



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 17, 2021

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The Jackson City Council met in Council Chambers and the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Derek J. Dobies.

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

Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was offered by Mayor Dobies.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Derek J. Dobies, Vice Mayor Arlene Robinson, Councilmembers Freddie Dancy, Laura Dwyer Schlecte, Karen Bunnell, and Will Forgrave.

Absent: Councilmember Jeromy Alexander.

Also present: City Manager Jonathan Greene, City Attorney Matthew Hagerty, City Assessor Jason Yoakam, City Clerk Andrea Muray, Director of Police and Fire Services Elmer Hitt, Director and Neighborhood and Economic Operations Shane LaPorte, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion John Willis, and City Engineer Jon Dowling.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to adopt the agenda as presented. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:** none.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**Recess as a City Council and Convene as a Board of Review**

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to recess as a City Council and convene as a Board of Review. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**A. Public Hearing on Special Assessment Roll No. 4304 for Meterless Parking 2021-2022**

Kari Kidder-McQuown of 120 W. Michigan Avenue sent in correspondence objecting to the special assessment.

Andrea Ericksen of 227 S. Mechanic sent in correspondence objecting to the special assessment and Zack Smith spoke in protest during the meeting.

Yap Chow Ang of 130 E Washington Ave sent in correspondence objecting to the special assessment.

1. Consider a resolution confirming Roll No. 4304

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the resolution confirming Special Assessment Roll No. 4304. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (5). Nays: Councilmember Dancy (1). Motion carried.

**Adjourn as a Board of Review and Reconvene as a City Council**

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to adjourn as a Board of Review and reconvene as City Council. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Citizen comments were heard and the meeting continued.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to read into the record comments emailed to the Clerk’s Office by 5:00 p.m., up to three minutes in length at future Council meetings. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

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

- A. July 2021 Board of Review Minutes**
- B. City of Jackson Financial Statements as of and for the 12 Months Ended June 30, 2021**
- C. Announcement of Award – Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**
- D. Neighborhood Association Ordinance**

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to accept and place on file items 8A – July Board of Review Minutes, 8B – City of Jackson Financial Statements as of and for the 12 months ended June 30, 2021, 8C – Announcement of Award Government Finance Officers Associate Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, and 8D – Neighborhood Association Ordinance. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 13, 2021**  
*Approve the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of July 13, 2021.*
- B. Appointment to the Racial Equity Commission**  
*Approve the Mayor’s recommendation to appoint Jacqueline Barber to the Racial Equity Commission for a two-year term, beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2022, in concurrence with the Racial Equity Commission recommendation.*
- C. Appointment to the Martin Luther King Drive Corridor Improvement Authority**  
*Approve the Mayor’s recommendation to appoint Philicia Richmond to the Martin Luther King Drive Corridor Improvement Authority for a three-year term, beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2024, in concurrence with the Chief Equity Officer’s recommendation.*
- D. Reappointment to Jackson District Library Board of Trustees**  
*Approve the Mayor’s recommendation to reappoint Erik Lyman to the Jackson District Library Board of Trustees for a four-year term, beginning August 24, 2021 and ending on August 23, 2025.*

- E. Corrective Resolutions for Special Assessment Roll Nos. 3423, 3424, and 3425**  
*Approve the corrective resolutions for Special Assessment Roll Nos. 3423, 3424, and 3425. On July 13, 2021 Council voted to approve each of these special assessment rolls. The totals included in the resolution(s) were a typographical error.*
- F. Approve the Scheduling of a Public Hearing on September 14, 2021**  
*The Jackson Police Department and Jackson County Sheriff's Department were notified of the eligibility to receive FY2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant (JAG) funding in the amount of \$47,998. One of the requirements is that a hearing be held to allow for citizen comment on the proposed use of the grant funds.*
- G. Approve the Renewal and Reaffirmation of the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Jackson and JXN Harm Reductions, Inc.**  
*The original Memorandum of Understanding was approved by City Council on May 14, 2019, for a two-year term.*
- H. Appointment to the Construction Board of Appeals**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint one member to the Construction Board of Appeals for a two-year term beginning August 10, 2021 and ending on August 9, 2023.*
- I. Approve Traffic Control Order 2353 (Homecrest Road at Louis Glick Highway)**  
*Approval of Traffic Control Order 2353 to install "No Parking Any Time" signs with proper arrows on Homecrest Road from 15 feet north of the fire hydrant to the intersection of Homecrest Road at Lewis Glick Highway.*
- J. Approve Traffic Control Order 2354 (Third Street, Washington Avenue to High Street)**  
*Approval of Traffic Control Order 2354 to remove parking restrictions on Third Street from Washington Avenue to High Street, except for reinforcement near intersections and fire hydrants. This would rescind Traffic Control Orders 1421 and 1516.*
- K. Special Event Application - Grand River Environmental Action Team Grand River Cleanup**  
*Approve a request from the Grand River Environmental Action Team to host their Grand River Cleanup on September 11, 2021 in the Grand River and R.A. Greene Park.*
- L. Special Event Application- Home of New Vision Recovery Out Loud Walk**  
*Approve a request from the Home of New Vision to host their Recovery Out Loud Walk on September 25, 2021 in the streets/sidewalks of Jackson.*

**M. Special Event Application - Jackson Young Professionals' Bright Walls Mural Festival**

*Approve a request from the Jackson Young Professionals' to host the Bright Walls Mural Festival September 16-18, 2021 in downtown Jackson.*

**N. Application from the Foundry for Outdoor Service during Bright Walls Event, September 16, 2021 - September 18, 2021**

*Approve the temporary outdoor service permit for The Foundry during the Bright Walls Event September 16-18, 2021 in the City of Jackson Parking Lot #9/9A*

**O. Special Event Application - Quest Southeast Jackson Lion's Club Celebration of Life.**

*Approve a request from the Quest Southeast Jackson Lion's Club to host their Celebration of Life on September 11, 2021 in Horace Blackman Park.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell to approve the Consent Calendar. Councilmember Schlecte seconded after pulling items B, C, G, H, and J for separate consideration. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the appointments as recommended in items B (Appointment to the Racial Equity Commission) and C (Appointment to the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority). Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte to table item G. The motion died from lack of support.

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded for discussion by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the renewal and reaffirmation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Jackson and JXN Harm Reductions, Inc.

Mayor Dobies amended the motion to approve the MOU and ask that JXN Harm Reductions to make a presentation on their results to Council; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Schlecte. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the appointment recommended by the Mayor (item H). Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve (Traffic Control Order 2354). Councilmember Schlecte amended the motion to have the traffic control order include from Michigan to High Street. Councilmember Forgrave supported the amendment. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

#### **A. Responsible Contractor Ordinance – Second Reading and Adoption**

**Recommendation:** *Adopt 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 Forgrave to adopt the Responsible Contractor Policy with the amendments; Section 5-152 Purpose strike “is necessary to require” and replace with “can be advantageous to encourage” and also striking “as a condition of bidding” (in that same paragraph), Section 5-157 under Workplace Safety striking item 2 and replacing it with “If the prospective job would require workers to handle or interact with regulated hazardous materials, then the contractor must ensure that all employees who will be handling or interacting with hazardous materials are current with the relevant hazardous materials awareness training.”, under Workplace Development item 2 strike the second word “that” and replace it with “if”, and under Social Equity item 4 “evidence that the bidder is a business owned and operated by a resident of Jackson County. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, and Forgrave (4). Nays: Councilmembers Schlecte and Bunnell (2). Motion carried.

#### **B. Second Reading and Adoption of the Ordinance No. 510**

**Recommendation:** *Adopt Ordinance No. 510, an ordinance to establish compensation rates for administrative and supervisory employees of the City of Jackson.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to adopt Ordinance No. 510. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**C. Second Reading and Final Adoption of an Ordinance Amending the Zoning Regulations for Self-Service Storage Units**

**Recommendation:** *Adopt Ordinance No. 2021-08 amending the zoning regulations for self-service storage units.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-08 amending zoning regulations for self-service storage units. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Sale of City Owned Property Located at 333 W. Morrell Street to Ollie L. Wilkie, Jr.**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the sale of City owned property located at 333 W. Morrell Street to adjacent property owner Ollie L. Wilkie, Jr. 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 Schlecte, seconded by Mayor Dobies to approve the sale of 333 W. Morrell with the elimination of the easement on Mary Marshall’s property along with requiring him (the purchaser) to do his own curb cut out on to the parcel. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**B. Authorize City Manager to Sign Memorandum of Understanding**

**Recommendation:** *Authorize the City Manager to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with Jackson County to receive FY2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funding in the amount of \$30,600.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to authorize the City Manager to sign the MOU with Jackson County to received FY2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant funding in the amount of \$30,600. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**C. Waive the Local Emergency Hazard Rehabilitation Loan Limit of \$25,000 and Award an Emergency Hazard Rehabilitation Contract in the Amount of \$37,980 to Tri County Home Improvements (\$22,680) and FEB Enterprises (\$15,300) for 948 Chittock Avenue**

**Recommendation:** *Waive the local Emergency Hazard Rehabilitation Loan limit of \$25,000 and award an emergency hazard contract in the amount of \$37,980 to Tri County Home Improvements in the amount of \$22,680 for emergency roof & gutter replacement, and to FEB Enterprises in the amount of \$15,300 for the replacement of the boiler system and hot water heater which have outlived their effective use at 948 Chittock Avenue.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to waive the local Emergency Hazard Rehabilitation Loan Limit of \$25,000 and award an Emergency Hazard Rehabilitation Contract in the amount of \$37,980 to Tri County Home Improvements and FEB Enterprises for 948 Chittock. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**D. Approve the Consultant Services Agreement with Guidehouse, Inc.**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the Consultant Services Agreement with Guidehouse Inc. to assist in accessing and guiding appropriate uses of the American Rescue Plan – Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and authorize the City Manager to execute the appropriate documents.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded for discussion by Mayor Dobies to approve the consultant services agreement with Guidehouse, Inc. to assist in accessing and guiding appropriate uses of the American Rescue Plan – Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and authorize the City Manager to execute the appropriate documents. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**E. Approve a Contract with the National Network for Safe Communities**

**Recommendation:** *Approve entering into a contract with the National Network for Safe Communities (NNSC) to reduce violence.*

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to obligate \$1,565,000.00 of the City of Jackson’s American Rescue Plan Act federal dollars to contract with the National Network for Safe Communities at John Jay College to design and implement the Group Violence Intervention Strategy in the City of Jackson and provide ancillary support staff at the police department to implement the program and provide services to community residents such as crisis intervention, mediation, and referrals. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**F. Approve a Demolition Contract to Thomas Trucking in the Total Amount of \$59,900 to Demolish 312 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive**



**Recommendation:** *Award a demolition contract to Thomas Trucking in the total amount of \$59,900 to demolish 312 N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve a demolition contract with Thomas Trucking in the total amount of \$59,900 to demolish 312 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**G. Resolution for Approval of a Contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for the Installation of Pedestrian Island and Flashing Beacon on E. Michigan Avenue**

**Recommendation:** *Approval of a resolution to enter into a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for installation of a pedestrian island and rectangular rapid flashing beacon on E. Michigan Avenue (Business Loop I-94) from East Avenue to Page Avenue, and authorization for the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to approve a resolution to enter into a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for installation of a pedestrian island and rectangular rapid flashing beacon on E. Michigan Avenue from East Avenue to Page Avenue, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**H. Sale of City Owned Property – 1107 Third Street**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the sale of City owned property located at 1107 Third Street to Paul Stark for \$50,050 and authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the Property Transfer and to make minor modifications as necessary.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the sale of City owned property located at 1107 Third Street to Paul Stark for \$50,050 and authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the Property Transfer and to make minor modifications as necessary. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**I. Sale of City Owned Property – 215 N. Thompson Street**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the sale of City owned property located at 215 N. Thompson Street to Tala Yatooma for \$32,000 and authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the Property Transfer and to make minor modifications as necessary.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the sale. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**J. Sale of City Owned Property - 1200 Sheldon Street**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the sale of City owned property located at 1200 Sheldon Street to Rodney Hamilton Investments for \$12,000 and authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the Property Transfer and to make minor modifications as necessary.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the sale of City owned property located at 1200 Sheldon Street to Rodney Hamilton Investments for \$12,000 and authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the Property Transfer and to make minor modifications as necessary. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMENTS:**

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

**MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

City Manager Jonathan Greene declined to offer comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no other business being offered, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Dobies adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.