

JACKSON CITY COUNCIL

*Minutes From*  
August 22, 2022  
7:00 P.M.

REGULAR SESSION

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Jackson City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 22, 2022. The pledge was led by Mr. Newkirk, and the prayer was given by Mr. Ondera

President Fulks called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken as follows:

- Mr. Foster –Present
- Mr. Ondera –Present
- Mrs. Colby – Present
- Mr. Peters – Present
- Mr. Newkirk - Present
- Mr. Crabtree - Present
- Mr. Bopp -- Present

**VISITORS/RECOGNITIONS**~ Mayor Evans recognized Ron Aldrich of the Water and Waste Water Departments. He commended Ron on the great job he is doing running both plants and saving the city over \$100k. His department oversees the city pool. This summer they built two shelter houses in addition to their regular duties. Ron introduced all of the employees responsible for these improvements to the city pool this summer. Some of them are not from his department, but volunteered to work on this project.

Shane Bentley - Repairman  
Matt Crabtree –Repairman  
Jim McCarty –Repairman  
JC Gillenwater -Operator  
Chuck Hopper – Mechanic  
Cody Wise – Mechanic  
Austin Aldrich – Repairman  
Nolan Willis - Seasonal Employee  
Conner Fraley – Seasonal Employee

Council thanked the men for their hard work and willingness to do extra to improve the city.

Mayor Evans also recognized Traci Plants. Traci worked for the city for over a year in the Mayor's office working on projects. She left for another job, but when there was an opening, the mayor reached out to her. She was available and wanted to come back. The city is very fortunate to get Traci back. She was a huge part of securing over 5 million dollars in grant money for city improvement projects.

**SIGNED IN VISITORS TO SPEAK**~ Paul Berridge spoke to council again regarding a project for Jackson. He said he was asked before about the selling price of the land. He is asking \$20k per acre. He said the Commissioners are going to have it appraised and asked if he would accept the appraisal as his selling price. He agreed to this, and said if it appraises for more, he will still accept the \$20k per acre. He will not raise his price. The Commissioners and Port Authority will find an independent appraiser to do this.

He said part of the project is to fill in the dangerous mine shafts. He said five are on his property and two are on the city property. He said they were capped with logs, wood and dirt. However, some have fallen in and been filled with city trash. Others need to be uncovered and sealed. Mayor Evans asked about the two in the city and if they are capped. Mr. Berridge said they are capped, but still a potential hazard, because we

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do not know how stable they are after all of these years. They need to be located and dealt with.

Mr. Peters asked about the grant for one million dollars back in 1979 with some of this property. Mr. Berridge said that was a grant secured through Economic Development for 1.2 million to make it a permanent Green Space. He also made a loan to the city for \$300k, but later forgave that loan. It is a Wetland/Green Space. He would now like to do more work to this by removing the gob and making it a dryer area by reducing flooding. It is envisioned that on the additional land with this project there will be:

- 6 multipurpose baseball/softball fields
- 2 soccer fields
- 3 basketball courts
- 2 tennis courts

These are in addition to what the city already has.

He also asked that the city contact the EPA about doing the Environmental Assessment because it would be free if we request it.

He said the project would be going through the Port Authority because later on they may need access via US 35 and it will be easier through them.

He owns 42 acres and the city owns 100 acres around the creek.  
Total Grant is around \$7,300,000.

Mayor Evans asked Traci if she had anything to add. She did some work with the EPA when she left the city for another job. She said they would want to see what the end project looks like so they can see how the Environment will be impacted.

Mayor Evans said there are a lot of electric transmission lines through there. Mr. Berridge said this won't be a problem.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** ~ Mrs. Colby made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from August 8, 2022 with a second from Mr. Newkirk. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**UTILITY** ~ No Report

**BUDGET & FINANCE**~ No Report

**SERVICE COMMITTEE** ~No Report

**CITY AUDITOR/ TREASURER**~ Several in the packets concerning grants and project money that needs to be appropriated. He will speak about them as they come up.

**CITY ATTORNEY**~ No Report

**FIRE CHIEF**~ No Report

**POLICE CHIEF** ~ No Report

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**MAYOR~**

- There is an opening in the Garbage Department
  - We currently have all three contracts approved and signed.
  - The Teamsters for the Police Department had to go to conciliation and they wrote the contract for us. They are getting a 2% raise each year.
  - The OAPSE Union agreed through negotiations only and will be getting a 3% raise each year.
  - The AFSCME Supervisor's Union went to fact finding to come to an agreement. They are getting a 2% raise.
  - They all will be paying 12% of the premium for their insurance.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR**

- The Utility Office will not be able to take online payments September 25- October 4<sup>th</sup>. They will be making the switch to Invoice Cloud during this time.
- Preconstruction paving meeting for the 139-93 project was today. They will be resurfacing the bridges near McDonalds and Wendy's. This will be start after the holiday and be finished before the Apple Festival. The paving will begin after the Apple Festival.
- High St. Bridge still has another month or so.
- The intersection work being done currently is the ODOT Signal Project. Should be done in the next two weeks.
- Poles are up for the four way stops. Signs should go up Thursday or Friday this week. They are working to time these up with changing to all red flashing lights at these intersections.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 36-22**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR  
EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH THE MILL STREET SEWER AND WATER PROJECT  
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**First Reading**

Mr. Newkirk made a motion to adopt the Ordinance, with a second from Mr. Peters. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

This is for ARPA funds that we were awarded. It needs appropriated so we can spend it.

Mr. Newkirk made a motion to suspend the rules, with a second from Mrs. Colby. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows:

Foster	Yes
Ondera	Yes
Colby	Yes
Peters	Yes
Newkirk	Yes
Crabtree	Yes
Bopp	Yes

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A roll call vote was taken to adopt the Ordinance, and the results are as follows:

Foster	Yes
Ondera	Yes
Colby	Yes
Peters	Yes
Newkirk	Yes
Crabtree	Yes
Bopp	Yes

**Ordinance 36-22 Duly Adopted**

**ORDINANCE NO. 37-22** (Changed from 34-22)

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXPENSES ASSOCIATED RITA ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**First Reading**

Mr. Ondera made a motion to adopt the Ordinance, with a second from Mr. Peters. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Mr. Reed explained that this Ordinance is just bookkeeping. The money doesn't come to us. This is for administrative expenses for RITA. We must book the gross income for the income tax, and then a percentage of that is taken for the collection cost of this and that is what is shown here. The rest of the income tax money will come to us. Mr. Ondera asked what percentage they take. Mr. Reed said about 3-4% of 2.8-3 million.

Mr. Peters asked if administration had looked into having someone for the city take care of this. Would it save us money to do it that way? Mr. Reed said they have discussed this. Right now, his office cannot take this on. They have been working extremely hard over the last year to catch up things. He said it would be something they would look into in the future. Mayor Evans said the tax is for 5 years. If it becomes permanent, it is definitely something they would want to look into.

Mr. Peters made a motion to suspend the rules, with a second from Mr. Ondera. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows:

Foster	Yes
Ondera	Yes
Colby	Yes
Peters	Yes
Newkirk	Yes
Crabtree	Yes
Bopp	Yes

A roll call vote was taken to adopt the Ordinance, and the results are as follows:

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Foster	Yes
Ondera	Yes
Colby	Yes
Peters	Yes
Newkirk	Yes
Crabtree	Yes
Bopp	Yes

**Ordinance 37-22 Duly Adopted**

ORDINANCE NO. 38-22 (Changed from 35-22)

**AN ORDINANCE FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM GENERAL FUND: TRANSFER OUT TO GAS, FUEL & OIL FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**First Reading**

Mr. Peters made a motion to adopt the Ordinance, with a second from Mrs. Colby. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Fuel cost has doubled this year. This is money that had been placed into the transfer out line item and needed to be put into the gas line item to cover fuel cost for the rest of the year.

Mr. Ondera made a motion to suspend the rules, with a second from Mr. Newkirk. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows:

Foster	Yes
Ondera	Yes
Colby	Yes
Peters	Yes
Newkirk	Yes
Crabtree	Yes
Bopp	Yes

A roll call vote was taken to adopt the Ordinance, and the results are as follows:

Foster	Yes
Ondera	Yes
Colby	Yes
Peters	Yes
Newkirk	Yes
Crabtree	Yes
Bopp	Yes

**Ordinance 38-22 Duly Adopted**

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**RESOLUTION NO. 30-22**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF JACKSON, OHIO AND RUMPKE OF OHIO, INC., FOR LANDFILL SERVICES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**Second Reading**

Mr. Swackhammer said he was asked at the last meeting to contact Rumpke about paying only an increase in the fuel. Rumpke said the best they can do is already offered. Mr. Peters asked how this would affect our customer rates. Mr. Swackhammer said until they get into the revenues and budgets they would not know. Could be 6 weeks or longer before he will have these numbers.

**RESOLUTION 34-22**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF JACKSON TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION STATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT TO THE CLINTON/TAFT SEWER PROJECT AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**First Reading**

Mr. Peters made a motion to adopt the Resolution, with a second from Mrs. Ondera. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

This allows us to apply for additional grant funds. The deadline is October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Peters made a motion to suspend the rules, with a second from Mr. Crabtree. A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows:

Foster	Yes
Ondera	Yes
Colby	Yes
Peters	Yes
Newkirk	Yes
Crabtree	Yes
Bopp	Yes

A roll call vote was taken to adopt the Resolution, and the results are as follows:

Foster	Yes
Ondera	Yes
Colby	Yes
Peters	Yes
Newkirk	Yes
Crabtree	Yes
Bopp	Yes

**Resolution 35-22 Duly Adopted**

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**CORRESPONDENCE~ None**

**OLD BUSINESS~**

- Mr. Peters asked about the project for Mr. Berridge. He said if it does not cost the city anything and we are not committing to anything he is in favor of it. Mr. Ondera agreed. All council members agreed to move forward.
- He also asked about the Maximus Study that council had discussed many times. Mr. Reed said they are trying to get this done for this year, but do not know if they have enough data. With all the changes in the structuring of the supervisors in the city, they may not have the documentation yet. Things have changed the prior two years. They are trying to sort out the numbers and see if it can be done for this year.

**NEW BUSINESS ~**

- Timothy and Ashley Ousley of 105 Trento Ave. Jackson are requesting a sewer tap. The sewer line is there, so they only cost would be for the residents to pay for the sewer tap. Mr. Peters made a motion to approve the tap, with a second from Mr. Ondera. In a voice vote, all members agreed.
- Mr. Peters said our Chamber and local businesses are interested in having a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA). Other cities near us are doing this. (Portsmouth, Chillicothe, Athens) Allows for concerts and things inside the city and local businesses can get a temporary liquor license if they do not have one and participate in the sale of alcoholic beverages. The public would buy a designated cup and then be allowed to walk around within the designated area with the drinks. Open container law would be omitted for these events. They would petition the city for a designated area to hold the event. Mr. Peters wanted council to have the information for future consideration. He is emailing the website to council so they can inform themselves on the process. He feels like Chamber is working hard to bring people into the city and have events within the city and this would help. The difference in what they are doing now and what they want to do is to have a larger area to walk around. Rather than be stuck on the property of the establishment with the liquor license.

<https://com.ohio.gov/divisions-and-programs/liquor-control/local-government-resources/designated-outdoor-refreshment-areas-dora>

- Mr. Ondera asked about Columbia Gas and their pipeline project. He said we had some employees from there come talk to council about their responsibilities as far as replacing things when finished and he does not feel like they are doing that. He said the road does not appear to be replaced with concrete at all. He is concerned about his driveway and sidewalks having the thickness of concrete they had before.

Mr. Peters asked if there was a current ordinance or one we could pass requiring them to put things back to a certain specification.

Mayor Evans said he felt they were doing a good job in the spring. He believes the man that came to speak to council that assured us things would be done correctly has moved to another position. He will follow up tomorrow to find out what is going on.

- It was asked why Portsmouth is half paved and half not. Mayor Evans said that is not the city and he does not know why Columbia Gas has done that.

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Mr. Peters made a motion to enter into an executive session to speak with Mr. Sam Brady of JCEDP for the purpose: To Consider Confidential Information of an Applicant for Economic Development. He asked everyone at the table and Mr. Brady to stay.

A roll call vote was taken and the results are as follows:

Foster	Yes
Ondera	Yes
Colby	Yes
Peters	Yes
Newkirk	Yes
Crabtree	Yes
Bopp	Yes

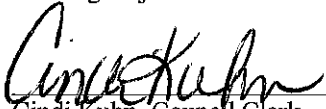
Motion Carried  
Entered Executive Session 8:05PM

Mr. Peters made a motion with a second from Mr. Ondera to resume regular session. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Resumed Regular session 8:25PM

Mr. Bopp made a motion with a second from Mr. Newkirk to adjourn. In a voice vote, all members agreed.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:25 PM

  
Cindi Kuhn, Council Clerk

  
Dan Fulks, President

Date 9-12-22

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