

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
JASPER, ALABAMA, HELD MAY 17, 2022**

10:00 a.m. - The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Gary Cowen in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 400 19th Street West, Jasper.

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

Absent: Councilmembers Jenny Brown Short and Willie Moore, III

Invocation: City Planner Keith Pike

Pledge of Allegiance: Fire Chief Dante Fields

Approval of Minutes:

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Gambrell that the minutes of the regular meeting held May 3, 2022, be approved.

Vote

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

Consider amendments to the agenda. There were no amendments to the agenda.

Consider approval of the agenda.

Motion

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

Vote

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

Consider approval of event permits for 1) Pre-Graduation Celebration for World System Builders, May 21, 2022, at Memorial Park, and 2) Fourth of July Graduation Party for Hill’s Heavenly Sweets, July 4, 2022, 26th Block of Euclid Avenue.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Gambrell, seconded by Councilmember Smith to approve event permits for Pre-Graduation Celebration for World System Builders, May 21, 2022, at Memorial Park, and the Fourth of July Graduation Party for Hill’s Heavenly Sweets, July 4, 2022, 26th Block of Euclid Avenue.

Vote

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

Consider a request for permission to send out bids for an Emergency Light Package and receive a report on tires, tubes, and services.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to approve sending out bids for an Emergency Light Package and to allow the Purchasing Agent to bring back a recommendation for tires, tubes, and services at the next council meeting.

Vote

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

Consider adoption of Budget Amendment #2021/2022-08.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Gambrell, seconded by Councilmember Smith to adopt Budget Amendment #2021/2022-08.

Vote

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

Introduce Budget Amendment #2021/2022-09. The budget amendment was introduced by the City Clerk and will be considered at the next council meeting.

Consider adoption of a Resolution to authorize Mayor O’Mary to enter into an agreement with Bureau of Justice Assistance/Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. for federal grant funding in the amount of \$96,000 for body cameras for Jasper Police Department.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to authorize Mayor O’Mary to enter into an agreement with Bureau of Justice Assistance/Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. for federal grant funding in the amount of \$96,000 for body cameras for Jasper Police Department.

Vote

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

Consider adoption of a Resolution to authorize Mayor O’Mary to enter into an agreement to hire a pay consultant to begin a study related to employee position/grade analysis.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to authorize Mayor O’Mary to enter into an agreement to hire a pay consultant to begin a study related to employee position/grade analysis.

Vote

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

Consider adoption of a Resolution for Nuisance Abatement of an unsafe structure.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to adopt a Resolution for Nuisance Abatement of an unsafe structure.

Vote

Councilmember Jenny Brown Short	Absent
Councilmember Danny Gambrell	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes

Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Absent
Presiding Officer Gary Cowen	Yes

Consider adoption of a Resolution for Nuisance Abatement of grass/weeds.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Gambrell to adopt a Resolution for Nuisance Abatement of grass/weeds.

Vote

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

Introduce an Ordinance annexing a parcel of land located at 3266 North Walston Bridge Road. The Ordinance was introduced by the City Planner and will be considered at the next council meeting.

Introduce an Ordinance rezoning a 6.5 acre +- parcel(s) of land located at and near 1304 Old Birmingham Highway from the R-2 (Single Family Residential) Zoning District to the AG (Agricultural) Zoning District for the purpose of placing an accessory manufactured home. The Ordinance was introduced by the City Planner and will be considered at the next council meeting.

Introduce an Ordinance rezoning a 30 acre +- parcel of land located at and near 2760 Highway 195 from the R-1 (Single Family Residential) Zoning District to the R-4C (Urban Dwelling Conditional) Zoning District for the purpose of developing a single-family residential subdivision. The condition being placed on the property is that only single-family residences will be constructed. The Ordinance was introduced by the City Planner and will be considered at the next council meeting.

Introduce an Ordinance amending Sec.112 (B) of the Jasper Zoning Ordinance concerning district dimensional regulations. The Ordinance was introduced by the City Planner and will be considered at the next council meeting.

Comments:

Mayor O'Mary recognized City Planner Keith Pike's 31 years of faithful and honorable service to the City of Jasper and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Councilmember Smith commented on the importance of attracting and retaining employees and her desire to explore the use of ARP funds. She announced that there is a free Eagles tribute concert at Bankhead House this Saturday night.

Public comment was given by Justin Vinson, Donny Naramore, Brittany Vinson, Alan Earnest, Justin Harbin, and David Lockhart who expressed their concerns over firefighter pay and staffing.

Fire Chief Dante Fields briefly addressed the council about holiday pay and vacation scheduling.

Public comment was given by Vivian O’Neal with World System Builder. She announced that workshops on financial literacy are every Tuesday from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm at the Jasper Civic Center.

Consider adjournment of the meeting.

Motion

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

Vote

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

10:44 a.m. – Meeting adjourned.

A P P R O V E D:

Gary Cowen, Presiding Officer

A T T E S T:

Kathy Chambless, City Clerk/Administrator