



SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 5, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

The Jackson City Council met in special session virtually, in accordance with State and Federal guidelines designed to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Mayor Derek J. Dobies.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Derek J. Dobies, Vice Mayor Arlene Robinson, Councilmembers Freddie Dancy, Jeromy Alexander, Laura Dwyer Schlecte, Karen Bunnell, and Will Forgrave.

Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Jonathan Greene, City Attorney Matthew Hagerty, City Clerk Andrea Muray, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion John Willis, and Public Information Officer Aaron Dimick.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to adopt the agenda. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

City Clerk Andrea Muray read citizen comments submitted into the record.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF AND GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.

- A. Receipt of written answers to the ethics inquiry dated December 15, 2020 as directed by City Council provided by Councilmember Schlecte.**

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to receive the written answers to the ethics inquiry dated December 15, 2020 as directed by City Council provided by Councilmember Schlecte. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- A. Consideration of Appointment of Council Committee under Chapter 2, Article VIII, Sec. 2-558(a)(1) to complete ethics inquiry and report to the entire Council**

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the appointment of Council Committee under Chapter 2, Article VIII, Sec. 2-558(a)(1) to complete an ethics inquiry and report to the entire Council.

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to appoint Councilmember Forgrave and Councilmember Bunnell to a Council Committee to complete the ethics inquire and report to the entire Council.

Councilmember Alexander withdrew his original motion.

Councilmember Schlecte objected to Councilmember Forgrave being on the Council Committee on the grounds that he co-authored the complaint.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell to send the answers to the questions to the Attorney General and wait for a response before taking next steps.

Councilmember Forgrave withdrew his motion.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to forward the written responses given by Councilmember Schlecte to the questions along with a cover letter drafted by the City Attorney requesting an investigation into the actions of Councilmember Schlecte and Councilmember Alexander by the State Attorney General in regards to the entire business transaction.

Prior to the vote being taken City Attorney Matthew Hagerty advised that both Councilmember Schlecte and Councilmember Alexander should abstain from the vote as they are both subject to the inquiry.

Councilmember Alexander withdrew his motion.

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to forward the answers to the questions that Council previously posed provided by Councilmember Schlecte to the Attorney General's Office with a cover letter from the City Attorney requesting a formal investigation into the current ethics matter before Council of Councilmember Schlecte and Councilmember Alexander. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Bunnell, and Forgrave (5). Nays: none. Abstain: Councilmember Alexander and Schlecte (2). Motion carried.

B. Consideration of a motion to direct the City Manager to create a Councilmember orientation/review packet for review at the first meeting of each calendar year including the Ethics Ordinance, Conflict of Interest Declarations, and Disclosures pursuant to Section 2-556(L) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to direct the City Manager to create a Councilmember orientation/review packet for review at the first meeting of each calendar year including the Ethics Ordinance, Conflict of Interest Declarations, and Disclosures pursuant to Section 2-556(l) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances.

Councilmember Schlecte amended the motion to make a task force that comes back with recommendations and ask that the Mayor, City Manager, and City Attorney determine who is on the task force. Councilmember Schlecte then rescinded her motion and requested that the item be placed on the January 12, 2021 agenda for discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, and Councilmember Alexander all offered comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business being offered, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Dancy. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Dobies adjourned the meeting at 9:17 p.m.



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 12, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

The Jackson City Council met in regular session virtually, in accordance with State and Federal guidelines designed to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Derek J. Dobies.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION:

The Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was given by Third Ward City Councilmember Jeromy Alexander.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Derek J. Dobies, Vice Mayor Arlene Robinson, Councilmembers Freddie Dancy, Jeromy Alexander, Laura Dwyer Schlecte, Karen Bunnell, and Will Forgrave.

Absent: none.

Also present: City Manager Jonathan Greene, City Clerk Andrea Muray, City Assessor Jason Yoakam, City Attorney Matthew Hagerty, Director of Neighborhood and Economic Operations Shane LaPorte, City Engineer Jon Dowling, Director of Police and Fire Services Elmer Hitt, Director of Parks and Recreation Kelli Hoover, Director of Finance Phil Hones, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion John Willis, and Public Information Office Aaron Dimick.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to adopt the agenda as presented. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS: none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: none.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Citizen comments were read into the record by City Clerk Andrea Muray.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:

- A. Accept and place on file the CDBG, HOME and CDBG-CV Homeless Prevention Financial Summaries through November 30, 2020**
- B. Meeting minutes of the December 2020 meeting of the City of Jackson Board of Review**
- C. City of Jackson Financial Statements as of and for the 5 months ended November 30, 2020**

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to accept Items 8A, 8B, and 8C and place on file. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 2020**
Approve the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of December 8, 2020
- B. Traffic Control Order 2300 - 100 Block of N. Higby Street - Michigan Ave to Williamson Street**
Approve TCO 2300 to install three "No Parking Any Time" signs on the east side of the 100 block of N. Higby St. from Michigan Ave to Williamson St.
- C. Special Event Application - 2021 Right to Life Motorcade**
Approve a request from Jackson Right to Life to conduct the 2021 Right to Life Motorcade on Friday, January 22, 2021 on the streets of Jackson
- D. Corrective Resolution for Special Assessment Roll No. 4297**
Approve the Corrective Resolution for Special Assessment Roll No. 4297 for delinquent Miscellaneous General Fund (101) Accounts Receivable initially confirmed on December 8, 2020
- E. Building Code Board of Appeals Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Mark Fish as the Building Official representative to the Building Code Board of Appeals for a three year term ending 12/31/2023

- F. Human Relations Commission Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Karyl Baker to the Human Relations Commission for a three year term ending 12/31/2023
- G. Human Relations Commission Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Maurice Imhoff to the Human Relations Commission for a three year term ending 12/31/2023
- H. Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Daniel Mahoney to the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority for a four year term ending 12/31/2024
- I. Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint James Johnson to the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority for a two year term ending 12/31/2022
- J. Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Myeshia Jones to the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority for a three year term ending 12/31/2023
- K. Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Tanya DeOliveira to the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority for a four year term ending 12/31/2024
- L. Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Arlene Robinson to the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority for a three year term ending 12/31/2023
- M. Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Mindy Bradish-Orta to the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority for a three year term ending 12/31/2023.
- N. Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Anthony Parker to the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority for a four year term ending 12/31/2024
- O. Racial Equity Commission Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Daniel Mahoney to the Racial Equity Commission for a three year term ending 12/31/2023

- P. Racial Equity Commission Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Kesha Hamilton to the Racial Equity Commission for a two year term ending 12/31/2022
- Q. Racial Equity Commission Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Freddie Dancy to the Racial Equity Commission for a two year term ending 12/31/2022
- R. Racial Equity Commission Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Donita Bentley to the Racial Equity Commission for a one year term ending 12/31/2021
- S. Racial Equity Commission Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Daveda Quinn to the Racial Equity Commission as the NAACP ex-officio member for a three year term ending 12/31/2023
- T. Planning Commission Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint James Johnson to the Planning Commission for a three year term ending 12/31/2022 filling a vacancy created in 2019
- U. Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment**
Approve the recommendation from the Mayor to appoint Karl Grieve to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three year term ending 12/31/2023

Motion was made by Mayor Dobies, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve the consent calendar as presented with a contingency that all the appointments rectify any unresolved issues with the City Treasurer's Office within 30 days. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Approve the sale of City owned property located at 723 Elmwood Ave.**
Recommendation: *Approve the sale of City owned property located at 723 Elmwood Ave., for \$129,900 to Michael Wilson and authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the Property Transfer.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the sale of City owned property located at 723 Elmwood Ave. for \$129,900 to Michael Wilson and authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the property transfer. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

- B. Balancing Change Order 1 to the 2020 Elmdale Drive Sewer Construction contract with C & D Hughes, Inc.**
Recommendation: *Approve Balancing Change Order 1 to the 2020 Elmdale Drive Sewer Construction contract with C & D Hughes, Inc. in the increased amount of \$3,907.21 to balance contract quantities for various items that are complete to match quantities placed in the field, and authorize the City Manager and City Engineer to execute the appropriate document.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve Balancing Change Order 2 to the 2020 Elmdale Drive Sewer Construction contract with C & D Hughes, Inc., in the increased amount of \$3,907.21 to balance contract quantities for various items that are complete to match quantities placed in the field, and authorize the City Manager and City Engineer to execute the appropriate document. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

- C. Sale of Locomotive No. 5030 currently at R.A. Greene Park (Wastewater Treatment Plant)**
Recommendation: *Approve a Purchase Agreement between the City of Jackson and Colebrookdale Railroad Preservation Trust for the Sale of Grand Trunk Western Steam Locomotive No. 5030, and Authorize the City Attorney to make minor modifications if needed.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte to table the item and go out for Request for Proposals.

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded for discussion by Mayor Dobies to approve the purchase agreement between the City of Jackson and Colebrookdale Railroad Preservation Trust for the sale of

Grand Trunk Western Steam Locomotive No. 5030, and authorize the City Attorney to make minor modifications if needed.

An amended motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Mayor Dobies to approve the purchase agreement with the contingency that there no addition costs to the City other than the support of staff.

Councilmember Schlecte withdrew her original motion.

Vote was taken on the amended motion. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Bunnell, and Forgrave (6). Nays: Councilmember Schlecte (1). Motion carried.

D. Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution as of June 30, 2020 for the Special Assessment Capital Project Fund

Recommendation: *Approval of the Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution as of June 30, 2020 for the Special Assessment Capital Project Fund*

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to approve the Deficit Elimination Plan Resolution as of June 30, 2020 for the Special Assessment Capital Project Fund. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

E. Ethics Ordinance and Policies

Recommendation: *Consideration of a motion to direct the City Manager to create a Councilmember orientation/review packet for review at the first meeting of each calendar year including the Ethics Ordinance, Conflict of Interest Declarations, and Disclosures pursuant to Section 2-556(L) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Alexander to direct the City Manager to create a Councilmember orientation/review packet for review at the first meeting of each calendar year including the Ethics Ordinance, Conflict of Interest Declarations, and Disclosures pursuant to Section 2-556(L) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances.

Councilmember Bunnell withdrew her motion.

A motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Robinson to direct the City Manager to create a task force to review the current Ethics Ordinance and make any recommended changes along with the develop forms, policies, and a process for impartial investigation, and present those recommendations to City Council for their

consideration. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

- F. PILOT Ordinance and associated development agreement for Woodland Hills MI Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership**
Recommendation: *Approve adoption and forward to second reading an ordinance granting a "PILOT" payment in lieu of taxes exemption to Woodland Hills MI Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership, and associated development agreement. Authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make minor adjustments to the Development Agreement*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to approve and forward to a second reading an ordinance granting a "PILOT" payment in lieu of taxes exemption to Woodland Hills MI Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership, and associated development agreement, and authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make minor adjustment to the development agreement. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

- G. Contract Award for Street Reconstruction on Clinton Street and Louis Glick Highway to Bailey Excavating, Inc. of Jackson, Michigan**
Recommendation: *Approve an award of the contract for the Street Reconstruction project for Clinton Street and Louis Glick Highway to Bailey Excavating, Inc. of Jackson, Michigan at a cost of \$451,553.22, and authorization for the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate document(s) in accordance with the Purchasing Agent, and authorization for the City Attorney to make minor revisions if needed.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the award of the contract for the street reconstruction project for Clinton Street and Louis Glick Highway to Bailey Excavating, Inc. of Jackson, MI, at a cost of \$451,553.22, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate document(s) in accordance with the Purchasing Agent, and authorize the City Attorney to make minor revisions if needed. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

CITY COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS:

Mayor Dobies, Vice Mayor Robinson, and Councilmembers Dancy, Alexander, Schlecte, and Bunnell all offered comments. Councilmember Forgrave declined.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

City Manager Jonathan Greene offered comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business being offered, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Dancy and was seconded by Councilmember Alexander. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Dobies adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.