hammond Central website to see a full schedule of their plays for the rest of the year. Thank you.

Councilman Emerson- I was there too, and I knew Dr. Watkins, my son and daughter, attended Eggers Middle School. He was the principal there, and I've known him for a long time. And I think it was a great tribute renaming the Black Box theater in his honor and enjoyed it. Thank you.

Councilman Rakos- I meant to mention this during communication, but I want to thank everybody that came out for the HC3 Hessville cleanup last Saturday. We had about 30 kids and about 10 adults and we got a lot done and I want to thank everyone that came out.

Councilman Tyler- I'm not sure if we announced this before, but the Hammond FOP #51 is hosting an event this Saturday called Cask and Smoke. Uh, it's at 18th Street here in downtown Hammond. Uh, tickets are still on sale. I believe tickets cost \$70, but the event is from 5 to 10 pm. There'll be drinks and food and it's a fundraiser for their holiday program where they give out baskets and items to families in need and toys to families in need across the city. So, just want to encourage people to attend that too. Thank you.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Linda Anguiano- I was going to speak about the COSECHA Resolution, but we had a spirited discussion after we left. And the members of COSECHA want to meet with the mayor. And they're just concerned that the resolution is going to be delayed. But I assured them it would be passed within the next two meetings. And so I hope that really happens. And I wanted to also say that the Latino Resource Fair on Saturday was well attended. I appreciate you being open to hearing Ken Rosek at each meeting and talking about the Dunes and I really support it. This Friday at 6 pm, the Progressive Democrats of America is having an open house. We've had liked I mentioned, at the last meeting, we've had many people who have asked about becoming political, especially with the Democratic Party. And if any of you can come to that, that would be awesome. So, we meet at the Purdue University Northwest Campus. We meet in the library building, but not in the library because we're going to be nose-y and we meet in the cafeteria area. The cafeteria is closed at that time. So I welcome you to come. Thank you.

Gary Drieschoff- I want to especially thank Council President Dave Woerpel. He's been doing wonders for me and my neighbors, cleaning up Nickel Plate Street and the surrounding area. So, my neighbors really appreciate it. Thank you much.

*Prepared by  
Robert J. Golec  
Hammond City Clerk*

PUBLIC EXPRESSION cont.

George Stoya-I want to thank Marty for coming up giving some explanation or overview about some of the sanitary district's cost and stuff like that. My main concern is since we came out of the IURC back in 2018, I believe. You, the council, were to, so to speak, as I heard from one guy say, we'll step in and protect you. Gotta tell you I really don't feel protected and I don't feel protected by you guys. Not as well, anyway. Those customer cities, you know why? Because they have a contract. They can enforce. We, the citizens of Hammond, have nothing. The point is, we don't have a contract and I don't see the due diligence out of you guys. I hear these pronouncements on high. Next up, you know, 22-45 done 22-46 done. You know, I'm feeling vulnerable because you guys can come in here like the mayor did and just announce, hey, we're going to have rate increases. How do you like that? And what can we do about it? Nothing. You said you would step in for the citizens.

Ken Rosek- First, I'd like to make an announcement that our 3rd annual Hessville Dune Dusters Meet and Cleanup will be on October 22nd at 10 to 2 pm. Uh, we meet behind the water tower on Parrish Avenue. And we're looking for volunteers. Tonight, I want to speak about the city survey that was presented to us kind of in lieu of a public vetting. And the city survey that was put out to us was biased, manipulative in its content, and gerrymandered in its distribution. Its intent was not to find out what residents were thinking but it created a tool that could be used to misdirect people and use the results as justification for the project. It took us over 2 years to see where they were going to actually put the bridge. We had no idea. This is here is a map we got from the Indiana Department of Transportation and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Going into this survey a little bit further, we see that the mayor had a letter to everyone. He basically explains how we cant solve the problem. It's impossible to stop the trains from parking. 5,000 surveys went out. Only 540 came back completed. That's a 10.4% response rate which is terrible.

Alberto Ochoa- I just want to thank everybody for coming out to our HUGS Cultural Committee Parade on September 25th. It was a great success. If it wasn't for everybody's collaboration here, the mayor, the city, and the workers. It would have not been possible. Purdue counted over 1,500 people at their festival and they would also like to say thank you for all the help. And I would also like to invite you guys to another fundraiser coming to Hammond at the Hammond Moose Lodge for the Peoples Turkey Drive. They raise money to give out dinners on Thanksgiving. The more donations, the more families they get to help. And again, that will be on October 30th. And one quick personal thing from the license, driver's license issuance. I ran into a young lady at a Latino Resource Fair where she was held back from receiving the College Bound. She had to join the military in order to get her college paid. If her mom would have had some to of ID like that, she would have gotten the home exemption and would have been able to receive the college-bound to continue her education. So, that's how important is ordinance is, not just for people to drive. I'll be glad to come and join you when you guys have your committee meeting. I just want to let you guys know how effective this will be and how much it will help. I'm one voice and I'm proud of it. It's more than just driving. It could be somebody's career, somebody's life. You know, somebody that we could be reading about 30 years from now, and you could be like, wow, I made that change for them. Thank you.

Councilwoman Alexander, supported by Councilman Tyler, moved to adjourn.

ROLL CALL VOTE (adjourn)

AYES: Alexander, Spitale, Venecz, Kalwinski, Torres, Tyler, Emerson, Rakos, Woerpel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried

9/0/0

MEETING ADJOURNED

2022 HAMMOND COMMON COUNCIL ATTENDANCE RECORD OF  
ELECTRONIC AND PHYSICAL PRESENCE

	Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr		May		Jun		Jul		Aug		Sep		Oct		Nov		Dec			
	10	24	14	28	14	28	14	28	11	25	9	23	13	27	11	25	8	22	12	26	11	24	14	28	12	26
Katrina Alexander	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P						
Dan Spitale	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P					
Janet Venecz	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P					
Mark Kalwinski	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P					
Pete Torres	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P					
Barry Tyler	E	P	P	P	E	E	E	E	P	P	E	P	E	E	P	E	P	E	P	P	P					
Bill Emerson	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P					
Scott Rakos	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E					
Dave Woerpel	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P					
Initials	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG	RJG						

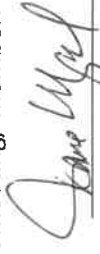
E=ELECTRONIC

P=PHYSICALLY

PRESENT

A=ABSENT

If the member qualifies for an exemption from the "Consecutive - 50" requirements, draw a circle around the E for that meeting/ member.



Dave Woerpel, President  
Hammond Common Council

ATTEST:



Robert J. Golec, City Clerk

Time: 7:30  
cb/dw

Prepared by  
**Robert J. Golec**  
**Hammond City Clerk**