

JACKSON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Session

April 11, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Call to Order..... President Brown

Pledge of Allegiance..... Mr. Queen

Opening Prayer..... Mr. Hensler

ROLL CALL

VISITORS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 28, 2016 Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Utility –Elliott (Chairman), and Foster and Odera
- Budget & Finance – Hensler (Chairman), Elliott, and Odera
- Police, Fire, & Traffic – Kitchen (Chairman), Queen, and Jones
- Service – (Street & Alley, Recreation, Buildings & Grounds) Foster
Chairman), Queen, and Hensler
- City Auditor
- Law Director
- Mayor
- Service/Safety Director

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

CORRESPONDENCE

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURN

JACKSON CITY COUNCIL

Minutes from
March 28, 2016
7:00 p.m.
Regular Session

Jackson City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Jackson City Council Chambers. President Eric Brown called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Hensler. The Prayer was given by Mr. Hensler.

Roll call was taken as follows:

- Mr. Ondera-present
- Mr. Kitchen-present
- Mrs. Jones-present
- Mr. Hensler-present
- Mr. Queen-present
- Mr. Elliott-present
- Mr. Foster-present

VISITORS

John Peters

Mr. Peters stated the contract attorney is of the opinion they should do away with the ordinance so they don't have to tell customers what they are paying for. He said the elected officials should want the citizens to know where the money is being spent and maybe if they know this information, they will be more understanding of the rates.

He stated Ordinance 927.11, Rendering of Sewer Bills was passed in 1955. He said it states any building or premises making connection with the sewer system and using the system after April 1st, 1952 shall be charged a per diem pro rata amount based upon the monthly minimum charge from the time the sewer connection is made to the commencement of the next following period applicable to such premises. Except should the measured service exceed the minimum charge the measured rate shall be charged.

Mr. Peters understands this to mean if you are a sewer user and you just connect on you would pay the minimum rate. Once you receive a bill, then the bill is the rate you would pay. He said the utility office told him everyone is charged a minimum rate. Based on your usage of water, the rates are added to the minimum rate. He said you should only be charged for the sewer usage and not the minimum amount. The minimum amount is \$10.78 per month. The minimum bill for the first 1,000 gallons of usage is \$8.32 per month. He understands it to read you would only be charged so much per day and you would only have to pay a portion of that up to the minimum charge. Mr. Peters said if this is correct, then everyone has been being overcharged.

Mr. Peters asked in regards to the garbage, what is the bottom line in recycling and how much are they losing? What is it costing the city per month and per year? What have they done to try to cut costs? He feels they could cut the garbage pickup to about 3 days a week.

John Cart

Mr. Cart asked how many were praying before making decisions for the city. He said laws are not being enforced. While he was taking a walk, he counted 16 vehicles that did not have a front license plate and this is against the law. Mr. Cart said something needs to be done, because citizens cannot afford higher rates. He said council needs to check with citizens to see if they have any suggestions for ways to save money.

Jerry Hollback

Mr. Hollback stated the city needs another means of revenue. He said all of the surrounding counties have a city income tax. He also feels there needs to be some type of program where people who are on a fixed income or under a certain

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income guideline, can fill out an application for a discount on their utilities. There are citizens out there who have to make a decision on whether to get their medications or pay their bills.

Mr. Brown thanked the visitors for their suggestions and asked Mr. Kirby to research 927.11 and report back at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kitchen made a motion to approve the minutes from March 14, 2016 Regular Session, seconded by Mrs. Jones. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UTILITY

Mr. Elliott stated they had a Utility Committee meeting on March 21, 2016 to discuss the increase in utility rates. He stated all of the committee members agreed they should bring the rate increases before council for approval, because they need the money. He stated the Garbage Fund will be \$50,000 in the red at the end of this year and it will continue to go down every year if nothing is done. They need to purchase a new garbage truck which will need to be ordered this year. Mr. Elliott said they discussed ways they could cut costs. The recycling program was discussed. He felt it is a costly program and wondered if it is worth keeping. It costs about \$67,000/year to operate. The opinion of most who were there was that it was a good program and should be continued.

Mr. Elliott stated it is the city's fiscal responsibility to increase rates. Mr. Hensler did not agree it is being fiscally responsible.

Mr. Queen stated if raises hadn't been given, they could have bought a truck with that money.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Mr. Hensler stated he is going to meet with Administration

POLICE, FIRE, & TRAFFIC

Mr. Kitchen stated there needs to be a "No J Turn" sign at the Post Office.

SERVICE –(STREET & ALLEY, RECREATION, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS-No report.

CITY AUDITOR

Mr. Reed stated the city will be an open checkbook online.

He feels we need a city income tax. He stated he will take suggestions from anyone on cutting expenses. He said as far as using money from fines, they can't move money between the different entities.

LAW DIRECTOR-No report.

MAYOR

Mayor Heath stated recreation sign-ups are complete. They had 360 sign up with 113 being T-ball. There will be about 35 teams. The fields are in great shape so far this year.

If a business would like to support a team, please contact the Mayor's office.

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Mayor Heath said law enforcement has been patrolling Ralph and Gay Streets more often. He wanted to caution the public to watch their speed by the Middle School between 3:00-3:30 p.m. Mr. Queen asked if they could put up a 20 MPH flashing light in this area. Mayor Heath said they can check it out.

Jackson Area Festival and Events asked for the closing of streets at the last meeting for the next 3 years, which was approved. He said they came forward and offered to increase the amount they pay for utilities 3% a year for the next 3 years to make it fair for the citizens of Jackson.

It was also suggested they bring the speed trailer out and set it up in different areas.

SERVICE DIRECTOR

Mr. Sheward stated there was some concern with the bid for the windows for the Memorial Building. He said someone thought there was a specific window listed in the bid and there was only one contractor who could get that window. He said there were 3 windows listed, Graham, Wausau, or Oldcastle. He said it also stated if they were unable to get a quote for these windows, they could go through a process to get another window approved. He said council needs to make a decision on the ordinance. He does not see any problems with the bid specs.

Mr. Sheward stated they will be meeting with 2 Unions soon. He has not received any requests from council members. Let him know if there are any questions.

The week of April 25th will be Spring cleanup week.

Mr. Sheward stated he is going to a meeting on Thursday to discuss the bridges at Dickason and Huron Streets. He is not sure if they will get to be done when they wanted them to be.

Mr. Ondera commented that a contractor had said he couldn't get a quote for the windows. He said that proved to be inaccurate information and he has no problem with the bid or bid specs.

Mr. Queen stated he is afraid they are going to spend a lot of money on windows and then they are going to get coded by the state for other things that need fixed.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 14-16

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REVISING ORD. 5-12 AND SECTION 945.03 OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES SO AS TO INCREASE THE GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES FOR CUSTOMERS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second Reading

ORDINANCE NO. 15-16

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REVISING ORD. 80-11 AND SECTION 945.031 OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES SO AS TO INCREASE THE GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second Reading

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ORDINANCE NO. 16-16

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REVISING ORD. 6-12 AND SECTION 945.04 OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES SO AS TO INCREASE THE GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES FOR BUSINESS CUSTOMERS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second Reading

ORDINANCE NO. 17-16

AN ORDINANCE OF THE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, OHIO TO ACCEPT THE BID OF CITY CONSTRUCTION CO., INC., AS IT WAS THE LOWEST AND RESPONSIVE BID SUBMITTED, FOR THE WINDOW REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$110,000.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second Reading

ORDINANCE NO. 19-16

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE SWIMMING POOL FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Second Reading

ORDINANCE NO. 20-16

AN ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE WATER, SEWER, GARBAGE, AND ELECTRIC FUNDS TO THE GENERAL, COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AND ELECTRIC FUNDS FOR REIMBURSEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAXIMUM COST ALLOCATION STUDY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

Mr. Elliott made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Kitchen. In a voice vote, all members agreed.
Mr. Reed stated this is what the budget is based on. It is used to determine what is charged back to the various funds.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-16

AN ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE WATER, SEWER, AND ELECTRIC FUNDS TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR REIMBURSEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY'S RIGHT OF WAY REIMBURSEMENT PLAN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

Mr. Elliott made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mrs. Jones. In a voice vote, all members agreed.
Mr. Reed stated this is done every year. The budget is figured on it.

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ORDINANCE NO. 22-16

AN ORDINANCE REZONING FROM RESIDENTIAL (R-2) TO BUSINESS (B-3) PROPERTY LOCATED IN JACKSON, OHIO , ON SOUTH STREET BETWEEN GAY AND CENTER STREETS AND BEING THE FORMER SITE OF SOUTH STREET SCHOOL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

Mr. Kitchen made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mrs. Jones. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Mr. Sheward stated they had a Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. The developer made a presentation and at the end of the meeting, everyone was in agreement to approve the change from Residential to Business. He would appreciate council approving this tonight so they can move forward.

Mr. Kitchen made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mrs. Jones. In a roll call vote, council voted as follows:

Mr. Ondera-yes
Mr. Kitchen-yes
Mrs. Jones-yes
Mr. Hensler-yes
Mr. Queen-yes
Mr. Elliott-yes
Mr. Foster-yes

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

Mr. Ondera-yes
Mr. Kitchen-yes
Mrs. Jones-yes
Mr. Hensler-yes
Mr. Queen-yes
Mr. Elliott-yes
Mr. Foster-no

Ordinance No. 22-16 duly adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 09-16

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF JACKSON, OR HIS DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE, TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR THE 2016 ROUND OF TIGER GRANT FUNDS, TO BE USED FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE AN DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

Mr. Hensler made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Mr. Kitchen. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Mr. Sheward stated this is the same grant they applied for last year, but did not get. It involves McCarty Lane.

Mr. Hensler made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Mr. Elliott. In a roll call vote, council voted as follows:

Mr. Ondera-yes

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Mr. Kitchen-yes
Mrs. Jones-yes
Mr. Hensler-yes
Mr. Queen-yes
Mr. Elliott-yes
Mr. Foster-yes

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

Mr. Ondera-yes
Mr. Kitchen-yes
Mrs. Jones-yes
Mr. Hensler-yes
Mr. Queen-yes
Mr. Elliott-yes
Mr. Foster-yes

Resolution 09-16 duly adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE-None

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Kitchen commented the creeks are not in bad shape, so could they use the money they have budgeted for creek cleaning on something else. Mr. Sheward stated he has been working with Soil and Water Conservation and they gave him a proposal stating what they would do.

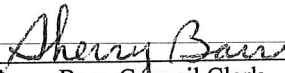
Mr. Ondera stated he had a couple of people who mentioned obstructions also. He will let Administration know where these are.

Mr. Sheward stated most of the vultures are gone.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Jones asked if the street sweeper is in operation yet. Mr. Sheward stated it is and it has been out already.

Mr. Queen made a motion to adjourn at 8:02 p.m., seconded by Mr. Hensler. In a voice vote, all members agreed.



Sherry Barr, Council Clerk



Eric Brown, Council President

Date 4-11-16

Date 4-11-17