



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
March 22, 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 Fifth Ward Councilmember Karen Bunnell.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Daniel Mahoney, Vice Mayor Arlene Robinson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Councilmember Freddie Dancy, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Councilmember Angelita Gunn, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Councilmember Laura Dwyer Schlecte, 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Councilmember Karen Bunnell, and 6<sup>th</sup> 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 Parks and Recreation Kelli Hoover, Director of Public Works Mike Osborne, Director of Neighborhood and Economic Operations Shane LaPorte, Director of Police and Fire Services Elmer Hitt, and City Engineer Jon Dowling.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

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

(Adoption of Agenda was revisited)

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to add the appointments of Salena Taylor and Robert Porter to the Police Oversight Commission to the Consent Calendar.

A friendly amendment was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to add the appointments of Salena Taylor and Robert Porter to the Police Oversight Commission to New Business. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:** none.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- 1. Public Hearing on a State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant application for a MLK Equality Trail project from S. West Avenue to the entrance of the County's Kibby Road Trail entrance.**

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

No members of the public spoke during the public hearing.

- a. *Resolution in support of grant application***

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve the resolution in support of the grant application. 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 close the public hearing. 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:**

- A. Accept and Place on File – The 2021 City of Jackson Annual Report**
- B. Accept and Place on File – The CDBG, HOME, and CDBG-CV Homeless Prevention Financial Summaries through February 28, 2022**

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to accept and place on file the 2021 City of Jackson Annual Report and the CDBG, HOME, and CDBG-CV Homeless Prevention Financial Summaries through February 28, 2022. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 8, 2022**  
*Approve the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of March 8, 2022.*
- B. Receipt of the Draft 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan for CDBG/HOME**  
*Receive the draft Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investments Partnership Program (HOME) 2022-2023 Annual Action Plan*
- C. Traffic Control Order 2377 – Seymour Avenue, North Street to Maguire Street**  
*Approval of Traffic Control Order 2377 to remove most of the parking on the west side of Seymour Avenue from North Street to Maguire Street*
- D. Approval of Resolution to Vacate a Public Alley on Cleveland Place**  
*Approval of resolution to vacate a public alley on Cleveland Place*
- E. Special Event Application for the Annual Cascades Memorial Day Fireworks**  
*Approve a request from the Jackson County Parks Department to conduct their annual Memorial Day Fireworks celebration on Saturday, May 28, 2022 at the Sparks Foundation County Park.*
- F. Special Event Application for the Annual Cascades Labor Day Fireworks Celebration**  
*Approve a request from the Jackson County Parks Department to conduct their annual Labor Day Fireworks celebration on Saturday, September 3, 2022 at the Sparks Foundation County Park.*

**G. Special Event Application for Juneteenth**

*Approve a request from the Jackson College Department of Multicultural Affairs to host their Juneteenth event on June 18, 2022 in Horace Blackman Park, the True Community Credit Union City Square, and on the streets of downtown Jackson.*

**H. Special Event Application for the Annual Cascades 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Celebration**

*Approve a request from the Jackson County Parks Department to conduct their annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks celebration on Sunday, July 3, 2022 at the Sparks Foundation County Park.*

**I. Appointment to Racial Equity Commission**

*Approve the Racial Equity Commission's recommendation to appoint Leticia Albarran Rodriguez to fill an ex-officio vacancy on the Racial Equity Commission for a term of 3 years, expiring on December 31, 2024.*

**J. Appointment to Board of Review**

*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Sharon Pedersen as an alternate to the Board of Review to serve a 3-year term, beginning immediately and ending on January 31, 2024.*

**K. Reappointment to City Planning Commission**

*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Sarah Saucedo to the City Planning Commission for a three-year term, beginning immediately and ending on December 31, 2024.*

**L. Reappointment to Downtown Development Authority**

*Approval of the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Bradley Johncox to the Downtown Development Authority for a four-year term, beginning April 1, 2022 and ending on March 31, 2026.*

**M. Appointment to Environmental Commission**

*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Jane Flores to fill a vacancy on the Environmental Commission for a three-year term, beginning immediately and ending on May 29, 2025.*

**N. Appointment to Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority**

*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint George Brown to fill a vacancy on the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority for a term of 2-years, beginning immediately and expiring on December 31, 2023.*

**O. Appointment to the Jackson Public Arts Commission**

*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Sophia Meuch to fill a vacancy on the Public Arts Commission for a term of three years, beginning immediately and ending on 12/31/24.*

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

Councilmember Schlecte requested that items I-O be removed for separate consideration. Discussion was had and Councilmember Schlecte withdrew her request.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the consent calendar with Item A being removed for separate consideration. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 8, 2022. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Abstention: Councilmember Gunn. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**A. Second Reading/Final Adoption of Ordinance No. 512**

**Recommendation:** *Approve second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 512 establishing the Ward boundaries as required in Section 6.2 Election Wards and Precincts of the Jackson City Charter.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the second reading/ final adoption of Ordinance No. 512 establishing the Ward boundaries as required in Section 6.2 Election Wards and Precincts of the Jackson City Charter. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Bunnell, and Forgrave (5). Nays: Vice Mayor Robinson and Councilmember Schlecte (2). Motion carried.

**B. Second Reading/Final Adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-02**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the second reading/final adoption of an ordinance amending Article XVIII, Chapter 16, Jackson Code of Ordinance amending the transfer requirements of license for medical marihuana facilities and adult-use marihuana facilities.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-02 amending Article XVIII, Chapter 16, Jackson Code of Ordinances amending the transfer requirements of license for medical marihuana facilities and adult-use marihuana facilities. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Councilmember Dancy (1). Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Approve the Appropriation of \$2,500,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act for the Creation of a Food Incubator, Community Kitchen and Job Training Project at 145 W. Cortland Street**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the appropriation of \$2,500,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act for the creation of a food incubator, community kitchen and job training project at 145 W. Cortland Street.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the appropriation of \$2,500,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act for the creation of a food incubator, community kitchen, and job training project at 145 W. Cortland Street. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**B. Award the Boos Center HVAC Phase One Upgrades to the lowest bidder Aladdin Electric of Jackson, Michigan in the amount of \$234,000**

**Recommendation:** *Award the Boos Center HVAC Phase One Upgrades to the lowest bidder Aladdin Electric of Jackson, Michigan and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents and authorize the City Manager to approve any and all change orders to complete the project.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to award the Boos Center HVAC Phase One upgrade to the lowest bidder Aladdin Electric of Jackson Michigan and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents and authorize the City Manager to approve any and all change orders to complete the project. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**C. 2022 Private Lot Mowing Contract Renewal**

**Recommendation:** *Renew the contract for as-needed private lot mowing for the 2022 season to Elysian Landscape of Jackson, Michigan.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to renew the contract for as-needed private lot mowing for the 2022 season to Elysian Landscape of Jackson, Michigan. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**D. 2022 City-Owned, H4HH/MSHDA & Grounds Maintenance Mowing Contract Renewal**

**Recommendation:** *Renew the contract for City Owned (Division 1), H4HH/MSHDA (Division 2) lot mowing and grounds maintenance (Division 3) for the 2022 season to Alpha & Omega Construction.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to renew the contract for City Owned (Division 1), H4HH/MSHDA (Division 2), and lot mowing and grounds maintenance (Division 3) for the 2022 season to Alpha & Omega Construction. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Councilmember Dancy (1). Motion carried.

**E. Region 2 Planning Commission Invoice - Local Share Cost of JACTS Unified Work Program FY 2022**

**Recommendation:** *Approve payment of the invoice from Region 2 Planning Commission for local share cost of Jackson Area Comprehensive Transportation Study (JACTS) Unified Work Program for FY 2022, in the amount of \$21,398.00, in accordance with the recommendation of the City Engineer, and authorize the City Engineer to sign the Local Funding Resolution.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve payment of the invoice from Region 2 Planning Commission for local share cost of Jackson Area Comprehensive Transportation Study (JACTS) Unified Work Program for FY 2022, in the amount of \$21,398.00, in accordance with the recommendation of the City Engineer, and authorize the City Engineer to sign the Local Funding Resolution. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**P. Appointment to the Police Oversight Commission**

*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Salena Taylor to fill a vacancy on the Police Oversight Commission for a term of two years, beginning immediately and ending on 12/31/23.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Salena Taylor to fill a vacancy on the Police Oversight Commission for a term of two years beginning immediately and ending on 12/31/23. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**Q. Appointment to the Police Oversight Commission**

*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Robert Porter to fill a vacancy on the Police Oversight Commission for a term of three years, beginning immediately and ending on 12/31/24.*

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Robinson, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Robert Porter to fill a vacancy on the Police Oversight Commission for a term of three years, beginning immediately and ending on 12/31/24. 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, Gunn, 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 Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Mahoney adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.