JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024
JACKSONVILLE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
315 S. RAGSDALE
6:00 PM

Meeting Items

5:15 PM CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM-PER OPEN MEETINGS ACT-PER TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION:	**Present: Mayor Randy Gorham, Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae, Councilwoman Mindy Gellock, Councilwoman Letitia Horace** **Absent: Councilman Rob Gowin** **Meeting called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Mayor Randy Gorham.** **City Council immediately went into executive session at 5:15 p.m.** **The executive session adjourned at 6:01 p.m.**
551.074 PERSONNEL MATTERS - CITY CLERK	
551.087 DELIBERATIONS REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS	
CALL TO ORDER	**City Council meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Mayor Randy Gorham** **Present: Mayor Randy Gorham, Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae, Councilwoman Mindy Gellock, Councilwoman Letitia Horace** **Absent: Councilman Rob Gowin**
INVOCATION	**Invocation given by Eric Johnson, Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Texas**
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE US & TEXAS FLAGS	**Mayor Randy Gorham led everyone in the pledges to the United States and Texas flags.**
SPECIAL PRESENTATION –	
BUSINESS OF THE MONTH PRESENTED BY JEDCO PRESIDENT SHANE PACE - COUNTRY PLACE	**Shane Pace president of Jacksonville Economic Development Corporation, presented Country Place Senior Living with the Business of the Month award. Kim Nolley was present to accept the award.**
PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION DELIVERED BY POLICE CHIEF WILLIAMS AND MAYOR GORHAM	**Donald Pyle was presented with a police certification of appreciation for his assistance to Officer Aaron Trumbule during an attack on October 30, 2024 in Tyler, Texas.**
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION	**No one came forward.**
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	**The City Manager requested to amend item:** **B. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY – ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM FOR BATTERY-POWERED RESCUE/EXTRICATION TOOLS AND OTHER RESCUE TOOL ACCESSORIES.** **He requested to amend the wording to say and "other equipment" at the end. This change will allow the organization to have maximum flexibility in writing the grant. The grant is a 95/5 grant.** **Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the requested amendment.** **Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock** **Motion Passes 4:0**
MINUTES APPROVAL - NOVEMBER 07, 2024 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA WORKSHOP AND NOVEMBER 12, 2024 CITY COUNCIL MEETING	

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY – ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM FOR BATTERY-POWERED RESCUE/EXTRICATION TOOLS AND OTHER RESCUE TOOL ACCESSORIES.

CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF A PRESENTATION REGARDING SECTION 3 OF THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1968 AND ITS REQUIREMENTS AS IT RELATES TO THE TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CONTRACT NUMBER CDV23-0193

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION THE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THAT IN CONSIDERATION OF THE RECEIPT AND ACCEPTANCE OF FEDERAL FUNDING THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL FEDERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS INCLUDING THOSE RULES AD REGULATIONS GOVERNING CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND CIVIL RIGHTS PROTECTIONS.

ANY ACTION OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION IF NECESSARY

No action

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION AN AMENDMENT TO THE MASTER FEE ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE AMBULANCE FEE SCHEDULE, SANITATION RATES, WATER AND WASTERWATER RATES.

On July 9, 2024, the City Council adopted the Master Fee Ordinance with the objective of consolidating all municipal fees into a centralized location. As part of our ongoing review and maintenance of the ordinance, staff has identified several items requiring updates to ensure alignment with financial sustainability, operational needs, and contractual obligations.

The revised ordinance includes:

1. Ambulance Fee Adjustment

Following consultation with Emergicon, staff recommends an update to the ambulance fee schedule rates. The proposed adjustment aligns the City's rates with statewide agency averages and is projected to increase annual revenue by an estimated $500,000. This adjustment will help offset rising operational costs and support enhanced emergency medical services for our community. The last adjustment was made in FY 2022.

2. Water and Wastewater Rate Adjustment

To ensure the sustainability of the Water and Wastewater Utility Fund, staff recommends an adjustment to customer rates. This is necessary to:

- **Maintain revenue sufficiency, ensuring that revenues match or exceed expenses.**
- **Preserve adequate reserves to meet bond covenant requirements and address unforeseen emergencies.**
- **Support the utility's Capital Improvement Plan, which includes essential infrastructure repair, replacement, and reinvestment projects.**

These adjustments are critical to maintaining the integrity and reliability of our water and wastewater systems.

3. Solid Waste Rate Adjustment

Per the terms of the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Contract with Republic Services, the City applies an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) of 3%, fixed at $0.48 per month. This adjustment reflects the increased costs of providing sanitation services and ensures the City continues to meet contractual obligations while delivering consistent service to our residents.

All rates are effective January 1, 2025.

Councilwoman Mindy Gellock made the motion to approve the Master Fee Ordinance amendment to update the Ambulance Rates, Water and Wastewater rates, and Solid Waste rates.

Second by Councilwoman Letitia Horace

Motion Passes 4:0

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION THE APPROVAL PURCHASE OF SIX (6) STRYKER LIFEPAK 24 CARDIAC MONITORS, FOUR (4) STRYKER POWER LOAD SYSTEMS, AND FOUR (4) STRYKER POWER PRO COTS FOR THE AMBULANCE FLEET WITH A FIVE (5) YEAR INTEREST-FREE PAYMENT PLAN.

The Fire department has 3 cardiac monitors purchased in 2015 and 1 purchased in 2016. These monitors have outlasted the 8-year expected service life. The current standard of care for pre-hospital treatment has surpassed the current monitors. The LifePak 35 cardiac monitor has capabilities including 15 lead EKG, uninterrupted CPR, and advanced level capnography monitoring. In addition, as new technology becomes available, upgrades can be made via uploads to the monitor hard drive which is not available with our current monitors. Currently, the department has 2 Power Pro Cots purchased in 2009, 1 purchased in 2011, and 1 purchased in 2016, making all the units greater than seven years old with an industry-expected service life of 7 years. The current cots have been discontinued and parts are becoming obsolete. FY 25 is the last year that they will be able to carry any warranty for repairs. The department also currently utilizes 4 Power Load Systems with 2 being purchased in 2014, 1 in 2016, and 1 in 2018, making them all but 1 already being past the life expectancy of the recommended 7 years. These systems work in conjunction with the Power Pro Cots. All the equipment mentioned has been addressed in the Fire Department's 5-year CIP, however, circumstances have come about with Stryker until the end of 2024 that would allow the City to purchase all the needed equipment at a no-interest purchase with a 5-year payment plan. This purchase plan would include warranties as well as service contracts until 2030. Approve the purchase of 6 LifePak 35 cardiac monitors, 4 Stryker Power Pro 2 Cots, and 4 Stryker Power Load Systems. Total purchase price of $718,488.49 with payments beginning in FY25 of $143,697.70 per year for 5 years. In purchasing the equipment at this time, the City will accumulate no interest on the purchase throughout the contract timeframe beginning in FY25 and ending in FY29. In addition to the estimation of $95,000 in interest and approximately $120,000 in savings over the next 5 years with the yearly price increases that will take place, the proposed contract includes a preventative maintenance contract for the duration of the agreement that will not have to be included in the yearly budget until FY30 that is currently approximately $20,000 per year.

Councilwoman Letitia Horace made the motion to approve the purchase of six (6) Stryker LIFEPAK 24 cardiac monitors, four (4) Stryker power load systems, and four (4) Stryker power pro cots for the ambulance fleet with a five (5) year interest-free payment plan.

Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock

Motion Passes 4:0

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS (“CITY”), AUTHORIZING A SECOND REALLOCATION OF THE CITY’S REMAINING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 (“ARPA”) FUNDS; AND PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

In 2021, Congress enacted the "American Rescue Plan Act of 2021" (ARPA), which became law to provide financial relief for local governments. Under Section 603, ARPA allocates funds to counties, cities, and non-entitlement units of local government for specific eligible expenses, as outlined in the “Final Rule” issued by the U.S. Department of Treasury. The City received a total of $3,678,203.79 in ARPA funding, distributed in two equal installments: $1,839,101.90 in 2021 and $1,839,101.89 in 2022.

Federal guidelines require the funds to be obligated by December 2024 and fully spent by December 2026. To date, the City Council has approved allocations of ARPA funding through resolutions passed in February 2022, March 2022,

November 2022, February 2023, June 2023, and an amended resolution in August 2024.

While some projects have exceeded or come in under budget, a portion of the funds remains unallocated. All remaining funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024. To meet this deadline, staff recommends a final amendment to the previous ARPA funding allocations.

Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae made the motion to pass a resolution to allocate the funding as recommended by City staff.

Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock

Motion Passes 4:0

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO OASIS WATERPLAYGROUNDS INC FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A SPLASH PAD AT LINCOLN PARK

The bidder is Oasis and is on buyboard. The turnkey price is $175,000.

INCLUSIVE OF PROPOSAL ARE THE FOLLOWING.

- ALL FEATURES ABOVE AND BELOW GROUND 304L STAINLESS STEEL (color selection tbd by client/powder coat)
- TOTAL FEATURES 10 + 2 DRAINS
- MANIFOLD (STAINLESS STEEL)
- CONTROL PANEL OASIS
- TOTAL AREA/SIZE 1200 SQ FT WITH 2 COLOR SURFACE FINISH (STREET BOND)
- TOTAL INSTALLATION
- WE REQUIRE A PLACE FOR INSTALLATION OF MANIFOLD/CONTROL PANEL WITHIN 40 FT OF THE SPLASH PAD
- WE REQUIRE ELECTRICITY AND WATER MAIN WITHIN 50 FT ACCESS – minimum 2" pipe with 40 psi. Electrical is all low voltage.

Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae made the motion to award a contract to oasis Waterplaygrounds Inc for the installation of a splash pad at Lincoln Park.

Second by Councilwoman Letitia Horace

Discussion: Mayor Randy inquired if the proposal included shade structures. The City Manager affirmed that there would be 2 shade structures included with the price.

Motion Passes 4:0

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE HAZEL TILTON PARK STAGE & FENCE

On or about November 13, 2024, the City issued a request for bids for the purpose of furnishing all labor, materials and equipment, and the performing of all work required to construct a stage and fence at Hazel Tilton Park. The bids were received and opened on December 5, 2024. All bids with the exception on one exceeded the City's budget for the project. The one bidder that was within budget self identified an error in the bid submittal with regard to pricing which subsequently disqualified the bid from consideration. Based on the bids received, City staff is recommending that the City Council reject all bids for the Hazel Tilton park improvements.

Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae made the motion to reject all bids

Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock

Motion Passes 4:0

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR REVIEW OF UNBILLED OR MISBILLED UTILITY SERVICES

The objective for this project is to improve utility revenue accuracy and ensure equitable billing for all customers.

Key Actions:
1.Comprehensive Account Audit: Identification of unbilled or misbilled services. Review of customer classifications and billing codes.
2.Field Investigations: Verification of physical service connections and meters. Documentation of discrepancies for corrective action.
3.Collaborative Approach: Partnering with city staff for seamless integration. Addressing customer concerns to build public trust. 4.Proprietary Analysis Techniques: Use of advanced software and data analytics to identify revenue gaps. Tailored solutions to Jacksonville's unique utility needs.

Key Benefits:
•Immediate and long-term revenue enhancement.
•No upfront costs—compensation tied to performance.
•Compensation is tied solely to the newly identified and collected revenue over a three-year term.
•Support for critical infrastructure improvements.
•Sustainable revenue growth without increasing rates.

Outcome Highlights:
•Enhanced ratepayer equity.
•Improved accountability for services delivered.
•Identification of additional revenue for discretionary use.

Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae made the motion to approve

Second by Councilwoman Mindy Gellock

Motion Passes 4:0

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE DEOMLITION OF THE STRUCTURE AT 1521 E RUSK STREET

On or about November 16, 2024, the City of Jacksonville advertised to secure the services of a qualified demolition contractor to demolish the structure located at 1521 E Rusk Street along with an alternative bid to include removal and disposal of the concrete slab at said location.

The City received 7 bids with DEAA being the low bidder with a bid of $95,046.54. The bid did not include the removal of the slab.

Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae made the motion to award a contract for the demolition of the structure located at 1521 E. Rusk Street.

Second by Councilwoman Letitia Horace

Motion Passes 4:0

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR AN ASBESTOS ABATEMENT PROJECT REGARDING THE STRUCTURE AT 1521 E RUSK STREET

On or about November 16, 2024, the City of Jacksonville advertised to secure the services of a Texas licensed asbestos abatement contractor for an asbestos abatement project.

Scope of work:(1) 1521 E. Rusk Street, Jacksonville, Texas 75766 - approximately 45,400 s.f. of ACM flooring materials (1&2 layers) and fireproof doors (with ACM insulation).

The City received 6 bids with Air Quality and Associates being the low bidder with a bid of $82,933.00

Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae made the motion to approve the award of a contract for an asbestos abatement project regarding the structure at 1521 E. Rusk Street.

Second by Councilwoman Letitia Horace

Motion Passes 4:0

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER WITH POSSIBLE ACTION AWARD OF A BUY BOARD CONTRACT FOR A STAGE STRUCTURE AT HAZEL TILTON PARK

In an effort to minimize costs and to move forward with the highly anticipated renovations for Hazel Tilton Park. The City Manager and Park's staff contacted and reviewed a company (Poligon) that manufactures pre-fabricated amphitheaters. Poligon offers many options to suit your site-specific requirements. Their experienced design and engineering teams ensure all structures are building code compliant and detailed for easy installation. Every metal part is protected in their Poli-5000 powder coat for many years of superior durability.

By procuring the framing and roofing materials through Poligon it streamlines the process, reduces coordination issues, and progresses the Hazel Tilton Park project through the manufacturing stage more quickly and gives the City a cost friendly option. This structure will be manufactured in a AISC (American Institute of Steel Construction) and AWS (American Welding Society) certified facility. AISC sets the quality standard for structural steel and is the most recognized national quality certification program in the industry.

Poligon manufactures a 40 by 25 open air amphitheater which the City is authorized to purchase through BuyBoard without going out for bid. The cost of the structure is $128,025, which includes a 5 percent discount. Once the pre-fabricated unit arrives it will be installed by city staff.

Councilwoman Mindy Gellock made the motion to approve the purchase.

Second by Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae

Motion Passes 4:0

OPEN FORUM FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Pro Tem Tim McRae commended the City on the alternative way to do the Hazel Tilton park project.

Councilwomen Letitia Horace expressed her enthusiasm for the splash pad at Lincoln park. Additionally, she highlighted a couple of philanthropic efforts happening throughout the city; one of which is a coat drive led by several members of the Jacksonville High School National Honor Society. The coats can be dropped off at Braly's Ace Hardware or Texas National Bank. The coats will be donated to a nonprofit organization located in Jacksonville, Texas (Brother's Inc.). The second is a collection and give away coordinated by Brother's Inc. The nonprofit will be giving away bicycles on December 21, 2024, in Lincoln Park. Donations for this effort can be made by contacting Brother's Inc., directly.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City offices will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Jacksonville Community Arts Alliance will be hosting Hometown Christmas downtown on December 21, 2024, from 5pm–9pm.

Trash - No curbside collection will be conducted on Christmas Day.

Continued progress on the boat ramp project is being made. The project is projected to meet the outlined timeline.

Lastly, please pray for the 2 fallen officers in Greenville and Terrell, Texas. Officer Cooper Dawson, killed in the line of duty on November 25, 2024 (27 years old) and Officer Jacob Candanoza, killed in the line of duty on December 8, 2024 (28 years old)

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 7:05 pm