



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
December 13, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Jackson City Council met in regular session in Council Chambers and was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Daniel Mahoney.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION:**

Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was given by Second Ward Councilmember Freddie Dancy.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Daniel Mahoney, Vice Mayor/First Ward Councilmember Arlene Robinson, Second Ward Councilmember Freddie Dancy, Third Ward Councilmember Angelita Gunn, Fourth Ward Councilmember Laura Dwyer Schlecte, Fifth Ward Councilmember Karen Bunnell, and Sixth Ward Councilmember Will Forgrave.

Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Jonathan Greene, City Attorney Matthew Hagerty, City Clerk Andrea Muray, Chief Equity Officer John Willis, Director of Police and Fire Services Elmer Hitt, and City Engineer Jon Dowling.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

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

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:**

Presentations were made by Jackson Continuum of Care and Residents in Action.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**Public Hearing and Resolution for the continuation of Downtown Social District**

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to open the public hearing. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Comments were received during the public hearing.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to close the public hearing. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

*Resolution approving the continuation of the Downtown Social District*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve the resolution approving the continuation of the Downtown Social District. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Citizen comments were heard and the meeting continued.

**PETITIONS & COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:** none.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 29, 2022**

*Approve the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of November 29, 2022.*

**B. Reappointment to the Board of Review**

*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Thomas Schindler to the Board of Review to serve a three-year term, beginning February 1, 2023 and ending on January 31, 2026.*

- C. Reappointment to the Affordable Housing Development Board**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Katima Dickenson to the Affordable Housing Development Board for a five-year term, beginning January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2027.*
- D. Reappointment to the Building Code Board of Examiners and Appeals**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Jason Covalle (Architect) to the Building Code Board of Examiners and Appeals for a three-year term, beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2025.*
- E. Reappointment to the Police Oversight Commission**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Thaddaus Williams to a three-year term on the Police Oversight Commission, beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2025.*
- F. Reappointment to the Ella Sharp Park Board of Trustees**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Michelle Woods to the Ella Sharp Park Board of Trustees for her second term of three years, beginning on February 1, 2023 and ending on January 31, 2026.*
- G. Reappointment to the Ella Sharp Park Board of Trustees**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Cathy Moore to the Ella Sharp Park Board of Trustees for her second term of three years, beginning on February 1, 2023 and ending on January 31, 2026.*
- H. Reappointment to the City Planning Commission**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint James Johnson to the City Planning Commission for a term of three years, beginning January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2025.*
- I. Ex-Officio Appointment to Racial Equity Commission**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint David Hammontree to the Racial Equity Commission as an ex-officio member, for a term of three years, beginning January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2025.*
- J. Reappointment to the Racial Equity Commission**  
*Approve the Racial Equity Commission's recommendation to reappoint Jacqueline Barber for a three-year term, beginning January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2025.*

**K. Reappointments to the Human Relations Commission**

*Approve the Human Relations Commission’s recommendation to reappoint James Johnson, Jr., Miriam Brown Dorsey and Robert VanSumeren to the Human Relations Commission, each for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2025.*

**L. Reappointment to the Martin Luther King Jr. Corridor Improvement Authority**

*Approve the MLKCIA’s recommendation to reappoint Diane Washington to the Authority for a four-year term, beginning January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2026.*

**M. Reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals**

*Approve the Mayor’s recommendation to reappoint Robert VanSumeren and Shawn Christie to the Zoning Board of Appeals, each for a three-year term, beginning January 1, 2023 and ending on December 31, 2025.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the consent calendar. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Contract Renewal for Traffic Signal Work**

**Recommendation:** *Approval of Contract Renewal with J. Ranck Electric, Inc. for Traffic Signal Work*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the contract renewal with J. Ranck Electric, Inc. for traffic signal work. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**B. Local Government Unit Approval for Social District Permits**

**Recommendation:** *Consideration of a resolution approving the Social District Permit Application for the following businesses located in the Downtown Social District in the event that the continuation of the Social District is approved:*

1. *Urban Restaurants LLC dba Veritas*
2. *Veritas Vineyard LLC dba Grand River Brewery*
3. *The Crazy Cowboy, LLC*

4. *Dirty Bird Investments, LLC*
5. *Islas Nite Lite*
6. *MCGA LLC dba Junkyard Dog*
7. *Axe Play, LLC*
8. *DL Watts Enterprises, LLC*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the local government unit approval for social district permits. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**C. Approval of the Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution as of June 30, 2022 for the Special Assessment Capital Projects Fund**

**Recommendation:** *Approval of the Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution for the Special Assessment Capital Project Fund Deficit as of June 30, 2022.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution for the Special Assessment Capital Projects Funds. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**D. Approval of the Corrective Action Plan as of June 30, 2022 for "Actual Expenditures Exceeding the Amounts Authorized in the Budget"**

**Recommendation;** *Approval of the Corrective Action Plan as of June 30, 2022 for "Actual Expenditures Exceeding the Amounts Authorized in the Budget".*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the Corrective Action Plan as of June 30, 2022 for Actual Expenditures Exceeding the Amounts Authorized in the Budget. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**E. Housing Instability/Homelessness**

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to informally solicit bids from organizations that work with the homeless and hold a special meeting on December 20 at 6:30 p.m. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Gunn, and Forgrave (4). Nays: Councilmember Dancy, Schlecte, and Bunnell (3). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to allocate no more than \$10,000 for temporary hotel stays over the next 10 days with the money to be administered by someone Jonathan Greene determines. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to provide up to \$3,000 to purchase coats that turn into sleeping bags to be administered by City Staff. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER’S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave offered comments. Councilmember Gunn declined to offer comments.

**MANAGER’S COMMENTS:**

City Manager Jonathan Greene did not offer comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business being offered, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Schlecte seconded by Councilmember Gunn. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Mahoney adjourned the meeting at 10:38 p.m.



## **SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

December 20, 2022

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The Jackson City Council met in special session in Council Chambers and was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Daniel Mahoney.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION:**

Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was given by Third Ward Councilmember Angelita Gunn.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Daniel Mahoney, Vice Mayor/First Ward Councilmember Arlene Robinson, Second Ward Councilmember Freddie Dancy, Third Ward Councilmember Angelita Gunn, Fourth Ward Councilmember Laura Dwyer Schlecte, Fifth Ward Councilmember Karen Bunnell, and Sixth Ward Councilmember Will Forgrave.

Absent: none.

Also present: City Clerk Andrea Muray, City Attorney Matthew Hagerty, Chief Equity Officer John Willis, and Assistant City Manager Shane LaPorte.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

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

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Citizen comments were heard and the meeting continued.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Proposals from local organizations on how the City can combat homelessness in Jackson**

An update was given on the allocation of funds towards the transition housing plan.

Cory Mays provided an update on the Hotel Emergency Housing Program.

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve the purchase of 10 - Shelter 64 temporary shelters from Pallet PBC in the amount of \$150,400 using funds previously allocated for transitional housing and to direct the City Manager, City Attorney, and other pertinent City Staff to pursue the lease of TA Wilson School from Jackson Public Schools. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Councilmembers Dancy, Bunnell, and Forgrave (4). Nays: Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Gunn and Schlecte (3). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded for discussion by Councilmember Dancy to have staff coordinate a couple of dates available for Council and members of agencies that work with the homeless to preview the property of TA Wilson and ask for proposals for an overall plan or have a strategic plan to develop a master plan to address homelessness.

Councilmember Gunn asked to separate the question.

Vote was taken on the motion to direct staff to coordinate Council and agencies that work with the homeless to preview TA Wilson. . Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Gunn, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Councilmember Dancy (1). Motion carried.

Vote was taken on the asking for the creation of a master plan to address homelessness with a long term solution utilizing what the City is providing or entertain proposals from agencies that work with the homeless. Vote – Yeas: Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Schlecte and Bunnell (3). Nays: Mayor Mahoney, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, and Forgrave (4). Motion failed.



Motion was made by Mayor Mahoney, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to have staff provide a recommendation on whether an ordinance or resolution will be the best route to go in regards to making sure that Council is not violating any ordinances.

Mayor Mahoney amended his motion to direct staff to provide a clear path on how to execute the currently approved idea - erect Pallets at the TA Wilson School and implement use of the annex building - as quickly as possible and provide it to Council at the (next) January meeting. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to request a RFP for services for the use of the TA Wilson building and property. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

*Community Action Agency/Jackson Housing Commission provided an overview on the RFP they submitted for consideration.*

*Residents in Action provided an overview on the RFP they submitted for consideration.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to allocate \$150,000 to Community Action Agency and the Jackson Housing Commission to provide at least 25 households hotel rooms for up to 100 days beginning December 21 and allocate \$25,000 to Residents in Action to provide clothing and warming supplies, basic needs, household supplies, COVID needs and transportation for a total allocation of \$175,000 to be taken out of ARPA funds previously allocated for transitional housing so long as these organizations accept under the specific conditions. Vote – Yeas: Councilmembers Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (3). Nays: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy and Bunnell (4). Nays: none. Motion failed.

Motion was made by Mayor Mahoney, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to accept the proposal submitted by Residents in Action with the contingency that they allow the City of Jackson be fiduciary of the funds and that the City would help negotiate room rates. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Councilmember Schlecte (1). Motion carried.

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave all offered comments.

**MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

Assistant City Manager Shane LaPorte offered comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business being offered, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Dancy. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Mahoney adjourned the meeting at 9:14 p.m.