

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
JASPER, ALABAMA, HELD FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

10:02 a.m. - The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 400 19th Street West, Jasper.

Present: Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short, Councilmembers Danny Gambrell, Gary Cowen, Jennifer W. Smith, Mayor David P. O'Mary, City Clerk/Administrator Kathy Chambless, Attorney Russ Robertson

Absent: Councilmember Willie Moore III

Invocation: Assistant Police Chief Paul Tucker

Pledge of Allegiance: Fire Chief Dante Fields

Approval of Minutes:

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen that the minutes of the regular meeting January 19, 2024, be approved.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Gambrell that the minutes of the special called meeting January 29, 2024, be approved.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Abstain
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Consider amendments to the agenda. There were no amendments.

Consider approval of the agenda.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith that the agenda be approved.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Consider approval of an event permit for Art in the Park requested by the Walker County Arts Alliance to be held at Gamble Park, May 11, 2024.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to approve an event permit for Art in the Park requested by the Walker County Arts Alliance to be held at Gamble Park, May 11, 2024.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Consider adoption of a Resolution to allow Mayor O'Mary to enter into an agreement with ALDOT for right-of-way mowing.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to adopt a Resolution to allow Mayor O'Mary to enter into an agreement with ALDOT for right-of-way mowing.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

(See following page)


RESOLUTION NO.: 2024 - 05

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Jasper, Alabama believes that the continued beautification of Al-69, Al-269, Al-118, and Al-5 which run through the city limits is vital to the city’s beautification program; and

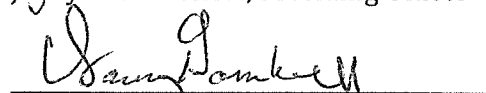
WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Jasper, Alabama feels that its beautification goals can be better achieved through control of the mowing along sections Al-69, Al-269, Al-118, and Al-5.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Jasper, Alabama, that Mayor David P. O’Mary is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Alabama Department of Transportation for cooperative maintenance of public right-of-way, as it relates to Al-69, Al-269, Al-118, and Al-5.


ADOPTED this the 6th day of February, 2024.



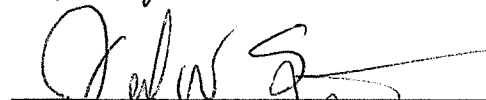
Jenny Brown Short, Presiding Officer



Danny Gambrell, Councilmember



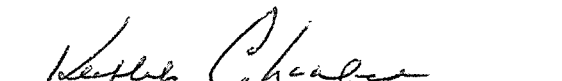
Gary Cowey, Councilmember



Jennifer W Smith, Councilmember

Willie Moore, III, Councilmember

ATTEST:



Kathy Chambless, City Clerk

Consider adoption of a Resolution to allow Mayor O'Mary to enter into an agreement with Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc. for installation of a Safe Haven Baby Box at a designated City of Jasper fire station.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to adopt a Resolution to allow Mayor O'Mary to enter into an agreement with Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc. for installation of a Safe Haven Baby Box at a designated City of Jasper fire station.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

(See following page)

RESOLUTION NO: 2024 - 06

WHEREAS, Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc., is a nonprofit educational organization that provides information and services related to child welfare, safe haven laws, initiation and implementation of newborn safety devices ("Safety Device"), and awareness related to preventing child abandonment; and

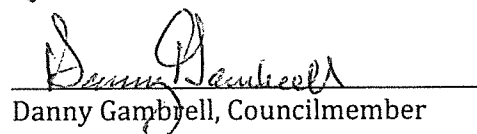
WHEREAS, the Jasper City Council desires to install a Safety Device on Provider's premises pursuant to the Safe Haven Laws; and

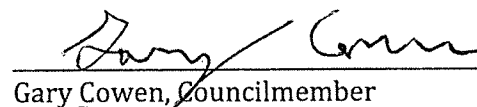
WHEREAS, Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc. is agreeable to placing a Safety Device to the Provider's premises and undertaking certain services in relation thereto.

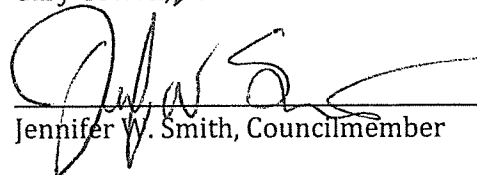
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor David P. O'Mary is authorized to enter into an agreement with Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc. to implement and install a newborn safety devices ("Safety Device") at a designated, approved City of Jasper fire station.

ADOPTED this the 6th day of February, 2024.


Jenny Brown Short, Presiding Officer

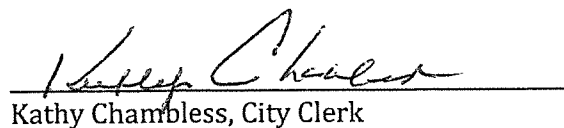

Danny Gambrell, Councilmember


Gary Cowen, Councilmember


Jennifer W. Smith, Councilmember

Willie Moore, III, Councilmember

ATTEST:


Kathy Chambless, City Clerk

Conduct a public hearing concerning economic development assistance and consider adoption of a Resolution to authorize Mayor O’Mary to execute the agreement to provide economic development assistance for Mar-Jac Poultry, AL, LLC. Following a public hearing during which no comments were made concerning the license, a motion was considered.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to adopt a Resolution to authorize Mayor O’Mary to execute the agreement to provide economic development assistance for Mar-Jac Poultry, AL, LLC.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

(See following pages)

RESOLUTION NO.: 2024 - 07

2/11

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JASPER, ALABAMA

This Resolution is made this 6th day of February, 2024 by the Jasper, Alabama City Council (the Granting Authority), to grant a tax abatement to Mar-Jac Poultry AL, LLC. (the Company).

WHEREAS, the Company has announced plans for a (check one): major addition to their existing facility (the Project), located within the jurisdiction of the Granting Authority; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Tax Incentive Reform Act of 1992 (Section 40-9B-1 et seq., *Code of Alabama 1975*) (the Act) the Company has requested from the Granting Authority an Abatement of (check all that apply): all construction related transaction taxes, except those local construction related transaction taxes levied for educational purposes or for capital improvements for education and;

WHEREAS, the Granting Authority has considered the request of the Company and the completed applications (copy attached) filed with the Granting Authority by the Company, in connection with its request; and

WHEREAS, the Granting Authority has found the information contained in the Company's application to be sufficient to permit the Granting Authority to make a reasonable cost/benefit analysis of the proposed project and to determine the economic benefits to the community; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the project will involve a capital investment of \$15,055,000; and

WHEREAS, the Company is duly qualified to do business in the State of Alabama, and has powers to enter into, and to perform and observe the agreements and covenants on its part contained in the Tax Abatement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Granting Authority represents and warrants to the Company that it has power under that constitution and laws of the State of Alabama (including particularly the provisions of the Act) to carry out the provisions of the Tax Abatement Agreement;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Granting Authority as follows:

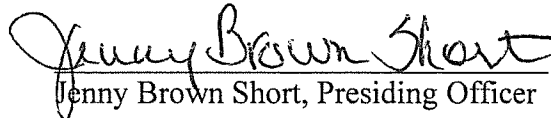
Section 1. Approval is hereby given to the application of the Company and abatement is hereby granted of (check all that apply): all construction related transaction taxes, except those local construction related transaction taxes levied for educational purposes or for capital improvements for education.

Section 2. The governing body of the Granting Authority is authorized to enter into an abatement agreement with the Company to provide for the abatement granted in Section 1.

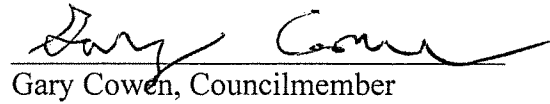
Section 3. A certified copy of this resolution, with the application and abatement agreement, shall be forwarded to the Company to deliver to the appropriate local taxing authorities (if applicable) and to the Alabama Department of Revenue in accordance with the Act.

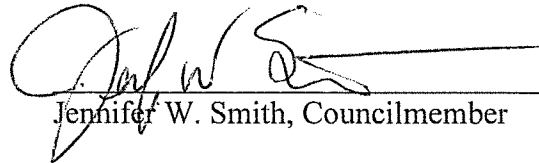
Section 4. The governing body of the Granting Authority is authorized to take any and all actions necessary or desirable to accomplish the purpose of the foregoing of this resolution.

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing was duly adopted by the Jasper, Alabama City Council at a meeting held on the 6th day of February, 2024.


Jenny Brown Short, Presiding Officer

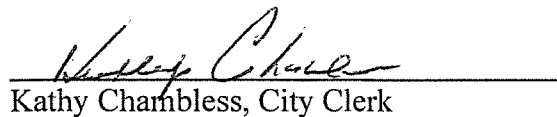

Danny Gambrell, Councilmember


Gary Cowen, Councilmember


Jennifer W. Smith, Councilmember

Willie Moore, III, Councilmember

ATTEST:


Kathy Chambless, City Clerk

Consider changing two (2) regular scheduled 2024 council meeting dates: from July 2 to July 9, and from September 3 to September 10.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to change two (2) regular scheduled 2024 council meeting dates: from July 2 to July 9, and from September 3 to September 10.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Consider adoption of Budget Amendment #2023/2024-05, by unanimous consent, to provide funds to purchase two (2) mowers for the Street Department.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith that the rules be suspended and unanimous consent be given for immediate consideration of and action on said budget amendment.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to adopt Budget Amendment #2023/2024-05.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

Introduce an Ordinance levying ad valorem taxes. The Ordinance was introduced by the City Clerk and will be considered at the next council meeting.

Comments: Mayor thanked the council for their approval of Mar-Jac’s economic development assistance request, and for supporting existing industry. Mar-Jac has made a \$60 million dollar investment in their Jasper operation with two recent major additions to their existing facility.

Dorma Green addressed the council to voice her opposition of medical cannabis in Jasper.

Susan Stephens addressed the council to voice her opposition of medical cannabis in Jasper.

Consider adjournment of the meeting.

Motion

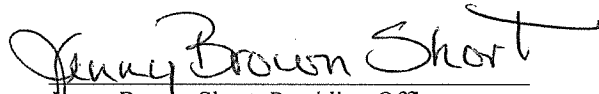
Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to adjourn the meeting.

Vote

Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Jenny Brown Short	Yes

10:28 a.m. – Meeting adjourned.

A P P R O V E D:


Jenny Brown Short, Presiding Officer

A T T E S T:


Kathy Chambless, City Clerk/Administrator