

JACKSON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Session

January 23, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Call to Order..... President Brown

Pledge of Allegiance..... Mr. Elliott

Opening Prayer..... Mr. Hensler

ROLL CALL

VISITORS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 9, 2017 Regular Session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Utility –Elliott (Chairman), and Foster and Ondera
- Budget & Finance – Kitchen (Chairman), Elliott, and Ondera
- Police, Fire, & Traffic – Hensler (Chairman), Queen, and Jones
- Service – (Street & Alley, Recreation, Buildings & Grounds) Foster
Chairman), Queen, and Hensler
- Jail Committee-Ondera (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

JANUARY 9, 2017

7:00 P.M.

REGULAR SESSION

Jackson City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 9, 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. Queen. The Prayer was given by Mr. Ondera.

Roll call was taken as follows:

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

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

VISITORS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes from December 28, 2016, seconded by Mr. Kitchen. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Mr. Brown stated they would need a motion to hire the Council Clerk, Sherry Barr and a motion for President Pro-Tem. for another year. Mr. Kitchen made a motion to rehire Sherry Barr, seconded by Mrs. Jones. In a voice vote, all members agreed. Mr. Kitchen made a motion to appoint Jon Hensler as President Pro-Tem, seconded by Mr. Ondera. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Mr. Brown said there were a couple of changes made to the committees. Mr. Kitchen will be the Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee and Jon Hensler will be the Chairman of the Police, Fire, and Traffic Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UTILITY-No report.

Mr. Ondera asked if the City is set up for customers to pay their bills online. Mr. Reed stated they are currently looking into programs to accomplish this. Currently, they can pay with a credit or debit card, however, there is a fee to pay in this way. They may also have it set up to have it directly withdrawn from a checking account. The advantage for the City to put in an online system is it would cut down on traffic.

Mr. Brown suggested the Utility Committee have a meeting to see how the utilities are running and a 5 year plan. Mr. Elliott said he will set one up.

BUDGET & FINANCE-No report.

POLICE, FIRE, & TRAFFIC

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Mr. Kitchen stated he had no report, but there was a fire run report passed out to everyone.

Mr. Brown stated there is an issue with the parking on Main St. around the Cambrian. He wants everyone to keep an eye out for people using this for 24 hour parking. He said it usually becomes a problem in the winter when it snows. It takes up parking for business customers and also hurts the Markay on the weekends.

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

JAIL COMMITTEE

Mr. Ondera stated there is going to be a meeting held at the Municipal Court with Judge Musick on Wednesday, January 18th at 6:00 p.m. and all Council and Administration is welcome to attend.

CITY AUDITOR

Mr. Reed stated they have rolled out the new budget and it is in place. They are able to pay bills again.

LAW DIRECTOR-No report.

MAYOR

Mayor Heath said Ordinance No. 01-17 is an ordinance to give Service Director Sheward a pay increase. He has only had one other raise about 5 years ago. This raise will amount to about a 1.4% annual raise. Bill has done an excellent job is securing grants that have amounted to about \$7 million. \$2.4 million will go to the McCarty Lane project and Main St. hill project. He has provided great foresight in the utility upgrades. He is very conservative when it comes to purchasing big items. He tries to get the best deal possible to save the city money. Bill has developed a great rapport with the workforce. Mayor Heath thanked Bill for the great job he does and he feels Mr. Sheward deserves the raise.

Mayor Heath stated there are 2 big projects this year. One is the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade. They are still under the consent order from the court. If they don't obey the consent order it can cost the city a lot of money. Also, they are still working on the new electric substation. It could start at the end of the year. In the utilities, most of the cost is with infrastructure and material items. About 6% of their cost is in salaries.

In December, Whitaker Wright came down and addressed council regarding the neighborhood Revitalization Grant. They have set 2 of the public hearing dates. The meetings will be January 25th and February 14th at 7:00 p.m. They will be held at the Senior Citizens building on Mound St. This meeting is to find out what the public wants to see accomplished. Mr. Queen asked if they should let some of the community groups know, since it requires community involvement.

Mr. Kitchen said they are doing a great job with the creek cleaning.

SERVICE DIRECTOR

Mr. Sheward stated the fire report was interesting with the number of calls they go on in Lick and Franklin Townships. Most of them are accident calls.

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Mr. Sheward said Courtney & Associates will be doing a cost of service study on the utilities and the rates that are being charged to make sure everything is ok. This will take place the end of February or March. They will be making recommendations on rates and how much they should be holding in the different accounts.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE NO. 01-17

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.

First Reading

Mr. Ondera made a motion to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Mrs. Jones. In a voice vote, members voted as follows:

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

Due to the vote being a tie, Mr. Brown voted yes in order to be able to bring the ordinance to the table to be discussed.

Mr. Elliott stated even though this was probably not a good time to ask for it, since they had just ask for an income tax, but he felt he was deserving of the raise. Mr. Elliott said he is basically running four businesses.

Mayor Heath stated Mr. Sheward's salary comes from the utilities and other funds and the utility money comes mainly from non-residential customers.

Mr. Queen asked how his salary compares with a Service Director of another municipality of about the same size. He said the Service Director of Wellston makes around \$25,000. Mayor Heath stated they also have an Engineer on staff and Jackson doesn't.

Mr. Ondera stated this raise comes after 5 years. Most employees expect an increase after at least a couple of years, so he feels this raise is warranted.

Mr. Brown stated when matters like this are not addressed in a timely manner; they get behind the eight ball.

ORDINANCE NO. 02-17

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

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

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

Ordinance No. 03-17 duly adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 04-17

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE VISITORS CENTER FUND: VISITORS CENTER EXPENSE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

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

Mr. Reed stated this is the money they have collected the year prior. This makes it the actual amount for the coming year. So the total will be \$67,949.95.

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

Ordinance No. 04-17 duly adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 05-17

AN ORDINANCE REDUCING APPROPRIATIONS IN THE ELECTRIC CONSTRUCTION FUND: UTILITY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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First Reading

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

Mr. Reed stated this is removing money that should not have been appropriated.

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

Ordinance No. 05-17 duly adopted.

ORDINANCE NO. 06-17

**AN ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND:
TRANSFER OUT; WATER FUND: TRANSFER OUT; SEWER FUND: TRANSFER OUT;
GARBAGE FUND: TRANSFER OUT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

First Reading

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

Mr. Reed stated this is completing the other ordinance. This is transferring to their sub-funds.

Mr. Ondera 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-absent
Mr. Queen-yes

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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-absent
Mr. Queen-yes
Mr. Elliott-yes
Mr. Foster-yes

Ordinance No. 06-17 duly adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-17

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR PAYMENT TO OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION PURSUANT TO A "THEN AND NOW" CERTIFICATE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,466.33 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

First Reading

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

Mr. Reed stated this is for the sanitary sewer project on McCarty Lane. It is not due until January 31st and he would like it to show in the year it is paid.

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

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

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

Resolution No. 01-17 duly adopted.

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CORRESPONDENCE-None

OLD BUSINESS-None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kitchen belongs to the ODNR. He said they have some grants that might be available they could use for a nature trail down Salt Creek. He said it might be the perfect timing to apply, since it is the city's 200th anniversary.

Mr. Queen asked if it could be used for a boat dock at Hammertown Lake. Mayor Heath said this has been discussed and they just don't think it is a good idea to have a boat dock. They are afraid they will start having a lot of gas motor boats on there and that makes for a possible gas leak in the city's water supply. He said it is not really a recreational lake. There is no way of patrolling the area. There were different opinions on this topic and some felt something needs to be done to make it more accessible.

Mr. Queen asked if they ever have to hire an outside Engineer. Mayor Heath stated they do on an "as needed" basis. Mr. Sheward does a lot of the work himself.

Mr. Sheward stated the APA is offering a webinar series which is available to anyone. There is a fee of \$99 individual/\$399 all parts. They will be February 16th and May 11th from 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Mr. Queen made a motion to adjourn at 8:04 p.m., seconded by Mr. Elliott. In a voice vote, all members agreed.



Sherry Barr, Council Clerk

Date 1-23-17



Eric Brown, Council President

Date 1-23-17