



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 9, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Jackson City Council met in regular session in Council Chambers and was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Daniel Mahoney.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION:**

Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was given by Sixth Ward Councilmember Will Forgrave.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Daniel Mahoney, Vice Mayor/First Ward Councilmember Arlene Robinson, Second Ward Councilmember Freddie Dancy, Third Ward Councilmember Angelita Gunn, Fourth Ward Councilmember Laura Dwyer Schlecte, Fifth Ward Councilmember Karen Bunnell, and Sixth Ward Councilmember Will Forgrave.

Absent: none.

Also present: City Manager Jonathan Greene, City Attorney Matthew Hagerty, City Clerk Andrea Muray, City Assessor Jason Yoakam, Director of Parks and Recreation Kelli Hoover, Chief Equity Officer John Willis, Director of Police and Fire Services Elmer Hitt, Director of Community Development Shane LaPorte, Director of Finance Heather Ehnis, and City Engineer Jon Dowling.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

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

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:** none.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**6.1 FY 2023-2024 Proposed Budget**

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to open the public hearing on the City's fiscal year 2023/24 proposed budget. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

John Wilson, John King, Peter Bormuth, and Maurice Imhoff spoke during the public hearing.

Motion was made by Councilmember Gunn, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to close the public hearing. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Citizen comments were heard and the meeting continued.

**PETITIONS & COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:**

**8.1 Environmental Commission Minutes for 3/15/23**

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to accept and place on file the Environmental Commission minutes for March 15, 2023. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**9.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 25, 2023**

*Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Jackson City Council on April 25, 2023.*

**9.2 Minutes of the Special Meeting on May 2, 2023**

*Approve the minutes of the special meeting of the Jackson City Council on May 2, 2023*

- 9.3 Reappointment to the Environmental Commission**  
*Approve the Mayor's recommendation to reappoint Kelli Kazmier to the Environmental Commission for a term of 3 years, beginning May 30, 2023 and ending on May 29, 2026.*
- 9.4 Special Event Application for the Jackson Civil War Muster**  
*Approve a request from the Jackson Civil War Society to host their Civil War Muster on August 26 & 27, 2023, in/around the Sparks Foundation ("Cascades") Park.*
- 9.5 Special Event Application for the Jackson High School Graduation Ceremony**  
*Approve a request from Jackson High School to host their Graduation Ceremony on Friday, May 26, 2023 and use road closures on Wildwood Avenue near Jackson High School.*
- 9.6 Special Event Application for the Encounter Church Go Skate Day**  
*Approve a request from the Encounter Church to host their Go Skate Day June 21, 2023 at Nixon Skate Park in the City of Jackson.*
- 9.7 Special Event Application for the annual Cascades 4th of July Fireworks celebration**  
*Approve a request from the Jackson County Parks Department to conduct their annual 4th of July Fireworks celebration on Monday, July 3, 2023 at the Sparks Foundation County Park.*
- 9.8 Special Event Application for the annual Cascades Labor Day Fireworks celebration**  
*Approve a request from the Jackson County Parks Department to conduct their annual Labor Day Fireworks celebration on Saturday, September 2, 2023, at the Sparks Foundation County Park.*
- 9.9 Special Event Application: Jackson County Office of the Sheriff Open House**  
*Approve a request from the Jackson County Office of the Sheriff to host their Open House on June 4, 2023, in their garage and parking area at 212 W. Wesley St. in Jackson.*
- 9.10 Special Event Application for the annual Cascades Memorial Day Fireworks celebration**  
*Approve a request from the Jackson County Parks Department to conduct their annual Memorial Day Fireworks celebration on Saturday, May 27, 2023 at the Sparks Foundation County Park.*

**9.11 Special Event Application for the Amen 4 Youth, LLC Southside Summerfest Events**

*Approve a request from Amen for Youth, LLC to host their Southside Summerfest Events on May 27, June 10, July 8, and August 12 in Elnora Moorman Plaza and on Milwaukee Street in Jackson.*

**9.12 Special Event Application: Around the Park for Autism**

*Approve a request from the Jackson Autism Support Network to host "Around the Park for Autism" on May 13, 2023, in and around Sparks Foundation Park.*

**9.13 Special Event Application for the Jackson County Veteran's Council Memorial Day Procession and Ceremony**

*Approve a request from the Jackson County Veteran's Council to conduct their Memorial Day Procession and Ceremony on Monday, May 29, 2023, on the streets of downtown Jackson.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the consent calendar. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**10.1 Final Report - Winter Sheltering of the Unhoused**

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to accept the final report for winter sheltering of the unhoused. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**11.1 Dodge Durango Purchase for Police Department**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the purchase of a Dodge Durango through the John Jones Automotive Group for \$45,925 for use as a patrol vehicle.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve the purchase of a Dodge Durango for \$45,925 for use as a patrol vehicle. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Bunnell (6). Nays: Councilmember Forgrave (1). Motion carried.

### **11.2 City of Jackson's Right of First Refusal**

**Recommendation:** *Approve a resolution to decline exercising the City of Jackson's right of first refusal under PA 123 of 1999, for 35 properties identified in Exhibit A of the attached resolution.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Gunn, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the City of Jackson's Right of First Refusal. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

### **11.3 Change Order 2 to the Martin Luther King Equality Trail Lighting Contract with Cochran Electric Company.**

**Recommendation:** *Approve Change Order 2 to the Martin Luther King Equality Trail Lighting Improvements contract with Cochran Electric Company in the increased amount of \$5,513.18, to compensate for extra work for an electrical service relocation and authorize the City Manager and City Engineer to execute the appropriate document.*

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Robinson, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve Change Order 2 to the Martin Luther King Equality Trail Lighting Contract with Cochran Electric Company in the amount of \$5,513.18. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

### **11.4 Change to the Standard Lighting Contract for Streetlights with Consumers Energy.**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the Resolution for Change to the Standard Lighting Contract with Consumers Energy for one new streetlight across from 1308 Williams Street and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve the resolution for changes to the standard lighting contract with Consumers Energy for one new streetlight across from 1308 Williams Street and authorize the Mayor and City clerk to execute the appropriate documents. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

### **11.5 Amendment 1 to the 23-002 Major Street Engineering Contract.**

**Recommendation:** *Approval of Amendment 1 to the 23-002 Major Street Engineering contract with Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. (HRC) of Bloomfield Hills, MI, at a not-to-exceed cost of \$80,700.00, and authorization for the City Manager and City Engineer to sign the appropriate document.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve Amendment 1 to the 23-002 Major Street Engineering Contract. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**11.6 Resolution for Approval of a Contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation.**

**Recommendation:** *Approve a resolution to enter into a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for safety improvements at trail crossings on several streets, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve a resolution for approval of a contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**11.7 2023-2024 CDBG / HOME Annual Action Plan Submission**

**Recommendation:** *Approve submission of the 2023-2024 CDBG / HOME Annual Action Plan, adopt the Resolution of Certifications, and authorize the Mayor to sign SF-424 forms, the Certifications, and any other documentation required for submittal of the Annual Action Plan to HUD.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the 2023-2024 CDBG/HOME Annual Action Plan Submission. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**11.8 Sale of City owned property - 404 Homewild Avenue**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the sale of City owned property located at 404 Homewild Ave, to Everhomes Investments, LP for \$8,000. Authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the Property Transfer and to make minor modifications.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve the sale of City owned property located at 404 Homewild for \$8,000 to Everhomes Investments. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**11.9 Sale of City owned property - 1034 Williams Street**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the sale of City owned property located at 1034 Williams Street to Dandrielle Williams for \$7,000. Authorize the City Manager to sign all sale documents associated with the Property Transfer and to make minor modifications.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the sale of City owned property located at 1034 Williams Street for \$7,000 to Dandrielle Williams. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**11.10 Reallocation of Program Income to CDBG Administration.**

**Recommendation:** *Approve the resolution to amend the CDBG budgets for fiscal years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 to budget excess program income received in fiscal year 2021/2022 to the fiscal year 2022/2023 General and Rehabilitation Administration Activities.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve the reallocation of program income to CDBG administration. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**11.11 Ella Sharp Park Miniature Golf Course Fountain Upgrade Project Contract.**

**Recommendation:** *Award the Ella Sharp Park Miniature Golf Course Fountain Upgrade Project Contract to Wilcox Lawn and Landscaping Inc. of Clarklake, Michigan in the amount of \$120,953.90.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to award the Ella Sharp Park Miniature Golf Course Fountain Upgrade Project Contract to Wilcox Lawn and Landscaping of Clarklake, Michigan in the amount of \$120,953.90. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, and Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave all offered comments.

**MANAGER'S COMMENTS:**

City Manager Jonathan Greene declined to offer comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business being offered, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Dancy. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Mahoney adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.