

MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 5, 2025

The City Council of the City of Jasper, Texas, met on August 5, 2025, with the following members present to wit:

Mayor Clark McLane
Council Member Mamie Horn
Council Member Bob Mayhar

Council Member DeMarcus Holmes/Absent
Council Member Angel McCroskey
Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand

City Manager Greg Kelley

City Secretary Liz Jarrell

Mayor Clark McLane called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m., and Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand opened it with prayer. All the members were present except Council Member DeMarcus Holmes. There were no public comments.

City Manager Greg Kelley started reviewing the working budget with the Police Department. Mr. Kelley explained that there were no changes, and it has the step program they use for employee raises. This working budget includes a 0.285 property tax rate and a \$2 increase for sanitation rates. Workers' Compensation went up \$2,068.00. The Legislative Department has an \$81,000 property and Liability insurance increase from TML. The Chamber of Commerce committee for Hotel Motel Tax submitted the letter and the breakdown for distributing the funds. Much discussion was made concerning the Hotel Motel Tax. Council Member Angel McCroskey questioned whether a council member can also serve on the Committee for Hotel Motel Tax. Mr. Kelley explained that there is some money left from the Hotel Motel Tax that can be used for the Beaty Orton House if the council approves it. Mr. Kelley explained that the library budget increased \$5,800.00 for the computer lab to be upgraded. Mr. Kelley explained that the grant for streets has about a \$102,000.00 match for a \$900,000.00 street project, which is included in this budget. The Parks Department has an \$8,000.00 increase for Byrd Park upgrades. Much Discussion was made concerning Byrd Park. The sanitation department truck increased \$26,730.00. The Light and Power Department increased \$506,000.00 due to an SRMPA powercost rate increase. If the increase in electric rates are approved, it will still leave the department about \$400,000.00 short. The Water and Sewer Department has an employee retiring, and enough money was added to hire someone to be trained by him for about six months. The budget does have a 3% increase for employees, not including the Police Department, because they follow a step program. Mayor Clark McLane complimented the inspection department for their knowledge and for doing a great job. Council Member Angel McCroskey asked about the increase in the approved budget for legal services under the Legislative Department. Mr. Kelley explained this was for City Attorney Billy Morian, Frank Garza, and other legal services. Much discussion was made regarding legal services.

Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand made a motion to approve the 2025 Proposed Property Tax Rate of \$0.285 to fund a portion of the 2025-2026 Budget. Council Member Bob Mayhar seconded the motion. Council Members Bob Mayhar and Lequin Hilderbrand voted in favor of the motion.

Council Members Angel McCroskey and Mamie Horn voted against the motion. Mayor Clark McLane broke the tie and voted for the motion. The motion passed.

City Manager Kelley proposed September 2nd for a public hearing on property tax rates. Mr. Kelley also asked to move the regular called city council meeting to September 2nd to meet budget deadlines. Council Members Lequin Hilderbrand and Bob Mayhar mentioned that they can attend the meeting on September 3rd. Council Members Angel McCroskey and Mamie Horn said they can be there on September 3rd at 5:30 pm. Council Member Angel McCroskey made a motion to have the property tax hearing on September 3rd. Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Clark McLane went on to the next item for changes to the working budget if any. No comments were made.

Council Member Angel McCroskey made a motion to move September's regular meeting to September 3rd as well as the property tax hearing to September 3rd. Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Angel McCroskey made a motion to adjourn at 12:38 pm. Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.


Clark McLane, Mayor

Attest:


Liz Jarrell, City Secretary