



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 11, 2022

CALL TO ORDER:

The Jackson City Council met in regular session in Council Chambers and was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor Daniel Mahoney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION:

Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was given by Fourth Ward Councilmember Laura Dwyer Schlecte.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Fifth Ward Councilmember Karen Bunnell.

Also present: City Manager Jonathan Greene, City Attorney Matthew Hagerty, City Clerk Andrea Muray, City Assessor Jason Yoakam, Director of Police and Fire Services Elmer Hitt, Director of Parks and Recreation Kelli Hoover, Chief Equity Officer John Willis, Director of Community Development Shane LaPorte, City Engineer Jon Dowling, and Assistant City Engineer Troy White.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to adopt the agenda. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

A. Sheriff to present on Jail Millage

Sheriff Gary Schuette, Undersheriff Chris Simpson, and Captain Anthony Stewart provided Council with an overview of the recommended Jackson County Jail improvements that would be paid for by the proposed millage.

B. Environmental Commission - Solid Waste Collection in the City of Jackson

Kelli Kazmier of the Environmental Commission provided Council with information on the benefits of a centralized solid waste collection program.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Recess as a City Council and Convene as a Board of Review

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

1. Public Hearing on Special Assessment Roll No. 3437 for street reconstruction and water and sewer main replacement on Perrine Street from Michigan Avenue to Pearl Street

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to open the public hearing on Special Assessment Roll No. 3437 for street reconstruction and water and sewer main replacement on Perrine Street from Michigan Avenue to Pearl Street. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

No comments were offered.

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, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

a) *Resolution confirming Roll No. 3437*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the resolution confirming Roll No. 3437. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

2. Public Hearing on Special Assessment Roll No. 3438 for street reconstruction and water and sewer main replacement on Perrine Street from Pearl Street to Burr Street

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Robinson, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to open the public hearing on Special Assessment Roll No. 3438 for street reconstruction and water and sewer main replacement on Perrine Street from Pearl Street to Burr Street. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Sue Denton, 800/802 E. Michigan Avenue* spoke during the public hearing. Luis Santiago, 308 Perrine, protested the project via email.

*property part of Special Assessment Roll No. 3437

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Robinson, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to close the public hearing. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

b) *Resolution confirming Roll No. 3438*

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the resolution confirming Roll No. 3438. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (5). Nays: Councilmember Dancy (1). Motion carried.

B. Adjourn as a Board of Review and Reconvene as City Council

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

C. Public Hearing and Resolution to adopt the First Amendment to the Brown field Plan Development and Reimbursement Agreement for 241 West Michigan Avenue (Commonwealth and Associates, Inc.), Parcel ID 4-01400000

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to open the public hearing and resolution to adopt the First Amendment to the Brownfield Plan Development and Reimbursement Agreement for 241 West Michigan Avenue (Commonwealth and Associates, Inc.). Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

No comments were offered.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Robinson, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to close the hearing. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

1. Resolution in support

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve the resolution in support. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Citizen comments were heard and the meeting continued.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:

A. Recommendation for No-Mow May

Receive the letter of recommendation (dated September 21, 2022) for City Council to implement No-Mow May to allow grass to grow to create habitat for early season pollinators.

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to receive the letter of recommendation for No-Mow May. The motion was amended by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to include a January timeline for staff to bring the item back to Council. Vote was taken on the motion as amended. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

A. Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 27, 2022

Approve the minutes of the special City Council Meeting of September 27, 2022.

B. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 27, 2022

Approve the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of September 27, 2022.

C. A Resolution establishing the hours between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Halloween; Monday, October 31, 2022 as the time to 'Trick or Treat' in the City of Jackson.

D. Special Event Application: Strickland & Shawyer Wedding

Approve a request from Jeffrey Strickland to host a wedding on November 12, 2022 in Bucky Harris Park.

E. Special Event Application: Ella Sharp Museum Cemetery Tour

Approve a request from the Ella Sharp Museum to host their Cemetery Tour on October 19, 2022 in Greenwood Cemetery.

F. Resignation from Human Relations Commission

Accept Maurice Imhoff's resignation from the Human Relations Commission, effective immediately.

Motion was made by was made by Councilmember Gunn, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the consent calendar. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Award the Optimist Playground and Basketball Court Project Contract to R.W. Mercer of Jackson, Michigan in the amount of \$329,393.00

Recommendation: *Award the Optimist Park Playground Project Contract to R.W. Mercer of Jackson, Michigan in the amount of \$329,393.00.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to award the Optimist Park Playground and Basketball Court Project Contract to R.W. Mercer of Jackson, Michigan in the amount of \$329,393.00. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

- B. Award the Change Order 1 for the Loomis Park Playground Project to R.W. Mercer in the increased amount of \$25,560, for additional spoils and roof drains and authorize the City Manager and Director of Parks and Recreation Department to execute the appropriate document**

Recommendation: *Award the Change Order No. 1 for the Loomis Park Playground Project to R.W. Mercer in the increased amount of \$25,560, for additional spoils and roof drains and authorize the City Manager and Director of Parks and Recreation to execute the appropriate document.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to award the Change Order No. 1 for the Loomis Park Playground Project to R. W. Mercer in the increased amount of \$25,560 for additional spoils and rood drains and authorize the City Manager and Director of Parks and Recreation to execute the appropriate document. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

- C. Award the purchase of a new greens mower to Spartan Distributors of Sparta, Michigan in the amount of \$44,141.75**

Recommendation: *Award the purchase of a new greens mower to Spartan Distributors of Sparta, Michigan in the amount of \$44,141.75.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to award the purchase of a new greens mower to Spartan Distributors of Sparta, Michigan in the amount of \$44,141.75. City Manager Jonathan Greene notified Council that the amount needed for the purchase would be less; the new total being \$38,756.55. A friendly amendment was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to update the amount to \$38,756.55. Vote was taken on the motion as amended. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

- D. Accepting grant funds from the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

Recommendation: *Adopt a resolution to accept a Trust Fund Grant from the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources for MLK Equality Trail Project from Prospect Street to S. West Avenue and authorization for the Mayor and Clerk to execute the appropriate documents.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Gunn, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to accept a trust fund grant from the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

E. Resolution for approval of a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation for traffic signal work on Greenwood Avenue at the intersection of High Street

Recommendation: *Approve a resolution to enter into a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for signal modernization at the Greenwood Avenue and High Street intersection, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents.*

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Robinson, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the resolution approving a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation for traffic signal work on Greenwood Avenue at the intersection of High Street. City Manager Jonathan Greene made Council aware of a calculation error; the construction work estimate should be \$317,100. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

F. Contract Award for WWTP Culvert Engineering

Recommendation: *Approval of the award for the WWTP Culvert Engineering contract to Fishbeck, Inc. of Grand Rapids, Michigan in the amount of \$155,470.00, and authorization for the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate document(s).*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the award for the WWTP Culvert Engineering. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

G. Approve a Revocable License for a barrier free ramp at the building entrance to Judicial Services Group, Ltd at 401 South Jackson Street

Recommendation: *Approve a Revocable License for Judicial Services Group, Ltd for the installation of a barrier free ramp within the Jackson Street right-of-way at 401 S. Jackson Street and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate document(s).*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to approve a revocable license for a barrier free ramp at the building entrance to the Judicial Services Group, LTD at 401 South Jackson Street. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

H. Petition for Alley Vacation – Habitat for Humanity

Recommendation: *Conditional approval of the Mason/Franklin Alley vacation subject to review and approval of the Engineering Department.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the petition for alley vacation for Habitat for Humanity (subject to review and approval of the Engineering Department). Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

I. Zoning Map Amendment – Rezone 508 Third Street (Parcel #3-0240)

Recommendation: *Rezone 508 Third Street (Parcel #3-0240) from R-2, One and Two Family Residential to R-3, Multiple Family Residential.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the zoning map amendment – rezone 508 Third Street, parcel #3-0240. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

J. Approve the Contract Award for the 2022 CDBG Street Reconstruction with Water and Sewer Main Replacement project on Perrine Street, to Concord Excavating, of Concord, Michigan

Recommendation: *Approval of an award for the contract for the 2022 CDBG Street Reconstruction with Water and Sewer Main Replacement project on Perrine Street from Michigan Avenue to Burr Street to Concord Excavating, of Concord, Michigan at a cost of \$1,260,987.65, 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 Gunn to approve the contract award for the 2022 CDBG Street Reconstruction with Water and Sewer Main Replacement Project on Perrine Street to Concord Excavating of Concord, Michigan. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER’S COMMENTS:

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

MANAGER’S COMMENTS:

City Manager Jonathan Greene offered comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business being offered, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Mahoney adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.