



## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

January 14, 2020

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The Jackson City Council met in regular session and was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Derek J. Dobies.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION:**

The Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was offered by Second Ward Councilmember Freddie Dancy.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Derek J. Dobies, Councilmembers Arlene Robinson, Freddie Dancy, Jeromy Alexander, Kelsey Heck, and Will Forgrave.

Absent: Councilmember Laura Schlecte.

Also present: City Manager Patrick Burtch, City Assessor Jason Yoakam, City Clerk Andrea Muray, Director of Police and Fire Services Elmer Hitt, Director of Neighborhood and Economic Operations Jennifer Morris, Director of Public Works Jonathan Greene, and City Engineer Jon Dowling.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Motion was made by Councilmember Heck, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to adopt the agenda as presented. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion passed.

### **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:**

- A. City of Jackson's Audit Report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2019:**  
*Presentation by Rehmann Robson, LLC, of the City of Jackson's Audit Report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2019.*
1. *Receipt of the City of Jackson's Audit Report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2019.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Heck to receive the report. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion passed.

**B. Potential Historical Designation by the National Park Service of Bucky Harris Park:**

*Presentation by Linda Hass showing her research that demonstrates Bucky Harris Park is the site of significant efforts in aiding the Underground Railroad.*

1. *Support of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Application for Bucky Harris Park.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Heck, seconded by Councilmember Robinson to support the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Application for Bucky Harris Park. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion passed.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**A. Receive Citizen Comment on the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment.**

*Conduct a Public Hearing to receive citizen comment on the 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment, authorize its submission to the Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and approve the resolutions to amend the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME budgets to accommodate the actions described in the Substantial Amendment.*

John King spoke of concerns of an emphasis on new construction versus rehabilitation of existing homes. Susan Murdie spoke in opposition of the amount of funding earmarked for the construction of three homes and the kitchen incubator costs. Travis Trombley spoke out against the amount of funds are being allocated for new construction. Cindy Eby spoke out against the new construction and demolition as laid out in the plan because of the impact on the environment and the cost.

Motion was made by Councilmember Heck, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to approve the resolutions to amend the Community Development Block Grant and HOME budgets to accommodate the actions described in the Substantial Amendment. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion passed.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Citizen comments were heard and the meeting continued.

**PETITIONS & COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:** none.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 17, 2019:**  
*Approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of December 17, 2019.*
- B. Board of Review Resignation:**  
*Receipt with regret the resignation of Ken Stapleton from the Board of Review.*
- C. Board of Review Reappointment:**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Thomas Schindler to the Board of Review to serve a three year term, beginning February 1, 2020, and ending January 31, 2023.*
- D. Board of Review:**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint David Taylor, currently serving as an alternate, to a current vacancy on the Board of Review beginning immediately, and ending January 31, 2022.*
- E. DDA Reappointment:**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Jason Butterfield to the Downtown Development Authority for a four year term, beginning immediately, and ending March 29, 2023.*
- F. Environmental Commission Resignation:**  
*Receipt with regret the resignation of Elody Samuelson from the Environmental Commission effective immediately.*
- G. Historic District Commission Reappointments:**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Anton Raykovich and Robert Cole (Architect) to the Historic District Commission for a three year term each beginning immediately, and ending December 31, 2022.*
- H. Zoning Board of Appeals Reappointment:**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Shawn Christie to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three year term, beginning immediately, and ending December 31, 2022.*

- I. **Jackson Right to Life Annual Memorial Motorcade:**  
*Approve a request from Jackson Right to Life, Inc., to conduct their annual Memorial Motorcade on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, on the streets of Jackson.*
  
- J. **Resolution – United Way:**  
*Approve a resolution directing the City Manager or his designee to run a workplace United Way of Jackson campaign, and encourage residents and area employers to also support the United Way of Jackson County through volunteerism and workplace campaigns.*
  
- K. **Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment:**  
*Approve the Mayor’s recommendation to appoint Robert VanSumeren to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three year term, beginning immediately, and ending December 31, 2022.*
  
- L. **Resolution – Expungement to Reduce Permanent Barriers:**  
*Approve a resolution supporting state legislation that would expand eligibility for responsible set aside policy that would automate the set aside process for all misdemeanors and select felonies as represented in House Bills 4980-4985.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Heck, seconded by Councilmember Robinson to approve the consent calendar as presented. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion passed.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **Resolution Accepting the 2020-2024 City of Jackson Parks and Recreation Department Master Plan.**  
**Recommendation:** *Approve a resolution to accept the 2020-2024 City of Jackson Parks and Recreation Department Master Plan, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents.*
  
- Motion was made by Councilmember Heck, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion passed.
  
- B. **Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution as of June 30, 2019 for the Special Assessment Capital Project Fund.**  
**Recommendation:** *Approve a Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution for the Special Assessment Capital Project Fund Deficit as of June 30, 2019.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Heck to approve a Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution for the Special Assessment Capital Project Fund. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion passed.

**C. Professional Planning Services Retainer with Beckett & Raeder, Inc.**

**Recommendation:** *Authorize and approve the two year retainer for professional planning services with two (2), two year renewals from Beckett and Raeder, Ann Arbor, including, but not limited to, master planning sketches, miscellaneous landscape design services, and plot planning, and authorize the City Manager to sign any agreements, approve necessary renditions, and to take all necessary actions to effectuate the Professional Economic Development Planning Retainer Service Agreement.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Heck, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to approve. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, and Heck (5). Nays: Councilmember Forgrave (1). Absent: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion passed.

**D. Professional Services Retainer with Frye & Associates for Architectural Services.**

**Recommendation:** *Authorize and approve the two year retainer and two (2), two year renewals for professional services from Frye Associates, Lewisville, TX, including but not limited to, master planning sketches, and development illustrations, and authorize the City Manager to sign any agreements, approve necessary renditions, and to take all necessary actions to effectuate the Professional Economic Development Planning Retainer Service Agreement.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Robinson, seconded by Councilmember Heck to approve. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, and Heck (5). Nays: Councilmember Forgrave (1). Absent: Councilmember Schlecte. Motion passed.

**E. Ordinance Amending the Building Design Standards as Outlined in Section 28-115 of Article IV and Standards for Fences, Walls, and Landscape Berms as Outlined in Section 28-125, Article I, Chapter 28, City Code. (First Reading)**

**Recommendation:** *Approve an Ordinance amending the building design standards as outlined in Section 28-115, Article IV, and standards for fences, walls, and landscape berms as outlined in Section 28-125, Article IV, Chapter 28, in the City's Code of Ordinances.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Heck, seconded by Councilmember Dancy approve the first reading of the ordinance and advance to the second reading and final adoption. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlechte. Motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss Personnel Evaluation:**

Motion was made by Councilmember Heck, seconded by Councilmember Robinson to adjourn to executive session. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlechte. Motion passed.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Robinson to return to open session. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlechte. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Robinson to formally conclude the evaluation of the City Clerk, Andrea Muray. Vote – Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, Alexander, Heck, and Forgrave (6). Nays: none. Absent: Councilmember Schlechte. Motion passed.

**CITY COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS:**

Mayor Dobies, Councilmembers Robinson, Dancy, and Forgrave all offered comments. Councilmembers Alexander and Heck declined.

**MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

City Manager Patrick Burtch offered comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business being offered a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Heck, seconded by Councilmember Dancy. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Dobies adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.