

JACKSON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Session

February 27, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Call to Order..... President Brown

Pledge of Allegiance..... Mr. Kitchen

Opening Prayer..... Mr. Hensler

ROLL CALL

VISITORS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 13, 2017 Regular Session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

CORRESPONDENCE

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURN

JACKSON CITY COUNCIL
Minutes From
FEBRUARY 13, 2017
7:00 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION

Jackson City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 13, 2017 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. Ondera. The Prayer was given by Mr. Hensler.

Roll call was taken as follows:

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

Mr. Kitchen made a motion to excuse Mrs. Jones from the meeting, seconded by Mr. Ondera. In a voice vote, all members agreed

VISITORS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hensler made a motion to approve the minutes from January 23, 2017, seconded by Mr. Ondera. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UTILITY-No report.

Mr. Elliott asked if the 5 year forecast was done yet and Mr. Sheward stated they are still working on it.

Mr. Sheward said he had a request from property owners at 213 McKitterick Avenue for city utility hookups. Mr. Elliott made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Kitchen. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

BUDGET & FINANCE-No report.

POLICE, FIRE, & TRAFFIC-No report

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

Mr. Queen asked if the fencing at Harding Avenue Park is going to be replaced or what the plans are for it.

Mayor Heath said it is too hard to mow around, because it is too close to the creek. He said they want to put a permanent fence up at the coach-pitch field. If they ever need one, they can use a temporary fence they have that is very easy to put up.

Recreation signups will start February 28th. This year they are going to have a Pony League for boys and girls ages 13 and 14.

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Mr. Elliott would like to have a gate put up at James Cemetery this summer. Mr. Sheward stated the person who was working on it took the parts home and cannot find some of them. They will work on getting this put up.

Mr. Kitchen said 117, 119, 153 Water Street, and the house that burned needs something done with them. He would like to have something put in the paper regarding properties like this. Mr. Sheward stated they have been taking action on the burnt house. There has been a letter sent to the person who owns it. The insurance cannot pay until the city has enough money to tear it down. Mr. Kitchen said he has had people asking about these. Mr. Elliott has some in his neighborhood also. Mr. Kirby said they can publish this information if the property is a nuisance if they have gone through the proper steps. He will check on the ordinance to see how this can be handled.

Mr. Ondera stated he agrees with Mr. Kitchen, but unfortunately it takes money. There was money dedicated to this if the income tax would have passed. Since it didn't, they need to come up with some other way of getting money to take care of these properties. He doesn't feel the Administration should be faulted for this, because they tried to do something to help take care of the problem.

JAIL COMMITTEE-No report.

CITY AUDITOR-No report.

LAW DIRECTOR

Mr. Kirby stated he went to a meeting of the Municipal League recently and they spoke about condemned properties. He spoke with the Mayor of Columbus, who is dealing with the same thing Jackson is. He said it all comes down to money. They are buying the homes that can be fixed up and sold and leaving the really bad ones standing.

MAYOR

Mayor Heath passed out a guide on how the utility funds work. He said a lot of people have questions and this might help answer some of those. There are about 4000 customers. The billing is primarily residential, but most of the money comes from businesses. The businesses help support the residents. Fixed costs are electric, number of employees, etc. There are also variables such as chemicals, etc.

The utilities need to have at least a 5 year plan. The utility system is the key to the future. The upgrades they are doing to the wastewater and electric plants are necessary for future businesses.

The effort of Bill Sheward has saved the city a lot of money through his ability to secure grants to pay for big projects. The success of the utilities is important for our businesses.

Mr. Hensler asked if the power supply cost on the utility bills is a variable cost or fixed cost. Mayor Heath stated it would be a variable cost because it is based on the amount of electric used. Mr. Hensler asked why there isn't a dollar amount on the bills instead of the long list of numbers on the bill. He feels the customer could understand it better if it was on the bill in this format. Mayor Heath said they can get together and discuss it with the Utility Dept. to see if it is an option. The Utility Committee can get together after that to discuss it in more detail.

Mr. Kitchen asked if it would be possible to add a dollar per customer to each utility bill in order to collect money to tear down the blighted properties in the city. Mr. Kirby will check into this to see if it would be legal.

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SERVICE DIRECTOR

Mr. Sheward said in the next week, there will be a closure at Bridge St. and Main St. for Columbia Gas in order to move a gas line.

Next week they will be receiving the new police cruiser that replaces the wrecked one. It was purchased from Mark Porter Ford. A local business, Tony Johnson has a firetruck company and has started a new business to equip police cruisers. They will be getting this done by him at the same price as somewhere else.

The electric rate study is still in progress and should have it done sometime at the end of the month.

Mr. Sheward said there is approximately 130,000 bricks that will be coming from the Main St. hill project. The city will keep about a 1,000 of them, but he would like council's permission to sell the remaining bricks. Mr. Kitchen stated the Historical Society had asked for some to make a sidewalk around the Depot.

Mayor Heath asked the public to still remember the businesses around this project area will remain open during the construction.

Mr. Sheward stated the creek cleaning is just about done.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 01-17 (AMENDED)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND REPEALING ORD. 46-12 AND ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL SALARY FOR THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF JACKSON TO BE \$67,800. (AMENDED TO \$64,800)

Third Reading

Mr. Elliott gave summarization of the reasons he felt Mr. Sheward should receive his increase. He stated Mr. Sheward is hard working, knowledgeable of city government, has saved the city millions of dollars, etc. He said if they should ever need to replace him, it would be hard to do with the current salary. He is over 4 businesses and many employees, some of which make more than him.

Mr. Kitchen stated he had spoken to Mr. Reed regarding the issue of large salary increases and how they could avoid this problem in the future. They agreed the salaries need to be reviewed more frequently, so they are not trying to catch up by asking for the large increases. There was much discussion by council and different suggestions were made to make this a more amicable request in the years to come. Mr. Brown suggested the Police, Fire, and Traffic committee should review the Fire Chief, and Asst. Fire Chief's salaries. The Administration or an appointed committee could do the other appointed people who are not involved in a union. This should be done at the beginning of each year.

Mr. Elliott made a motion to amend the ordinance to state a \$3,000 increase, seconded by Mr. Ondera. In a roll call vote, council voted as follows:

Mr. Ondera-yes
Mr. Kitchen-yes
Mrs. Jones-absent
Mr. Hensler-no
Mr. Queen-no

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Mr. Elliott-yes
Mr. Foster-yes

Motion to amend to \$3,000 passed.

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

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

Ordinance No. 01-17 duly adopted as amended.

ORDINANCE NO. 08-17 (AMENDED)

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE SEWER FUND: TRANSFER OUT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (AMENDED TO READ GENERAL FUND). AMENDED (DELETE "TRANSFER OUT")

Second Reading

Mrs. Sexton stated the ordinance should not state "transfer out".

Mr. Ondera made a motion to amend the ordinance to delete "transfer out", seconded by Mr. Hensler. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Mrs. Sexton said there was a data entry error when the budget was created. The amount should have been \$12,500 and instead it was put in as \$1,000. The police are running short.

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

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

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

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Ordinance No. 08-17 duly adopted as amended.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-17

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

First Reading

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

Mr. Sheward stated this is to purchase additional ordinance books for the Council Clerk.

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

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

Ordinance No. 11-17 duly adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-17

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF JACKSON, OHIO AND HUBER TECHNOLOGY, FOR A HUBER SCREEN AND PARTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

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

Mr. Sheward stated they ordered some Huber parts for the sewer plant. They are screens needed to keep out the large solids. They need to have this as soon as possible.

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Mr. Hensler-yes
Mr. Queen-yes
Mr. Elliott-yes
Mr. Foster-yes

Resolution No. 04-17 duly adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 05-17

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR PAYMENT TO BRENTAG MID-SOUTH, INC. PURSUANT TO A "THEN AND NOW" CERTIFICATE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,117.73 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

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

Mrs. Sexton said the invoices were dated 12-19-16 and 1-1-17 and the Purchase Order was dated 1-6-17.

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

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

Resolution No. 05-17 duly adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-17

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR PAYMENT TO OVERHEAD DOOR OF PIKE COUNTY PURSUANT TO A "THEN AND NOW" CERTIFICATE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,381.85 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

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

Mrs. Sexton said the invoice was dated 12-30-16 and the Purchase Order was dated 1-6-17.

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

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

Resolution No. 06-17 duly adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE-No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Heath reminded everyone again of the meeting regarding the revitalization grant to be held at the Senior Citizens building, Tuesday, February 14th at 7:00 p.m. He toured the area again with Mr. Wright and they looked at ways outside of the neighborhood to help control the flow of water into the area.

Summer recreation registration will begin on February 28th.

Other signup dates are as follows:

March 1st
March 6th
March 9th
March 11th
March 14th

Mr. Kitchen stated he walked Hammertown Lake and understands Mayor Heath's concerns about the risks of polluting our water source. The boat dock either needs to be taken out or repaired. Mr. Kitchen passed out some information regarding his observations.

NEW BUSINESS-None

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Mr. Ondera had a suggestion to help with the sidewalks. He said maybe businesses and residents could sponsor parts of sidewalks that need replaced and city workers could help put them in. He said concrete is inexpensive and it does not take long to pour. The sidewalks uptown are in decent shape, but the residential sidewalks in bad shape.

Mr. Hensler made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Queen.



Sherry Barr, Council Clerk



Eric Brown, Council President

Date 2-27-17

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