

MINUTES
REGULAR CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 9, 2024

The City Council of the City of Jasper, Texas, met on December 9, 2024, with the following members present to wit:

Mayor Anderson M. Land, Jr

Council Member DeMarcus Holmes/Absent

Council Member Angel McCroskey

Council Member Ronald Sample

Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand

City Manager Greg Kelley

City Secretary Liz Jarrell

Mayor Anderson Land called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and Mrs. Susan Stover opened it with prayer. All council members were present except Council Member DeMarcus Holmes. Mayor Land asked for Departmental Reports and there were none. Mayor Land then asked for public comments, and there was one. Ms. Tena Wright made comments regarding Jasper Economic Development Corporation (JEDCO).

Mayor Land made statements regarding past agenda items he felt had not been completed. Council Members Lequin Hilderbrand, Angel McCroskey, and Ronald Sample made statements letting Mayor Land know that the items on past agendas have been taken care of.

Council Member Angel McCroskey made a motion to approve (2) sets of minutes from the Regular Called City Council Meeting on November 12, 2024, and the Special Called City Council Meeting on November 25, 2024. Seconded by Council Member Ronald Sample. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Land moved item seven on the agenda so Code Enforcement Officer Jeremy Chesnutt could attend another meeting. Mr. Chesnutt explained that there is no obstruction of any right of way to any utilities. Mr. Chesnutt recommends approving the variance request. There was more discussion. Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to approve the Variance Request for 509 Sylvester Street, seconded by Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to approve the Civil Right Resolution No. 3022 with attached policies for City of Jasper 24-065-082-E758. Seconded by Council Member Angel McCroskey. Susan Stover with David J. Waxman Inc. commented about the policy. Council Member McCroskey asked for the agenda items to include more information to clarify what they refer to. City Manager Greg Kelley agreed. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to approve the Depository Signatory Resolution No. 3023 for City of Jasper 24-065-082-E758. Seconded by Council Member Angel McCroskey.

Susan Stover with David J. Waxman Inc. commented about the Resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to approve the Financial Management and Procurement Policy and Procedures Resolution No. 3024. Seconded by Council Member Angel McCroskey. Susan Stover with David J Waxman Inc. explained the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to approve the Grant Administration Contract between David J. Waxman, Inc. and the City of Jasper for GLO Grant 24-065-082-E758. The compensation will not exceed \$278,180.00. Seconded by Council Member Angel McCroskey. Susan Stover with David J. Waxman explained the binding contract. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to approve to amend and update the October 15, 2024, minutes. Seconded by Council Member Angel McCroskey. City Secretary Liz Jarrell explained the changes to add what was mistakenly left out of the previously approved minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to approve Resolution No. 3021 FY25 SB 224 Catalytic Converter Grant Program. Seconded by Council Member Angel McCroskey. Police Chief Garrett Foster explained that his name has been added since becoming police chief. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Angel McCroskey made a motion to discuss and amend the council meeting rules and procedures for the City of Jasper. Seconded by Council Member Ronald Sample. Council Member McCroskey made a motion to strike two line items in the procedures. Council Member McCroskey would like to strike "Agenda items must reach the City Secretary's office at City Hall by 5:00 p.m. the Friday – Two weeks before the regular, Monday City Council meeting," and "Agenda items for discussion/action will not be accepted if information is not available by the 5:00 p.m. Friday deadline." The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Land read the next item to please review the attached request from the Jasper Economic Development Corporation asking the City Council to ratify the current JEDCO board members to the assigned terms. Eddie Hopkins, Director of JEDCO, stated that all members of the JEDCO Board would like to be re-appointed except for Mr. Stephen Earnest. Mr. Hopkins explained that JEDCO is a Type A Board, making them restricted. Council Member Angel McCroskey mentioned that the City Council hired Ross Fischer to Audit JEDCO matters. Much discussion was made about the matter. Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to table this item. Seconded by Council Member Angel McCroskey. Two voted in favor of tabling this item being Council Members McCroskey and Sample. One Voted opposed being Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand. Motion passed to table the item.

Mayor Land read the next agenda item to change the name of Graham Street to Lewis Street. Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to table this item. Seconded by Council Member Angel McCroskey. The motion passed unanimously.

The council then went into executive session at 6:56 p.m. to discuss Personnel Matters: City attorney pursuant to Texas Government Code 551 Section 551.074. The council reconvened at 7:03 p.m. Council Member Ronald Sample made a motion to hire William Billy Morian III as the new City Attorney. Seconded by Council Member Angel McCroskey. The motion passed unanimously.

During the Council Time Discussion, Mayor Land mentioned he spoke to the District Attorney, who said they could not advise the City Council on matters of the city pertaining to the charter. Council Member Angel McCroskey stated she is against being paid to be a council member. All council members and the mayor then had much discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. with no further business to discuss.

Mayor Land called a city council workshop to order at 7:11 pm to discuss the scope of work for a forensic audit. All members were present except Council Member DeMarcus Holmes. Council Member Lequin Hilderbrand suggested that each Council Member make a list of the scope of work they would like to be a part of the forensic audit. City Manager Greg Kelley stated that the council can submit the list to him to be added to the agenda to be voted on at the next council meeting. All council members present agreed on the matter. City Manager Kelley stated that we must amend the budget to pay for the forensic audit. The workshop was adjourned at 7:18 pm with no further business to discuss.


Anderson Land, Mayor

Attest:



Liz Jarrell, City Secretary