

City Council Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2020
Jacksonville, Alabama

The City Council of the City of Jacksonville, Alabama, met for the Regular Council Meeting on July 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Court Room at the Public Safety Complex, 911 Public Safety Drive, Jacksonville, Alabama. Council President Sandra Fox Sudduth called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m. Upon roll call, the following Council Members were present: Jerry Parris, Terry Wilson, Tony Taylor, and Coty Galloway. Mayor Johnny L. Smith, City Administrator Albertha Grant, City Attorney Richard Rhea and City Clerk Brenda Sandoval were present.

COVID-19 MEETING RULES. City Clerk Brenda Sandoval read the COVID-19 meeting rules.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES. A motion was made by Council Member Galloway, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to approve the Minutes from the June 22, 2020 Regular Work Session and Regular Council Meeting. Upon vote on the motion, the following votes were recorded: Yeas: All; Nays: None. The Council President announced the motion carried.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA.

City Administrator noted there were additions to the Agenda as follows:

Main Agenda:

Amend:

Item 10: Change "Jacksonville Board of Education" to "Jacksonville City Schools".

Add:

Item 8a: Consideration of Resolution regarding Face Coverings/Face Masks in Public Places.

Item 11a: Consider action to authorize the Mayor to sign the audiobook plan with Blackstone Library, per the attached.

Item 11b: Consider action to authorize the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Opportunity Alabama, Inc. (OPAL), City of Anniston, Jacksonville State University, Calhoun County Area Chamber & Visitors Center, Calhoun County Economic Development Court and McClellan Development Authority regarding the Rural Recovery Accelerator (RRA), per the attached.

Item 11c: Consider action to authorize the Mayor to sign the Purchase and Training Agreement with VWKP Vapor Wake Technology for the purchase of and training with a school safety dog, per the attached.

Add:

Item 15: Other Personnel Items

3. Termination.

a. Jerry Bennefield, Utility Maintenance Assistant (probationary employment), effective immediately.

A motion was made by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to adopt the Agenda as amended. Upon vote on the motion, the following votes were recorded: Yeas: All; Nays: None. The Council President announced the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS. The Council President asked for comments concerning current Agenda items. There were none.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING COMMUNITY FACILITY LOAN & GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION THROUGH USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR PURCHASE OF FIRE TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT. The Council President announced the Public Hearing regarding Community Facility Loan & Grant Program application through USDA Rural Development for purchase of fire truck and equipment. Mayor Smith explained this was a requirement of the program but not a guarantee of the funding. Public Hearing started at 7:28 p.m. with Council President asking for comments. There were none.

CONSIDER ACTION TO ACCEPT THE BID REPORT FOR BID NO. 20-06 WATER METER REPLACEMENT AND AMR SYSTEM FOR JPWP#20-103 AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO AWARD BID NO. 20-06. A motion was made by Council Member Galloway, seconded by Council Member Wilson to accept the Bid report for Bid No. 20-06, per the attached, for Bid No. 20-06 Water Meter Replacement and AMR System for JPWP#20-103 and adopt a resolution to award Bid No. 20-06, Base Bid an Alternate No. 1 to Baird Contracting Co., Inc., in the amount of \$1,514,820.00. Upon vote on the motion, the following votes were recorded: Yeas: All; Nays: None. The Council President announced the motion carried.

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE JACKSONVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION A RELATED TO A SCHOOL SAFETY DOG. A motion was made by Council Member Wilson, seconded by Council Member Taylor, to authorize the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the Jacksonville Board of Education as related to a School Safety Dog, to include purchase, training, and maintenance of said animal. Council Member Galloway verified that with this vote, the Officer would be able to move on with training. Upon vote on the motion, the following votes were recorded: Yeas: All; Nays: None. The Council President announced the motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENT WITH XEROX FOR A COPY MACHINE IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT. A motion was made by Council Member Galloway, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to authorize the Mayor to sign the Lease Agreement with Xerox for a copy machine in the Municipal Court, per the attached. Upon vote on the motion, the following votes were recorded: Yeas: All; Nays: None. The Council President announced the motion carried.

AUDIOBOOK PLAN WITH BLACKSTONE LIBRARY. A motion was made by Council Member Galloway, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to authorize the Mayor to sign the audiobook plan with Blackstone Library, per the attached. Upon vote on the motion, the following votes were recorded: Yeas: All; Nays: None. The Council President announced the motion carried.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE OPPORTUNITY ALABAMA, INC, (OPAL), CITY OF ANNISTON, JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY, CALHOUN COUNTY AREA CHAMBER & VISITORS CENTER, CALHOUN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COURT AND MCCLELLAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REGARDING THE RURAL RECOVERY ACCELERATOR (RRA). A motion was made by Council Member Galloway, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to authorize the Mayor to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Opportunity Alabama, Inc. (OPAL), City of Anniston, Jacksonville State University, Calhoun County Area Chamber & Visitors Center, Calhoun County Economic Development Court and McClellan Development Authority regarding the Rural Recovery Accelerator (RRA), per the attached. Upon vote on the motion, the following votes were recorded: Yeas: All; Nays: None. The Council President announced the motion carried.

PURCHASE AND TRAINING AGREEMENT WITH VWKP VAPOR WAKE TECHNOLOGY. A motion was made by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to authorize the Mayor to sign the Purchase and Training Agreement with VWKP Vapor Wake Technology for the purchase of and training with a school safety dog, per the attached. Upon vote on the motion, the following votes were recorded: Yeas: All; Nays: None. The Council President announced the motion carried.

CONSOLIDATED ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS.

A motion was made by Council Member Galloway, seconded by Council Member Wilson, to approve the following:

BUDGET AMENDMENTS.

1. POLICE DEPARTMENT.

- a. Increase Account No. 10-02-5101-00-60163 in the amount of \$2,000.00, due to Walmart Grant for Community Outreach.

PURCHASES OVER \$5,000.00.

1. POLICE DEPARTMENT.

- a. \$16,132.50 to Axon Enterprises, Inc., for Master Services and Purchasing Agreement.

DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY.

1. POLICE DEPARTMENT.

- a. Decal No. 1049 – IBM Wheelwriter Typewriter, Serial #11-0001559 – Destroy.

OTHER PERSONNEL ITEMS.

1. PROMOTION.

- a. Cameron Lee Couch, Police Corporal, effective July 15, 2020, due to the promotion of Anthony Strawder.

2. RESIGNATION.

- a. Angel Lomax, Senior Center Program Laborer, effective July 7, 2020.

3. TERMINATION.

- a. Jerry Bennefield, Utility Maintenance Assistant (probationary employment), effective immediately.

BOARDS/COMMITTEES

1. APPOINTMENT.

- a. Brenda Morgan, Jacksonville City Library Board, to fill the unexpired term of Elizabeth Engley, with term ending December 2020.
- b. Connie Thompson, Housing Authority of the City of Jacksonville, to fill the unexpired term of Gwen Westbrook, with term to expire March 2021.

2. RESIGNATION

- c. Christy Tye, Jacksonville City Library Board, effective immediately.

Upon vote of the motion, the following votes were recorded: Yeas: All; Nays: None. The Council President announced the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR GENERAL ITEMS. The Council President asked for comments concerning general items. There were seven (7).

- **David Dempsey, 1450 9th St NE:** Mr. Dempsey is speaking on behalf of the For Better Jacksonville group. They are continuing to ask for the relocation of the statue on the square. Their petition now has over 1500 signatures. They brought a packet of information that was handed out to Council members and the Mayor (per attached). Stated that the Council has a chance to lead the citizens of Jacksonville.
- **William Sigman, 1192 Boozer Lake Rd:** Can we please consider putting God in our community? Can we please consider leaving our City better than how we found it? Can

we be the first little town to rise up and let us please the Lord and not the man. Time to make a stand for Jesus Christ! The silent majority has awoken.

- **Peter Leavitt, "Peter the Patriot", P.O. Box 1245:** Brings to you the indisputable truth about Antifa, Marxism and Communism. The removal of the statue would be a disgrace to the men who have bravely fought before. He is disgraced by those teachers from JSU wearing all black. He is wearing the Marine Corp uniform from 1804 which displays all three colors: red, white, and blue. Red for Courage, White for Purity, and Blue for Justice. Good government protects good citizens. He still believes that the statue should remain, stated that those who want the statue removed will not stop with the removal of the statue.
- **Thomas Cole, P.O. Box 298:** I am one ole guy and I defended the flag and our homes. The men that the statue represents are the men who defended their country like others before and after them. The law was put there for a reason. He has never burned a flag but has folded many of them, while standing at the gravesite of a fallen soldier. Only 12% of the citizens in that time owned slaves, the rest were fighting for their homes. Stated that the majority is on the Council's side.
- **Dan Barnwell, 1017 Ladiga St SE:** First, wanted to congratulate the Council for leaving the statue where it is thus far. That monument will always be a soldier... he was called and left his home never to return. Monuments are ways to preserve the memory of the men who died. They are representing not only the soldier, but weeping mothers, heartbroken young women, and fatherless children. The last generation born to see their parents go to war has not yet been born... the last monuments to be erected have not yet been erected. Our square is beautiful because we have not forgotten.
- **Marcus Reid, 1082 Angel Dr.:** Stated that the problem with the statue is the inscription..." Let no man question the righteousness of the cause they are fighting for..." These soldiers fought and died for slavery...the right to own another human being. Read that inscription and say that is what you want to represent out City.
- **Brian Kirk, 4203 Skyline Dr, Anniston:** The war was about states' rights...for the glory of all Alabama. The history of our area is too thick to put it all under slavery. But nobody is saying that slavery was right. That soldier represents somebody whose life was destroyed. All lives matter...everyone has the right to put their monuments up. People just want a little bit of the memory.

COUNCIL MEMBER REMARKS. The Council President asked for comments. There were none.

MAYOR'S REPORT.

- **Jax Fest Fireworks:** Fireworks show went really well, heard nothing but good comments, had a great turnout.
- **Community Food Box Giveaway:** City participated in the giveaway at the Senior Center. Able to give out 560 boxes of food.
- **Eastwood Cleanup:** Richard Cummings organized this cleanup and they were able to pick up 34 bags of trash in just a couple hours' time.

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- **Jacksonville State University:** Orientations: July 7, 2020 through August 11, 2020. Fall Student Athletes return July 18, 2020, 5 home games scheduled. Commencement – July 31, 2020 and August 1, 2020 (9:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. daily).
- **Board of Education:** High School Graduation to be held on July 23, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. at the JSU Stadium. School starts August 11, 2020.
- **Sales Tax Holiday:** July 17-19, 2020.

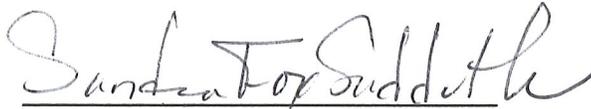
OTHER BUSINESS. The Council President asked if there was any other business. There was none.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Galloway to adjourn the meeting. The Council President announced the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

ATTEST:



Brenda Sandoval
City Clerk



Sandra Fox Sudduth
Council President