

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 10, 2022

The City Council of the City of Jasper, Texas met on January 10, 2022 with the following members present to wit:

Randy Sayers.....Mayor
Laura Golden.....Mayor Pro-Tem
Anderson M. Land, Jr.....Council Member
Michael Daniel.....Council Member
David Shultz.....Council Member

Denise Kelley.....City Manager / Finance Director
Robbie Peek.....City Secretary / Assistant Finance Director

Council Member DeMarcus Holmes was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Randy Sayers at 6:00 PM and opened with prayer by Mayor Sayers.

Mayor Sayers asked for questions or comments regarding information provided regarding SRMPA and Kendig Keast Progress Reports. There were none.

The new building official, Jeremy Chesnutt, was introduced and Mr. Chesnutt informed Council of his background and history as a building official. He told Council he was looking forward to working with the City of Jasper and that his door is always open.

Mayor Sayers asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the departmental reports. Council Member Anderson Land asked why there was no information on the Police Department's Report regarding the jail. Mayor Sayers pointed out that the jail was not usually part of that report and because discussion of the jail was not part of tonight's agenda, any further discussion would need to wait.

Mayor Sayers asked for Public Comments. JEDCO Director Eddie Hopkins spoke to Council and commended them for moving forward with their attempt in providing Jasper with a broadband service. He pointed out the difficulty experienced by the local school district's students as well as citizens working from home during the pandemic. He informed the Council that he had personal knowledge of the experience and history of broadband consultant Nathan Watkins, who would be making his presentation later in the meeting. He expressed his hope that Council would consider Mr. Watkins as a broadband consultant in moving forward with providing Jasper with a broadband service.

Motion by Council Member David Shultz to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting, December 13, 2021. Second by Council Member Michael Daniel. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member David Shultz to accept the City of Jasper's 4th Quarter Investment Report. Second by Council Member Laura Golden. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member David Shultz to table the Consideration of Adopting an "Ordinance Regulating Game Rooms in Jasper, TX, Jasper County". He said he felt they needed more time to review the ordinance. Second by Council Member Laura Golden. Motion carried by majority vote with Council Members David Shultz, Laura Golden, and Michael Daniel voting for and Council Member Anderson Land voting against. City

Manager Denise Kelley asked attorney Michael Ratcliff if he would be providing the written ordinance for the City and he said he would.

Broadband Consultant Nathan Watkins was introduced to Council. Mr. Watkins informed Council of his work history, which included serving in the Navy for six years, completing his education at the University of Houston where he received his Masters in Public Administration and received continuing education at Harvard University, and employment with the City of Mont Belvieu as assistant City Manager, then as City Manager. During his tenure with Mont Belvieu a broadband service was put into place putting that City at the forefront of broadband services in the State of Texas. He shared how this service put a positive light on their community. His goal is to reach out to other municipalities to help them work their way through providing broadband to their communities as well. He asked if Council had any questions. There were none. Council Member David Shultz made a motion to move forward with entertaining a contract with Mr. Nathan Watkins to provide consultation regarding broadband services. Second by Council Member Michael Daniel. Motion carried by majority vote with Council Members David Shultz, Laura Golden and Michael Daniel voting for, and Council Member Anderson Land voting against.

Motion by Council Member David Shultz to approve the Order for General Election for May 7, 2022 and to set the Canvass date and Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2022. Second by Council Member Michael Daniel. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Anderson Land to approve the Interlocal Government Agreement between Jasper County and the City of Jasper for the May 7, 2022 Election. Second by Council Member Laura Golden. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Denise Kelley was given approval to contact Brian Mabry with Kendig Keast to schedule a thirty minute conference call preferably on the day of January 20th between 8 AM to 12 PM or between 3 PM to 5 PM. And Mr. Eddie Hopkins had offered the use of the JEDCO facility to have a videoconference.

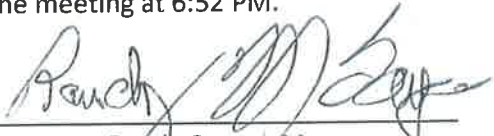
City Secretary Robbie Peek informed Council that they had been provided with copies of a petition submitted by Council Member Anderson Land requesting a charter change regarding utility rates. It was explained to Council that because the request within the petition was not defined enough to properly draft an ordinance to order a charter election, that an attorney had been consulted and would be contacting Mr. Land to get more definition for that matter and it would be brought back to Council at a later date. She pointed out that the deadline to order such an election is February 18, 2022.

Motion by Council Member David Shultz to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Jasper Independent School District for the purposes of using the JISD buses and other vehicles available to the City for the convenience of citizens of the City. Second by Council Member Laura Golden. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Randy Sayers announced that Council was going into a Closed Executive Session at 6:28 PM pursuant to Texas Government Code 551 Section 551.072 Deliberations about Real Property; Texas Government Code 551.071 Consultation with Attorney; Closed Meeting.

Council reconvened in Open Session at 6:51 PM. Mayor Sayers asked if there was any action to be taken from the Executive Session. All members indicated no action to be taken.

With no other agenda items to discuss, Mayor Sayers adjourned the meeting at 6:52 PM.



Randy Sayers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Robbie Peek, City Secretary

MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND WORKSHOP
January 20, 2022

The City Council of the City of Jasper, Texas met on January 20, 2022 with the following members present to wit:

Randy Sayers.....Mayor
Anderson M. Land, Jr.....Council Member Dist. 1
Michael Daniel.....Council Member Dist. 2
DeMarcus Holmes.....Council Member Dist. 3 (Absent)
David Shultz.....Council Member
Laura Golden.....Council Member At-Large/Mayor Pro-Tem

Denise Kelley.....City Manager / Finance Director
Karen Pumphrey.....City Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Randy Sayers at 3:04 PM. The following Council Member was absent, DeMarcus Holmes due to Covid. Council Member David Shults attended the meeting via teleconference video due to Covid.

City Council opened the Zoom Workshop and Special Called Meeting and Mr. Brian Mabry of Kendig Keast gave his presentation and updates regarding the Zoning Ordinance development. No actions were taken, and Mr. Mabry was asked to schedule another Zoom meeting to continue reviewing the development of his zoning findings.

Attorney Robert Bass of Allison, Bass & Magee, L.L.P. began his Zoom meeting to discuss a potential plan for redistricting in the City of Jasper based on population data extracted from the 2020 Census and reviewed over maps showing how the data is created for each district. After discussions and questions Council Member Anderson Land made a motion to adopt the redistricting Plan A Map provided by Mr. Bass. Second by Council Member Michael Daniel. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Council Member Laura Golden for finding the fact that we have 10% over the allotted for political boundaries so redistricting must take place. Second by Council Member Anderson Land. Motion carried unanimously.

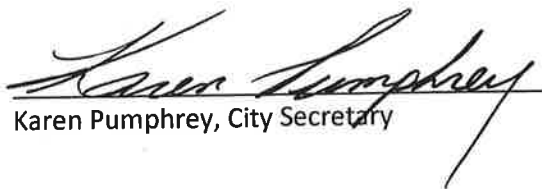
Motion by Council Member Anderson Land to approve the consultant proposal from Nathan Watkins on the Broadband Project. Second by Council Member Michael Daniel. Council Member David Shultz asked for an amendment to the motion to include an additional 4 months making it a 16-month extension with the same dollar amount. Council Member Anderson Land amended his motion as stated by Council Member David Shultz. Second by Council Member Michael Daniel. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Laura Golden to approve funding and utilization of the Jasper County Jail for housing Municipal Court Inmates with the funding coming from the Police Department budget. Second by Council Member David Shultz. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Sayers adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m.


Randy Sayers, Mayor

Attest:


Karen Pumphrey, City Secretary