

MINUTES
Regular Called City Council Meeting
December 11, 2023

The City Council of the City of Jasper, Texas met on December 11, 2023, with the following members present to wit:

Anderson M. Land, Jr.....	Mayor
Marcus Barber.....	Council Member Dist. 1 (Absent)
Ronald Sample.....	Council Member Dist. 2
DeMarcus Holmes.....	Council Member Dist. 3
David Shultz.....	Council Member Dist. 4
Rashad Lewis.....	Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member At-Large Dist. 5
Denise Kelley.....	City Manager / Finance Director
Karen Pumphrey.....	City Secretary

Mayor Anderson Land called the council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Mr. Bob Mahar gave the opening prayer. All Council Members were present to wit except for Council Member Marcus Barber who was absent.

Mayor Land asked for questions or comments regarding departmental reports. None were made.

Mayor Land asked for Public Comments. The following (2) were made –

1. Mr. Leonard Johnson spoke regarding fire safety for the residence of Jasper and how water mains were located too far from homes.
2. Mr. Gary Gatlin spoke very highly of Mrs. Denise Kelley and her history with the City of Jasper and honored her for her service.

Motion by Council Member Ronald Sample approving the following (1) one set of minutes – Regular Called City Council Meeting November 13, 2023. Second by Council Member David Shultz. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member DeMarcus Holmes to approve funding the change order form in the amount of \$9,050.10 for the Texas GLO Disaster Recovery Contract No. 22-085-022-D263 as there are no contingency funds available. Second by Council Member David Shultz. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member DeMarcus Holmes to approve Resolution No. 3008, 2023 Tax Appraisal Roll with original amounts due totaling \$1,144,276.92. Second by Council Member Rashad Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ronald Sample to approve Ordinance No. 12-11-23a Reauthorizing the existing ordinances regarding Chapter 6 Texas Code of Ordinances Building and Building Regulations, Inspections, and Permit fees. As per state legislature requirements. Second by Council Member Rashad Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Rashad Lewis to approve Ordinance No. 12-11-23b Updating existing codes regarding Chapter 6 Texas Code of Ordinances Building and Building Regulations Section 6-12 Construction and life safety codes. As per state legislature requirements. Second by Council Member DeMarcus Holmes. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ronald Sample to approve the (1) one fuel bid received from Bill Dover Oil, Inc. as follows – Unleaded Gasoline .0715 above rack price, Diesel Fuel .0715 above rack price, and .15 cents above cost for hydraulic and motor oils. Second by Council Member David Shultz. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ronald Sample to approve the following (5) five citizens requested by Mayor Land to serve on a Charter Review Commission, Mr. Willie King, Mr. LeQuin Hilderbrand, Ms. L.V. Rasberry, Mr. Ben Hancock, and Mr. Lou Spadaccini. The council discussed and voiced their concerns regarding the appointment of names for the commission as per the city charter. More discussion. No second was made. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Motion by Council Member Ronald Sample to approve the Engineer Contract with Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. for professional services for the water line improvement project. (Council approved the engineering firm back in October 2023. This is for the contract.) Second by Council Member Rashad Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member David Shultz to appoint Mr. Robert Rhames, a citizen who lives in Jasper District 4, to the Charter Review Committee. Second by Council Member Rashad Lewis. Discussion. Council Member Rashad Lewis asked for clarification from the mayor asking if would like the names submitted just as Council Member Shultz did. All in agreement. Council Member Shultz stated the City Attorney Mr. Ratcliff has given a written opinion regarding Mr. Shultz. Mayor Land asked Mr. Ratcliff if he agreed. Mr. Ratcliff stated he agreed with what he wrote. Mayor Land requested a vote. Those Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members David Shultz, and Rashad Lewis. Council Member DeMarcus Holmes abstained, and Council Member Ronald Sample voted opposed to the motion. Mayor Land stated the motion passes.

CLOSED AND OPEN SESSIONS:

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mayor Land stated, Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551 Sections listed below; the city council will convene in closed executive session regarding the following matters – 551.071 Consultation with attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation. 551.086 Certain Public Power Utilities: Competitive Matters. 551.074 Personnel Matters hiring of an Interim City Manager. Time being 6:18 p.m.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION – Mayor Land reconvened into open session at 6:54 p.m. and asked for any actions from the executive session.

Regarding Texas Government Code 551 Section 551.071 – No action taken.

Regarding Texas Government Code 551 Section 551.086 – No action taken.

Regarding Texas Government Code 551 Section 551.074 – Council Member David Shultz made a motion to hire Mr. Greg Kelley as the Interim City Manager with an amendment to his motion added. Mayor Land asked Mr. Shultz to wait after discussion before making his amendment. Council Member Shultz agreed to do so. Council Member Rashad Lewis made a Second. Mayor Land asked for discussion and a vote. Mayor Land stated the motion was carried unanimously. Council Member David Shultz requested to make his amendment now as the mayor requested for him to do so. Mr. Shultz requested his amendment be added to his motion to add a funding period as the contract they discussed did not have one. And he requested to add a time limit to the end of December 2024 in the agreed upon amount per month. Mayor Land denied the amendment stating it was too late to make an amendment and requested the City Attorney's opinion. Discussion. Mayor Land stated the contract/agreement can be amended and brought back to council for approval later.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Land adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.


Anderson Land, Mayor

Attest:


Karen Pumphrey, City Secretary