

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026
JACKSONVILLE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
315 S. RAGSDALE
6:00 PM**

[IGNORE_INDENT]

Meeting Items

5:15 PM CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM-PER OPEN MEETINGS ACT-PER TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION:

551.071 CONSULT CITY ATTORNEY - CITY OF JACKSONVILLE V. BERRY AND CLAY, INC. ET AL

551.072 REAL PROPERTY

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE US & TEXAS FLAGS

SPECIAL PRESENTATION –

JEDCO PRESENTATION OF THE BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

JEDCO PRESENTATION OF THE JACKSONVILLE ISD CTE STUDENT OF THE MONTH

RECOGNITION OF JISD HONOR SOCIETY STUDENTS COMMUNITY SERVICE AT CITY CEMETERIES

PRESENTATION BY TPCA - ACCREDITATION REPORT

PRESENTATION BY POLICE CHIEF STEVEN MARKASKY - RACIAL PROFILING

5:15 PM

**Absent from Executive Session: Councilman Rob Gowin
Adjourned Executive Session at 6:04 PM**

6:05 PM

Absent from Council Meeting: Councilman Rob Gowin

Reverend Paul Smith, Pastor of Life Recovery Church

Jacksonville Economic Development Corporation recognized Gary Tipton for 26 years of service to the Jacksonville community and for his contributions to local economic development.

The student selected for the Career and Technical Education Student of the Month was unable to attend. The presentation will be postponed to the following month.

Dr. Deborah Burkett of the Cherokee County Historical Commission presented information regarding a cemetery preservation project conducted by Jacksonville ISD National Honor Society students Kate Peacock and Amber Thibodeaux.

The students performed gravestone cleaning at the Old City Cemetery using historically approved cleaning methods recommended by the Texas Historical Commission and Arlington National Cemetery.

The project included research into local history, including gravesites of notable individuals such as Jacksonville founder Jackson Smith and historical residents of the community. Dr. Burkett commended the students for their dedication and educational interest in local history.

Chief Chad Taylor of the Henderson Police Department presented the Jacksonville Police Department with its third accreditation through the Texas Police Chiefs Association (TPCA).

The accreditation program requires compliance with more than 170 professional policing standards, including policies related to use of force, civil rights protections, training, investigative procedures, and operational practices.

Chief Taylor noted that only 227 of approximately 2,800 law enforcement agencies in Texas currently maintain this accreditation.

Jacksonville Police Department was recognized for maintaining high professional standards and continued commitment to best practices in Texas law enforcement.

Police Chief Steven Markasky presented the 2025 Racial Profiling Analysis Report as required by the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

Key data presented:

- **Total traffic stops (2025): 11,667**
- **Driver's license data for ZIP Code 75766: 27,896 licensed drivers**

Demographic breakdown of stops:

- **White drivers: 50%**
- **Black drivers: 21.1%**
- **Hispanic drivers: 27.7%**
- **Other racial groups combined: 1.1%**

Searches were conducted in 6.9% of all traffic stops, with lower percentages distributed among each demographic category.

Chief Markasky reported that based on supervisory review, statistical comparison, training standards, and the absence of sustained complaints, there is no evidence that the Jacksonville Police Department engages in bias-based policing practices.

The department will continue annual monitoring and reporting.

None

Mayor Pro tem Tim McRae made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items. Second by Councilwoman Letitia Horace.

All voted "Aye."

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

CONSENT AGENDA - ITEMS UNDER CONSENT AGENDA REQUIRE LITTLE OR NO DELIBERATIONS BY COUNCIL. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AUTHORIZES THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEES TO PROCEED WITH CONCLUSION OF EACH ITEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH STAFF RECOMMENDATION

MINUTES APPROVAL - FEBRUARY 5, 2026 AGENDA WORKSHOP, FEBRUARY 10, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH CHEROKEE COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE FOR THE RENTAL OF ELECTION EQUIPMENT FOR THE MAY 2, 2026, MUNICIPAL SPECIAL ELECTION

APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION WORKERS FOR THE MAY 2, 2026, MUNICIPAL ELECTION

APPROVE A STREET CLOSURE FROM 5 PM ON FRIDAY, JUNE 12, UNTIL SATURDAY, JUNE 13, FOR THE 42ND ANNUAL TOMATO FEST

APPROVE A CERTIFICATION OF UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES AND AN ORDINANCE CANCELING THE MAY 2, 2026, FOR MAYOR AND DISTRICT 3 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

ANY ACTION OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION IF NECESSARY

None

A) PRESENTATION OF THE 2024-2025 FINANCIAL AUDIT BY PATILLO, BROWN AND HILL

B) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE FINDINGS OF THE 2024-2025 FINANCIAL AUDIT

Paula Lowe of Patillo, Brown & Hill presented the annual financial audit.

The audit resulted in an unmodified opinion, the highest level of assurance issued by independent auditors.

Key highlights:

- General Fund Balance: approximately \$5 million
- Fund balance represents roughly four months of operating expenses
- Water and Wastewater Fund reported as financially stable.

Action on Audit Findings

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae. Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock.

All voted "Aye."

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION TO AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT, BASED ON THE ENGINEER'S RECOMMENDATION, TO PERFORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE'S TDA GRANT #CDV23-0193

Council considered awarding a construction contract for sewer improvements associated with TDA Grant CDV23-0193.

The project includes sewer line replacement in Nichols Green Park and a section of Sycamore Street. Eight bids were received ranging from \$417,000 to \$678,000.

Engineering consultants Stokes & Associates recommended awarding the contract to Dynasty Development for \$417,000, the lowest responsible bid.

The project includes \$500,000 in grant funding with a 15% city match.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock. Second by Mayor Pro tem Tim McRae.

All voted "Aye."

CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION CREATION OF A

Council considered creation of the Jacksonville Infill

NEW MATCHING JEDCO GRANT PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE INFILL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Workforce Housing Program, a JEDCO grant program designed to encourage construction of new homes within existing neighborhoods.

Program details:

- \$10,000 matching grant for construction of a new single-family home
- Home must be constructed on an existing residential lot
- Home sale price limited to \$250,000 or less to maintain affordability
- Program intended to stimulate housing supply within established neighborhoods.

Council members expressed support for the program and commended JEDCO for the initiative.

Motion by Councilwoman Letitia Horace. Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock.

All voted "Aye."

CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION AN AMENDMENT TO THE HEALTH INSURANCE ORDINANCE 1363

City Manager James Hubbard presented a proposed amendment to the city's health insurance ordinance. Employees hired before October 1, 2009 will continue receiving employer-paid retiree health coverage eligibility. Employees hired after October 1, 2009 will retain employee-paid retiree coverage eligibility. Employees hired on or after April 1, 2026 will no longer be eligible for retiree health insurance through the city. The amendment does not affect current employees and is intended to address rising healthcare costs.

Motion by Mayor Pro tem Tim McRae. Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock.

All voted "Aye."

DISCUSS AND AWARD CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK SERVICES AGREEMENT

Council considered awarding a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) contract for renovations at the Public Safety Complex located at 911 South Bolton Street.

Staff recommended Watson Commercial Construction of Tyler, Texas with a proposed fee of 9.77%.

Motion by Councilwoman Letitia Horace. Second by Mayor Pro tem Tim McRae.

All voted "Aye."

DISCUSS AND AWARD HEALTH BENEFITS ADMINISTRATOR

This item was stricken from the agenda.

A) PUBLIC HEARING: TO HEAR AND RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING A REQUESTED SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW FOR AN EVENT CENTER LOCATED AT 536 NORTH JACKSON STREET, PROPERTY ID #221721000.

Mayor Gorham opened the public hearing for 536 North Jackson Street.

Mike Wilcox, property owner, spoke in support of the permit.

No other speakers addressed the council.

The public hearing was closed.

Planning & Zoning recommended approval with conditions:

- Maximum occupancy: 125 persons
- Indoor amplified music only
- Closing hours:
 - 10:00 PM Sunday–Thursday
 - 12:00 AM Friday–Saturday
- 180-day review period

Motion by Mayor Pro tem Tim McRae. Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock.

All voted "Aye."

REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A REPLAT OF LAKESHORE DRIVE SUBDIVISION, BLOCK B, LOTS 3R AND 4R.

Council considered approval of a minor boundary line adjustment for:

Lakeshore Drive Subdivision – Block B, Lots 3R and 4R

The adjustment shifts the boundary approximately 10 feet to address a boathouse setback issue.

Both property owners supported the change.

Motion by Councilwoman Letitia Horace. Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock.

All voted "Aye."

OPEN FORUM FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL

None

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager James Hubbard announced several upcoming community events:

- Jacksonville BBQ Cook-Off – April 11, Hazel Tilton Park hosted by the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association.
- Spring Concert Series – April 17 through May 22 in Hazel Tilton Park.
- City Cleanup Day – April 11 at the John Alexander facility for disposal of bulk items, scrap metal, tires, batteries, and motor oil for residents.

The events are supported by community sponsors including Christus Health, Schaumburg & Polk Engineering, and Republic Services.

ADJOURN

6:56 PM

Randy Gorham, Mayor
City of Jacksonville

Dianah Surber, City Clerk

CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION A RESOLUTION
DELAYING THE CENTERPOINT GRIP RATE
INCREASE 45 DAYS

Council considered a resolution to delay the CenterPoint Energy rate increase for 45 days to allow additional review. Motion by Mayor Pro tem Tim McRae. Second by Councilwoman Letitia Horace. All voted "Aye."