



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
May 25, 2021

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Jackson City Council met virtually, in accordance with City of Jackson Resolution No. 2021-17, and was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Derek J. Dobies.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION:**

The Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was given by Sixth Ward Councilmember Will Forgrave in which he shared the poem “The Bringer of Tidings” by Theodore Roethke.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Derek Dobies attended remotely from East Lansing, MI; Vice Mayor Arlene Robinson attended remotely from Jackson, MI; Councilmember Freddie Dancy attended remotely from Jackson, MI; Councilmember Jeromy Alexander attended remotely from Jackson, MI; Councilmember Laura Dwyer Schlecte attended remotely from Jackson, MI; Councilmember Karen Bunnell attended remotely from Jackson, MI; and Councilmember Will Forgrave attended remotely from Jackson, MI

Absent: none.

Also present: City Manager Jonathan Greene, City Attorney Matthew Hagerty, City Clerk Andrea Muray, Director of Neighborhood and Economic Operations Shane LaPorte, Director of Parks and Recreation Kelli Hoover, Director of Finance Phil Hones, Director of Police and Fire Services Elmer Hitt, City Engineer Jon Dowling, and Public Information Officer Aaron Dimick.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to adopt the agenda. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS.:**

**A. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Project Plan Presentation from Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc.**

*Allow for the presentation by Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. for your consideration to pursue the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for lead service line replacement. A public hearing on the project plan presented will follow at the June 8 council meeting.*

Jeff Brown from Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber made the presentation regarding the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Project Plan.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** none.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

City Clerk Andrea Muray read into the record the citizen comments that were submitted and the meeting continued.

**PETITIONS & COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:**

**A. Memo from City Attorney, dated May 5, 2021**

*Accept and place on file the memo from the City Attorney dated May 5, 2021, Councilmember Participation & Vote under City Ethics Ordinance.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to accept and place on file the memo from the City Attorney dated May 5, 2021. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**B. Financial Statements as of and for the 10 Months Ended April 30, 2021**

*Accept and place on file the City of Jackson Financial Statements for the 10 months ended April 30, 2021*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to accept and place on file the City of Jackson Financial Statements for the 10 months ended April 30, 2021. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 11, 2021**

*Approve the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of May 11, 2021*

**B. Resolution for Right of Way Vacation – 16.5’ Portion of the Carlton Right of Way**

*Adopt a resolution approving the partial street vacation of 16.5’ of the Carlton Boulevard right of way*

**C. Special Event Application for the Summer Smash Shopping Event**

*Approve a request from the Downtown Development Authority and various downtown retailers to host the Summer Smash Shopping Event on Saturday, June 26, 2021 on the sidewalks and streets of downtown Jackson.*

**D. Special Event Application for the Amen 4 Youth, LLC Southside Summerfest Events**

*Approve a request from Amen for Youth, LLC to host their Southside Summerfest events on May 29, June 19, July 24 and August 28 in Elnora Moorman Plaza and on High Street in Jackson.*

**E. Special Event Application for the Jackson High School Graduation Ceremony**

*Approve a request from Jackson High School to host their graduation ceremony on Friday, May 28, 2021 and use road closures on Wildwood Avenue near Jackson High School.*

**F. Corrective Resolutions for Special Assessment Roll No 4295, 4297 & 4298**

*Approve corrective resolutions for Special Assessment Roll No. 4295 and 4298 for Delinquent Miscellaneous Public Works Fund Accounts Receivable, and for Special Assessment Roll No. 4297 Delinquent Miscellaneous General Fund Accounts Receivable.*

**G. First Amendment to Development Agreement**

*Approve the first amendment to the development agreement dated March 20, 2020 between the City of Jackson and new Generations Meds, LLC, authorize the City Manager to execute the first amendment, and authorize the City Attorney’s office to make minor changes, if necessary.*

**H. Consideration of a Resolution Approving the Social District Permit Application for Ogma Brewery Company**

*Approve the Social District Permit for Ogma Brewery Company.*

**I. Consideration of a Resolution Approving the Social District Permit Application for Islas Nite Lite, LLC dba Nite Lite**

*Approve the Social District Permit for Islas Nite Lite, LLC, dba Nite Lite*

**J. Consideration of a Resolution Supporting H.R. 1 S/1**

*A resolution supporting the For the People Act*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the consent calendar.

Councilmember Dancy asked that Item G be removed for separate consideration.

A vote was taken on the Consent Calendar without Item G. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the first amendment to the development agreement dated March 20, 2020 between the City of Jackson and new Generations Meds, LLC and authorize the City Manager to execute the amendment and the City Attorney to make minor changes if necessary. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Councilmember Dancy (1). Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Approve Renewal of the Contract with T & L Contracting, Inc., Lansing MI, for the Removal of Spent Lime at the Water Treatment Plant**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the renewal of the contract with T & L Contracting, Inc., Lansing, MI, for the removal of spent lime at the Water Treatment Plant, at the price of \$25.68/CYD. This is the final contract extension with T & L Contracting, Inc., original contract dated May 17, 2017.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the renewal of the contract with T & L Contracting, Inc., Lansing, MI, for the removal of spent lime at the Water Treatment Plant, at the price of \$25.68/CYD. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**B. Approval of Water and Sewer Rate Resolution for fiscal years 2021/22 and 2022/23**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the water and sewer rate resolution for fiscal years 2021/22 and 2022/23*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the water and sewer rate resolution for fiscal years 2021/22 and 2022/23. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**C. Approval of Neighborhood Association Recognition Ordinance Recommendation**

**Recommendation:** *Approve first reading of Neighborhood Association Recognition Ordinance Recommendation is to move approval and advance to second reading.*

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies (for purposes of discussion), seconded for discussion by Councilmember Alexander to approve the first reading of the Neighborhood Association Recognition Ordinance and advance to a second reading and final adoption.

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave to postpone the Neighborhood Communications and Notification Ordinance until the June 8, 2021 Council Meeting to have the City Attorney and other relevant staff to review it before a vote is taken on it.

Mayor Dobies withdrew his motion and seconded Councilmember Forgrave's motion.

Councilmember Alexander made a motion to table indefinitely. The motion died from lack of support.

Vote was taken on the motion to postpone. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, and Councilmember Forgrave (3). Nays: Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, and Bunnell (4). Motion failed.

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve the first reading of the Neighborhood Association Recognition Ordinance and advance to a second reading and final adoption. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, and Councilmember Dancy (3). Nays: Councilmembers Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (4). Motion failed.

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Mayor Dobies to approve the first reading of the Neighborhood Communications and Notification Ordinance and advance to a second reading and final adoption.

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to amend the main motion to postpone until June 8, 2021 seeking review from City Staff. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies and Councilmember Forgrave (2). Nays: Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, and Bunnell (5). Motion failed.

Vote was taken on the main motion. Vote - Yeas: none. Nays: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Motion failed.

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded Councilmember Alexander to direct the City Manager to come up with a new ordinance to incentivize and develop our neighborhoods consistent with the Master Plan and the direction of the Council consistent with the discussions they have been had regarding the neighborhood association recognition ordinance and bring it back to the City Council at the August meeting. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**D. Approve a Contract for Construction Project at Front Entrance of the Jackson Police Department to Integrity Interiors**

**Recommendation:** *Approve contract in the amount of \$143,732 to repair front entrance of Jackson Police Department, including stairs and ramp leading into the building to Integrity Interiors.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the contract with Integrity Interiors in the amount of \$143,732 to repair the front entrance of the Jackson Police Department, including the stairs and ramp leading into the building. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**E. Approve a Resolution to Exercise the City of Jackson's First Right of Refusal under PA 123 of 1999**

**Recommendation:** *Approve a resolution to exercise the City of Jackson's first right of refusal under PA 123 of 1999 for two properties.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve the resolution to exercise the City of Jackson's first right of refusal under PA 123 of 1999 for two properties. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**F. Approval of First Renewal of the 2020 Pavement Marking Contract**

**Recommendation:** *Approval of the first renewal of the 2020 Pavement Marking contract with PK Contracting, Inc. of Troy, Michigan in the estimated amount of \$73,308.00, and authorization for the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate document(s) in accordance with the Purchasing Agent*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve the first renewal of the 2020 Pavement Marking contract with PK Contracting, Inc. of Troy, Michigan in the estimated amount of \$73,308.00, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents in accordance with the Purchasing Agent. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

\*\*\*\*\* A recess was taken from 8:05 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. \*\*\*\*\*

**G. Approve a Resolution to Adopt the City of Jackson's Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/22**

**Recommendation:** *Adoption of annual budget resolution for fiscal year 2021/22.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to adopt a resolution approving the City of Jackson's Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/22. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**H. Approve a Resolution Authorizing the Levy of a Millage in the amount of 1.9996 Mills on Parcels in the DDA District for Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

**Recommendation:** *Approve a resolution from the Downtown Development Authority authorizing a millage in the amount of 1.9996 mills on parcels in the DDA District for fiscal year 2021-2022.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve a resolution authorizing a millage in the amount of 1.9996 mills on parcels in the Downtown Development District for fiscal year 2021-2022. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**I. Approve the sale of City Owned properties located at 803 E. Washington Avenue to Objectiv Real Estate Holdings LLC**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the sale of City owned property located at 803 E. Washington Avenue to adjacent property owner Objectiv Real Estate Holdings LLC. Authorize the City Manager to create the Property Transfer Agreement and any other authorized documents to complete the sale of the property.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Mayor Dobies to approve the sale of City-owned property located at 803 E. Washington Avenue to adjacent property owner Objectiv Real Estate Holding, LLC, and authorize the City Manager to create the Property Transfer Agreement and any other authorized documents to complete the sale of the property. Councilmember Schlecte abstained from the vote due to a conflict. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Alexander, Bunnell, and Forgrave (5). Nays: Councilmember Dancy (1). Abstain: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion carried.

**J. Resolution for Approval of a Contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation for Modernization of the Signals on Wisner Street from Ganson Street to Argyle Street**

**Recommendation:** *Approve a resolution to enter into a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for modernization of the signals on Wisner Street from Ganson Street to Argyle Street, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the resolution to enter into a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for modernization of the signals on Wisner Street from Ganson Street to Argyle Street, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.



**K. Approve Amendments to Chapter 14 of the Jackson Code of Ordinances**

**Recommendation:** *Approve for first reading, proposed amendments to Chapter 14 of the City Code of Ordinances, as consistent with Council Direction at the May 11 City Council meeting.*

Councilmember Schlecte requested to have the question divided.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the first reading and advance to a second reading and final adoption an ordinance amending Chapter 14 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte to amend the main motion to address each item in the motion separately.

The appropriateness of the motion was considered by the Parliamentarian and input was provided by the City Attorney.

Councilmember Forgrave supported Councilmember Schlecte's motion to amend.

Councilmember Alexander withdrew his motion to approve the first reading.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve sections 14-5, 14-9, 14-18, 14-42, and 14-42.1. Councilmember Schlecte abstained from the vote due to a conflict. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Abstain: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve the first reading and advance to seconding reading and final adoption the second half of the item for the FVAP amendments for 14-400 through 14-420.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte to postpone to the next Council meeting when Council could have some statistics to make sure the ordinance is not being changed when it doesn't need to be. Motion died from lack of support.

Vote was taken on the main motion. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Councilmember Schlecte (1). Motion carried.

#### **L. Contractor Identification Ordinance**

**Recommendation:** *Motion approval of first reading and advance to second reading and final adoption of an ordinance amending Sections 5-1 of Article 1 of Chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jackson, Michigan to ensure contractors doing work in the City of Jackson are properly identified.*

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the first reading and advance to a seconding and final adoption of an ordinance amending Sections 5-1 of Article 1 of Chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Jackson to ensure contractors doing work in the City of Jackson are properly identified.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Mayor Dobies to amend Section 5.3 to read, "licensed contractor will have identification on their vehicle (and the language can be cleaned up by the City Attorney). Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

#### **M. Responsible Contractor Ordinance**

**Recommendation:** *Motion approval of first reading and advance to a second reading and final adoption of a Responsible Contractor Ordinance for the City of Jackson to ensure that all work on public construction and maintenance contracts is performed by responsible, qualified firms that maintain the capacity, expertise, personnel and other qualifications and resources necessary to successfully perform public contracts in a timely, reliable and cost effective manner.*

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve the first reading and advance to a second reading and final adoption the Responsible Contractor Ordinance for the City of Jackson to ensure that all work on public construction and maintenance contracts is performed by responsible, qualified firms that maintain the capacity, expertise, personnel, and other qualification and resources necessary to successfully perform public contracts in a timely, reliable, and cost effective manner.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte to divide each of the three ordinances. The motion died from lack of a second.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to postpone until June 8, 2021. Vote - Yeas: Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Mayor Dobies (1). Motion carried.

**N. Approve the Sale of City Owned Property Located at 514 First Street**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the sale of City owned property located at 514 First Street, for \$30,000 and authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the Property Transfer, and to make minor modifications as needed.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve the sale of City-owned property located at 514 First Street for \$30,000 and authorize the City Manager to sign all documents associated with the Property Transfer and to make minor modifications as needed. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmember Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave all offered comments.

**MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

City Manager Jonathan Greene declined to offer comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business being offered, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Dobies adjourned the meeting at 10:12 p.m.