



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 9, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

The Jackson City Council met in regular session in Council Chambers and was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Derek J. Dobies.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION:

Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was given by Second Ward Councilmember Freddie Dancy in which he offered a moment of silence to acknowledge Veteran's Day and the sacrifice of those who have served.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Derek J. Dobies, Vice Mayor/1st Ward Councilmember Arlene Robinson, 2nd Ward Councilmember Freddie Dancy, 3rd Ward Councilmember Jeromy Alexander, 4th Ward Councilmember Laura Dwyer Schlecte, 5th Ward Councilmember Karen Bunnell, and 6th Ward Councilmember Will Forgrave.

Absent: none.

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, City Engineer Jon Dowling, Chief Equity Officer John Willis, Director of Neighborhood and Economic Operations Shane LaPorte, Director of Public Works Mike Osborn, Director of Parks and Recreation Kelli Hoover, and Deputy Director of Fire Services David Wooden.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to adopt the agenda.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to add Item 11J- Citizen Comments Read by the City Clerk. Vote was taken on the motion to amend. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

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

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Public Hearing and Resolution Determining the Necessity for Street Reconstruction and Water and Sewer Main Replacement

1. Biddle Street from Greenwood Avenue to Williams Street

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

2. Burr Street from State Street to Waterloo Street

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

3. Burr Street from Cooper Street to State Street

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

4. Perrine Street from Michigan Avenue to Pearl Street

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

5. Williams Street from Biddle Street to Wilkins Street

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

6. Perrine Street from Pearl Street to Burr Street

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the resolutions ordering construction and preparation of the special assessment roll for Biddle Street from Greenwood Avenue to Williams Street, Burr Street from State Street to Waterloo, Burr Street from Cooper Street to State Street, Perrine Street from Michigan Avenue to Pearl Street, Williams Street from Biddle Street to Wilkins Street, and Perrine Street from Pearl Street to Burr Street. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

B. Public Hearing and Resolution Determining the Necessity for Street Reconstruction and Water Main Replacement

1. Arnold Street from Cooper Street to the East End

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve the resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

2. Dwight Street from Chapin Street to Tyson Street

Kenneth Skolnik of 2102 Chapin (and lot on Dwight) sent in correspondence.

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

3. Deyo Street from Elm Avenue to Gorham Street

Donna Thompson of 1703 Deyo spoke during the Public Hearing.

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

4. East Avenue from Teneyck Street to Michigan Avenue

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve the resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

5. East Avenue from Plymouth Street to Teneyck Street

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

6. Garfield Street from Fourth Street to First Street

Joseph Feinberg of 603 Garfield, Michael Dever of 506 Garfield, James Tylutki of 605 Garfield, and Kathleen Dever of 506 Garfield all spoke during the public hearing. Jason Eigner of 607 ½ Garfield and John Nazars of 510 Garfield sent in correspondence.

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll. Motion died from lack of support.

7. McBride Street from Fourth Street to First Street

Kenyon Kopp of 612 McBride and Marcy Miller of 512 McBride spoke during the public hearing. Colleen Sullivan of 502 McBride sent in correspondence for the hearing.

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

8. Grinnell Street from Norfolk Street to Wildwood Avenue

Joe Larson of 214 N Grinnell spoke during the public hearing.

Resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve the resolution ordering the construction and preparation of the special assessment roll. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Citizen comments were heard and read into the record by City Clerk Andrea Muray and the meeting continued.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:

A. Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes of 9/15/21

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to accept and place on file the Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes of 9/15/21. 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 October 26, 2021

Approve the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of October 26, 2021.

B. Special Event Application: Our Lady of Guadalupe Procession

Approve a request from the Sacred Heart Chapel to host the Our Lady of Guadalupe Procession on December 12, 2021 on the streets and sidewalks of Jackson.

C. Special Event Application: Jackson Turkey Trot

Approve a request from Tina & Jeff Beagle to host the Jackson Turkey Trot on November 25, 2021 in Ella Sharp Park.

D. Approve the Mayor's Recommendation to Reappoint Caroline Parker to the Jackson Housing Commission for a Five-Year Term

Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Caroline Parker to the Jackson Housing Commission for a five-year term, expiring 10/31/26.

E. Appointment to the Ella W. Sharp Park Board of Trustees

Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Scott Damich to the Ella W. Sharp Park Board of Trustees, filling a current vacancy, beginning immediately and ending on November 9, 2024.

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

OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Affordable Housing in the City of Jackson

Recommendation: *Move to approve and advance to a second reading and final adoption, an ordinance creating an Affordable Housing Development Authority and a Housing Trust Fund for the City of Jackson to address housing instability and affordability; to make recommendations to the City Manager and City Council on programs, policies, and projects to create safe, dignified, and affordable housing options in the City of Jackson; and, contingent upon final passage of the ordinance, obligate \$3,500,000 to the Housing Trust Fund to provide for the preservation and development of affordable housing.*

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to make changes to Sec. 14-703 (d) to include “Not less than one of the appointed ex-officios shall be an individual who has experiential understanding of housing instability”, in Sec. 14-704 (b)(2) and (g)(2) to read “120 percent of the Area Median Income for owner occupied units and 60 percent of Area Median Income for non-owner occupied units” and (c) “the City’s annual budget may contain..”, and in Sec. 14-705 (c)(i) “unless the developer is a nonprofit corporation” and (c)(ii) “unless the developer is a nonprofit corporation “ and approve and advance to a second reading and final adoption an ordinance creating an Affordable Housing Development Authority and a Housing Trust Fund for the City .

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell to have the Commission set out the allocation for the funds. Councilmember Bunnell withdrew her motion.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

A. City of Jackson new City Seal Recommendation

Recommendation: *Accept the Jackson Public Arts Commission City of Jackson new City Seal recommendation.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to accept the Jackson Public Arts Commission City of Jackson new City Seal recommendation. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Councilmember Schlecte (1). Motion carried.

B. Accounts Receivable Write-Off Request

Recommendation: *Approve the accounts receivable write-off request.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve the accounts receivable write-off request. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

C. Traffic Control Orders 2368-2369 – Summit and Teneyck Street

Recommendation: *Approval of Traffic Control Order 2368-2369 to install ‘No Parking Any Time’ signs with proper arrows 20 feet from the crosswalks at intersection of Summit Avenue and Teneyck Street*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve Traffic Control Order 2368-2369 to install “No Parking Any Time” signs with proper arrows 20 feet from the crosswalks at the intersection of Summit Avenue and Teneyck Street. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

D. Recommendation for the Obligation of American Rescue Plan Act Funding to the City’s Lead Service Line Replacement Program in the Amount of \$2,347,935.

Recommendation: *Approve the obligation of \$2,347,935 in American Rescue Plan Act funding to the City’s Lead Service Line Replacement Program, to replace water service lines per the Safe Drinking Water Act’s 2018 revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve the allocation of \$2,347,935 in American Rescue Plan Act funding to the City’s Lead Service Line Replacement Program to replace water service lines per the Safe Drinking Water Act’s 2018 revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

E. Resolution to Amend the CDBG Budgets for Fiscal Years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 for City-Wide Emergency Hazard/Major Components and General/Rehabilitation Activities

Recommendation: *Approve the resolution to amend the CDBG budgets for fiscal years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 to budget excess program income received in fiscal year 2020/2021 to the fiscal year 2020/2021 City-Wide Emergency Hazard/Major Components Rehabilitation Activities and to the fiscal year 2021/2022 General and Rehabilitation Administration.*

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

F. Fire Truck Purchase

Recommendation: *Approve the purchase of a 2021 Pierce Fire Engine at a cost not to exceed \$700,000 with funds obligated from the City's American Rescue Plan Acts Funds.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the purchase of a 2021 Pierce Fire Engine at a cost not to exceed \$700,000 with funds obligated from the City's American Rescue Plan Act Funds. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Councilmember Schlecte (1). Motion carried.

G. City Hall Security Upgrades

Recommendation: *Approve a contract with The Lockout, LLC for building safety upgrades at City Hall.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve a contract with The Lockout, LLC for building safety upgrades at City Hall at a cost of \$225,688.18. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell (5). Nays: Councilmembers Dancy and Forgrave (2). Motion carried.

H. Engineer’s Report for Street Resurfacing – Greenwood Avenue –Fourth Street to Morrell Street

Recommendation: *Receive the Engineer’s Report for street resurfacing on Greenwood Avenue from Fourth Street to Morrell Street and establish December 7, 2021 at the City Council Meeting as the time and place to hold a public hearing of necessity.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to receive the Engineer’s Report for street resurfacing on Greenwood Avenue from Fourth Street to Morrell Street and establish December 7, 2021 at the City Council Meeting as the time and place to hold a public hearing of necessity. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

I. Sale of City Owned Property – 902 First Street

Recommendation: *Approve the sale of City-owned property located at 902 First Street, to Veteran Empowerment Neighborhoods, a 501C3 organization for \$24,000 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 Councilmember Alexander to approve the sale of City-owned property located at 902 First Street, to Veteran Empowerment Neighborhoods, a 501C3 organization for \$24,000 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, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

J. Citizen Comments submitted to the City Clerk

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to move back to in person public comments. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Dancy, Bunnell, and Forgrave (4). Nays: Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Alexander, and Schlecte (3). Motion carried.

CITY COUNCILMEMBER’S COMMENTS:

Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers 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 8:35 p.m.