

JACKSON CITY COUNCIL
Regular Session
September 9, 2013
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order..... President Speakman
Pledge of Allegiance..... Mr. Foster
Opening Prayer..... Mr. Brown

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

August 26, 2013

VISITORS

John Peters, Jackson Apple Festival Utilities

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Utility - Brown, Elliott and Queen
- Budget & Finance – Elliott, Smith and Brown
- Police, Fire & Traffic - Smith, Kitchen and Foster
- Service –Kitchen, Foster and Jones
- Railroad – Jones, Smith and Elliott
- Building/Recreation – Smith, Foster and Queen
- City Auditor
- Law Director
- Mayor
- Service/Safety Director

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

CORRESPONDENCE

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURN

JACKSON CITY COUNCIL

Minutes from
August 26, 2013
7:00 p.m.
Regular Session

Jackson City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 26, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at Jackson City Council Chambers. President Ron Speakman called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was given, led by Mr. Speakman. The Prayer was given, led by ~~Mr. Elliott~~ Mr. Brown.

A roll call was taken as follows:

- Mr. Brown – present
- Mr. Kitchen – present
- Mrs. Jones – present
- Mr. Smith – present
- Mr. Queen – present
- Mr. Elliott - absent
- Mr. Foster – present

Mr. Kitchen made a motion to excuse Mr. Elliott, seconded by Mr. Brown. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from August 12, 2013 regular session, seconded by Mrs. Jones. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

VISITORS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UTILITY – No Report

Mayor Heath discussed the Waste Water Treatment Plant tour, see attached. He further stated the greatest challenge is rain water, down spouts, sump pumps connected to the system, this still needs addressed.

BUDGET & FINANCE – No Report

POLICE, FIRE & TRAFFIC – No Report

SERVICE – No Report

RAILROAD – No Report

Mayor Heath discussed the proposed rail road operator, see attached. He then introduced Mr. George Andres, of Indiana and Eastern Railroad. Mr. Andres thanked the Mayor, then stating he was the CEO of Indiana and Eastern Railroad, being the majority owner, he will be working and marketing and appreciates this opportunity. He stated the FRP process is very detailed, thought this through carefully, many plans to create, challenges. We are up to the challenge and eager to prove. We sell good service to customers, rehab line accustomed to how we operate. We have been in operation 8 years ago today, \$6 million invested. My partner and I have been in the rail business for 40 years. Thank you again for your trust; we will not let you down.

Mr. Queen asked why this was a 25 year contract. Mr. Dietrich, executive director of the ORDC, replied leased out other assets, problems with public assistance, need time to recoup investment, some leases are up to 99 years. 25 years is the right spot, gives the public comfort, with 5 year check ups, touch points and 2 years for safety and 5 years for performance. Mr. Queen asked who would be responsible for past due property taxes. Mr. Kirby replied in the lease, they are responsible for taxes; we are responsible for arrears, unless we recover from US Rail.

Mayor Heath stated the ordinance had been changed to an emergency. Mr. Kirby further stated an application made to move STB along, we can't proceed without completion, and this developed late Friday. Mr. Queen stated he had not read because it was not an emergency, this is a 20 page contract, hate to vote without reading. Mayor Heath this was developed between Indiana and Eastern Railroad and ORDC, short time it will be in ORDC hands. Basically this moves along the process then turn over to ORDC. Our interest is safe guarded. Mr. Queen is there any chance they won't take over. Mr. Dietrich replied we have full intent to take over, this is contract we have used for state owned contracts, we would sign, and I as director would be comfortable signing. Mr. Queen asked if we get back if contract fails. Mr. Dietrich replied this is just with the operator. Mr. Queen asks they will get all the money. Mayor Heath stated we haven't made any money. Mr. Dietrich stated we won't make a lot either, reinvest in assets, set high for potential. Mr. Brown stated each day we don't sign, we are losing money with US Rail. There will no improvements until new operator takes over. Never intended to make a profit, only meant to maintain the line, support the economy. Right now it's costing us money. Nothing has been paid in over a year, legal fees, this needs put to bed. Mr. Speakman stated the line was only purchased as an economic tool, job retention.

BUILDING/RECREATION – No Report

Mr. Speakman requested that Mr. Smith set up a meeting with the Tree Commission.

CITY AUDITOR – No Report

LAW DIRECTOR – No Report

MAYOR

Mayor Heath reported last Thursday we held the first meeting of the Records Commission, in regards to destroying records. There were five departments with list approved, now to the Ohio Historical Society. Hope in a month we will have a reply. Hopefully by the end of the year all unneeded record will be gone.

Mayor Heath stated that he met with the Chief and Assistant Chief about repairs, work is almost completed, and they want to address storage. Also Mr. Sheward and I have discussed possible improvements to the Memorial Building, can't address them all. Would like to remind residents/media we are encouraging folks to clean up property. Officers gave 24 notice to one resident, and then they can be cited. Our office is still receiving complaints about pets, please clean up. Mr. Kitchen's committee has addressed creek cleaning, clean out fallen trees and debris around bridges, with either our people or contracting out.

SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR

Mr. Sheward announced a Water Plant Tour/Open House on Thursday, August 29th at 7:00, Mr. Aldridge will be conducting. Continuing to negotiate with ASFME. The city has two houses on the list for demo. He commented on the new generator filling the hole in the parking lot, this was made in the USA.

Mr. Brown asked about the bridge at Manpower. Mr. Sheward replied they took another job, should be done by December. Mr. Brown asked about the creek at Eddie Jones. Mr. Sheward replied there is a purchase order for Sexton's to take care of. Just clean silt so it will flow with main creek, goes now in opposition, will redirect at the end. No money to straighten out. Mayor Heath stated we had talked about straightening; grant program needed permanent easement and only can go 40 years. Mr. Kitchen commented talked about dirt, ditch and trees. Mr. Sheward replied it's not that simple. Mr. Kitchen stated it's just a ditch. Mr. Sheward replied no, it's a creek, and McDowell's Run.

ORINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 36-13

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE SERVICE AND SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF JACKSON TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE INDIANA EASTERN RAILROAD DBA OHIO SOUTH CENTRAL RAILROAD AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

Mr. Brown made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Smith. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Mr. Brown made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mr. Smith. In a roll call vote, members voted as follows:

- Mr. Brown – yes
- Mr. Kitchen – yes
- Mrs. Jones – yes
- Mr. Smith – yes
- Mr. Queen – yes
- Mr. Elliott – absent
- Mr. Foster – yes

In a roll call vote to adopt the ordinance, council voted as follows:

- Mr. Brown – yes
- Mr. Kitchen – yes
- Mrs. Jones – yes
- Mr. Smith – yes
- Mr. Queen – yes
- Mr. Elliott – absent
- Mr. Foster – yes

ORDINANCE NO. 36-13 DULY ADOPTED

CORRESPONDENCE

OLD BUSINESS

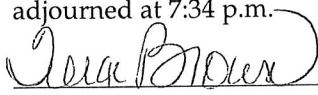
NEW BUSINESS

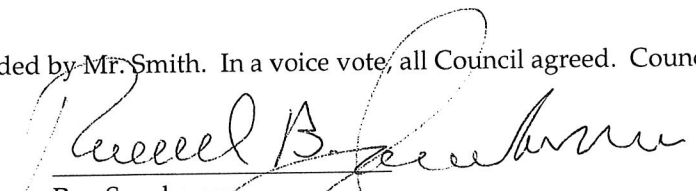
Mr. Queen reminded residents of the Morton Street Neighborhood Watch will be holding a planning meeting on Tuesday to discuss the National Recovery Event to be held on September 5th.

Mr. Brown commented on the presentation for the Morgan’s Raid, very nice, the city was represented well. Mr. Speakman stated it was a nice event.

ADJOURN

Mr. Brown made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Smith. In a voice vote, all Council agreed. Council adjourned at 7:34 p.m.


 Tera Brown
 Clerk
 Date 9-9-13


 Ron Speakman
 Council President
 Date 8/9/13