



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 26, 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, Chief Equity Officer John Willis, Director of Police and Fire Services Elmer Hitt, Director of Public Works Mike Osborne, Deputy Fire Chief Tim Gonzales, City Engineer Jon Dowling, and Grant Administrator Cory Mays.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to adopt the agenda with the additions of 10.6 Extreme Ownership, 10.7 Optimist Park, 10.8 Special Assessments, and 10.9 Rooming House Fees. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

5.1 GovHr

Joellen Cademartori of GovHR presented a review of the City's wage study.

5.2 Proclamation - Karen Bunnell

Mayor Mahoney presented Councilmember Bunnell with a proclamation thanking her for her service.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

6.1 JAG Grant Fund

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to open the public hearing to received comments for the City's use of JAG grant funds. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Motion carried.

No comments were provided during the hearing.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to close the public hearing. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Motion carried.

6.2 CDBG/HOME Program Performance

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to receive citizen comment for CDBG and HOME Program performance. Vote was done by vote with all in favor. Motion carried.

John King, Vincent Wouters Jr., and Will Hastings provided comments during the hearing.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to close the public hearing. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Citizen comments were heard and the meeting continued.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATION FROM CITY STAFF AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:

8.1 MLCC Acknowledgement Letter - Tilted Arcade, LLC

Accept and place on file a letter from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission regarding the ownership transfer application submitted to the State from Tilted Arcade, LLC for a Class C License.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to accept and place on file a letter from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission regarding the ownership transfer application submitted to the State from Tilted Arcade, LLC for a Class C License. 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 of the September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting

Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 12, 2023.

9.2 Racial Equity Commission Resignation - Michael Johnson

9.3 Special Event Application: Art Walk

Approve a request from the Jackson Downtown Development Authority to host their Art Walk on Friday, October 6, 2023, from 4 pm – 7 pm in downtown Jackson.

9.4 Special Event Application: ETA: Emerging Technology in Art Festival

Approve a request from the Jackson Young Professionals to host their ETA: Emerging Technology in Art Festival on Friday, October 13, 2023, in the streets and parking lots of downtown Jackson.

9.5 Appointment to Jackson Housing Commission

Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Nicole Taylor as the resident representative to the Jackson Housing Commission for a term of 5 years, beginning immediately and ending on October 31, 2028.

9.6 Appointment to Jackson Housing Commission

Approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Bobby Beauchamp to the Jackson Housing Commission for a term of 5 years, beginning on November 1, 2023 and ending on October 31, 2028.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the consent calendar with one correction

that the ETA Festival is on October 14 and with item 9.1 removed for separate consideration. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of the City Council on September 12, 2023. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, and Bunnell (6). Nays: none. Abstain: Forgrave. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

10.1 Ordinance No. 515

Recommendation: *Approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 515 establishing the compensation rates for administrative and supervisory employees of the City of Jackson.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 515 establishing the compensation rates for administrative and supervisory employees of the City of Jackson. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

10.2 Ordinance No. 2023-06

Recommendation: *Approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-06 amending the hours of operations for Marihuana Provisioning Centers and Retail Establishments in the City of Jackson.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-06 amending the hours of operations for Marihuana Provisioning Centers and Retail Establishments in the City of Jackson. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: Councilmember Dancy (1). Motion carried.

10.3 Ordinance No. 2023-07

Recommendation: *Approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-07 amending Chapter 28, Article IX, Section 28-253 removing all language from the section as it pertains to revocable licenses for signs and/or awnings and amending permit and conditional use requirements for specific types of signs as recommended by the City of Jackson Planning Commission.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-07 amending Chapter 28, Article IX, Section 28-253 removing all language from the section as it pertains to revocable licenses for signs and/or awnings and amending permit and conditional use requirements for specific types of signs as recommended by the City of Jackson Planning Commission. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

10.4 Ordinance No. 2023-08

Recommendation: *Approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-08 amending Chapter 28, Article IX, Section 28-257 removing all language from the section as it pertains to revocable licenses for signs and/or awning in the right of way as recommended by the City of Jackson Planning Commission.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-08 amending Chapter 28, Article IX, Section 28-257 removing all language from the section as it pertains to revocable licenses for signs and/or awning in the right of way as recommended by the City of Jackson Planning Commission. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

10.5 Ordinance No. 2023-09

Recommendation: *Approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-09 repealing Chapter 28, Article V, Section 28-166 to conform to changes made in Ordinance Nos. 2023-07 and 2023-08.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve the second reading/final adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-09 repealing Chapter 28, Article V, Section 28-166 to conform to changes made in Ordinance Nos. 2023-07 and 2023-08. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

10.6 Extreme Ownership

A request was made by Councilmember Schlecte to have staff provide Council with a presentation at the next Council Meeting.

10.7 Optimist Park

10.8 Special Assessments

Councilmember Schlecte offered a recommendation that Council ask the City Assessor to bring back a couple of rolls that have already been done with a 12.5% of SEV, based on the frontage comparing category of street versus splitting it 50/50.

Councilmember Forgrave offered a recommendation to contact the City Assessor and then draft a law to present to the Council as a whole and then vote on it.

10.9 Rooming House Fees

A request was made by Councilmember Schlecte to have staff formally look at rooming house fees. Mayor Mahoney requested that Shane LaPorte come to the next Council meeting and provide a presentation on the current structure of rooming house fees

NEW BUSINESS:

11.1 Sale of City owned vacant lots

Recommendation: *Approve the sale of four City owned properties located at 652 Cooper Street and 316 E Trail Street (combined to one lot) and 654 and 656 Cooper Street (combined to one lot) to the Greater Jackson Habitat for Humanity for the purpose of building two new, single-family homes. Authorize the City Attorney to create the Property Transfer Agreement and any other authorized documents to complete the sale of the property; authorize the City Manager to sign Property Transfer and other related documents.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Bunnell to approve the sale of four City owned properties located at 652 Cooper Street and 316 E Trail Street (combined to one lot) and 654 and 656 Cooper Street (combined to one lot) to the Greater Jackson Habitat for Humanity for the purpose of building two new, single-family homes, authorize the City Attorney to create the Property Transfer Agreement and any other authorized documents to complete the sale of the property; authorize the City Manager to sign Property Transfer and other related documents. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

11.2 City of Jackson Downtown Sidewalks and Parking Lots, and Police Department Sidewalk and Parking Lot Snow Removal

Recommendation: *Approval of the second one-year contract extension with Executive Property Management of Michigan for Downtown Sidewalks and Parking Lot Snow Removal and Police Department Sidewalk and Parking Lot Snow Removal at a cost of \$90,352 for the fiscal year 2023/24.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to approve the second one-year contract extension with Executive Property Management of Michigan for Downtown Sidewalks and Parking Lot Snow Removal and Police Department Sidewalk and Parking Lot Snow Removal at a cost of \$90,352 for the fiscal year 2023/24. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

11.3 JAG Grant Memorandum of Understanding

Recommendation: *Authorize the City Manager to sign a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Jackson and Jackson County to jointly apply for and use \$51,526 in federal grant monies.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Schlecte to authorize the Memorandum of Agreement for the JAG Grant. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

11.4 2022 - 2023 CAPER Submission to HUD

Recommendation: *Authorize Submission of the 2022 - 2023 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to authorize the submission of the 2022 - 2023 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

11.5 60" Interceptor Cleaning and Televising Engineering Contract Award

Recommendation: *Approve the award for the 60" Interceptor Cleaning and Televising Engineering contract to Fishbeck of Lansing, Michigan in the amount of \$73,500.00 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate document(s) in accordance with the Purchasing Agent.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Forgrave, seconded by Councilmember Dancy to approve the award for the 60" Interceptor Cleaning and Televising Engineering contract to Fishbeck of Lansing, Michigan in the amount of \$73,500.00 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate document(s) in accordance with the Purchasing Agent. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

- 11.6 Revision of Sec. 4.4 of Chapter 4 (Animals) to the City Code of Ordinances**
Recommendation: *Approve for first reading an amendment to Section 4.4 of Chapter 4 of the City Code of Ordinances to change the word "poisonous" to "venomous" to better describe the prohibition on owning of certain reptiles within the City of Jackson.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to approve for first reading an amendment to Section 4.4 of Chapter 4 of the City Code of Ordinances to change the word "poisonous" to "venomous" to better describe the prohibition on owning of certain reptiles within the City of Jackson. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte to ask that the City Attorney address Section 4-4, paragraph D with regard to the total number of animals allowed and adding some words that refer to animal rescuers along with the definition of animal rescuer and bring it back to Council at the next meeting. Motion died from lack of support.

- 11.7 Revision to Sec. 14-42.1 of Chapter 14 (Housing)**
Recommendation: *Approve for first reading an amendment to Section 14-42.1 of Chapter 14 of the City Code, to include a provision confirming certificates of compliance are transferrable as between owners of a rental property, and authorize the City Attorney to make minor modifications.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the first reading an amendment to Section 14-42.1 of Chapter 14 of the City Code, to include a provision confirming certificates of compliance are transferrable as between owners of a rental property, and authorize the City Attorney to make minor modifications. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

11.8 Pierce Fire Engine Purchase

Recommendation: *Approve the purchase of a 2024 Pierce fire engine at a cost not to exceed \$850,000, where the funds would be obligated from the City's American Rescue Plan Act funds.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Bunnell, seconded by Councilmember Forgrave to approve the purchase of a 2024 Pierce fire engine at a cost not to exceed \$850,000, where the funds would be obligated from the City's American Rescue Plan Act funds. Vote - Yeas: Mayor Mahoney, Vice Mayor Robinson, Councilmembers Dancy, Gunn, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave (7). Nays: none. Motion carried.

11.9 Global M3 Mechanical Street Sweeper Purchase

Recommendation: *Approval of the purchase of one Global M3 Mechanical Street Sweeper, from MTECH Company, of Cleveland, Ohio at a cost of \$270,502, with \$149,797 to be funded by the City Local Recovery Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act and the remaining \$120,705 to be funded with Motor Pool funds. If excess funds remain after the final payments are made for previously approved Motor Pool equipment funded by City Local Recovery Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act those remaining funds will be utilized before using Motor Pool funds for the balance of the Street Sweeper purchase.*

Motion was made by Councilmember Schlecte, seconded by Councilmember Gunn to Approval of the purchase of one Global M3 Mechanical Street Sweeper, from MTECH Company, of Cleveland, Ohio at a cost of \$270,502, with \$149,797 to be funded by the City Local Recovery Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act and the remaining \$120,705 to be funded with Motor Pool funds; if excess funds remain after the final payments are made for previously approved Motor Pool equipment funded by City Local Recovery Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act those remaining funds will be utilized before using Motor Pool funds for the balance of the Street Sweeper purchase. 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, Councilmembers Dancy, Schlecte, Bunnell, and Forgrave all offered comments. Councilmember Gunn declined to offer comments.

Councilmember Schlecte requested that the amount spent on patching costs and the demolition numbers since January 2012 be provided at the next Council meeting.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

City Manager Jonathan Greene offered comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business being offered, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Dancy, seconded by Councilmember Gunn. Vote was done by voice with all in favor. Mayor Mahoney adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m.