

MINUTES
Regular Called City Council Meeting
October 10, 2023

The City Council of the City of Jasper, Texas met on October 10, 2023, with the following members present to wit:

Anderson M. Land, Jr.....Mayor
Marcus Barber..... Council Member Dist. 1
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 Regular Called Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Mr. Bob Mahar gave the opening prayer. All Council Members were present to wit.

Mayor Land asked for questions or comments on departmental reports. Public Works Director Greg Kelley gave an update on the streets project and Chief Gerald Hall gave an update on the trapping of wild hogs within the parks area.

Mayor Land asked for Public Comments. Mrs. Theresa Belew, owner of Junktique, informed the council of a block party taking place behind her business and blocking traffic.

Mrs. Betty Ruso with the Office of Governor Abbott congratulated the City of Jasper for being recognized as a film friendly city and presented a certificate from the Texas Film Friendly Commission.

Mayor Land recognized Mr. Wilmer Adams from the sanitation department with a certificate of recognition for his outstanding work ethic.

Mayor Land gave a proclamation reading for October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Motion by Council Member Ronald Sample to appoint Anderson Land to the SRMPA Board of Directors. Second by Council Member Marcus Barber. Council Members Rashad Lewis, David Shultz and DeMarcus Holmes voted opposed to the motion. Council Members Ronald Sample and Marcus Barber voted in favor of the motion. Vote of three against and two for. Motion died.

Motion by Council Member Rashad Lewis to approve the minutes from Regular Council Meeting September 5, 2023. Second by Council Member Ronald Sample. Discussion by Council Member David Shultz to have the vote amended in the minutes. Council Members voting to review the minutes were Rashad Lewis, David Shultz, and DeMarcus Holmes. Council Members Marcus Barber and Ronald Sample voted to pass the minutes. Mayor Land stated the minutes will not be approved and will be reviewed by the City Attorney.

Motion by Council Member Rashad Lewis to approve SPI Schaumburg & Polk Inc. as the awarded engineering services for the water line upgrade. Second by Council Member Ronald Sample. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member David Shultz to approve Resolution No. 3007 casting all 148 allocated votes for Rashad Lewis for the Jasper County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Second by Council Member DeMarcus Holmes. Council Member Ronald Sample voted opposed to the motion. Council Members Rashad Lewis, David Shultz, DeMarcus Holmes, and Marcus Barber voted in favor. Mayor Land stated the motion passes with a vote of 4 to 1.

Motion by Council Member David Shultz to approve the appeals application and fix the issues for Willie Lane at 156 West Houston Street and Jacqueline Cooper at 138 West Houston Street. Second by Council Member Rashad Lewis. Discussion. Mayor Land stated the city will not be fixing an issue we did not cause. Council Members voting not to approve the motion by David Shultz were Marcus Barber, and Ronald Sample. Those voting for the motion were DeMarcus Holmes and Rashad Lewis. Mayor Land stated we have 3 to 2 the motion dies.

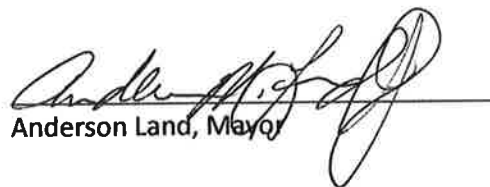
Motion by Council Member David Shultz to approve the variance Request from CJM Civil Engineering regarding 802 West Gibson Street for setbacks required. Second by Council Member Rashad Lewis. Discussion. Council Member Ronald Sample voted opposed to the motion. Council Members Marcus Barber, DeMarcus Holmes, David Shultz, and Rashad Lewis voted in favor. Mayor stated the vote passes in favor of the motion four for and one opposed.

Motion by Council Member Ronald Sample to approve allocating two million dollars from SRMPA funds to reduce the electric rate for the City of Jasper residential and commercial customers to be spent as follows; \$500k for September, \$500k for October, \$500k for November and 500k for December of 2023. Second by Council Member Marcus Barber. Discussion. Council Member DeMarcus Holmes asked Mayor Land if the city could afford to do this. Mayor Land stated yes. Council Members voting opposed to the motion were Rashad Lewis and David Shultz. Council Members voting for the motion were Marcus Barber, Ronald Sample, and DeMarcus Holmes. Motion passed with a vote of four for and two opposed.

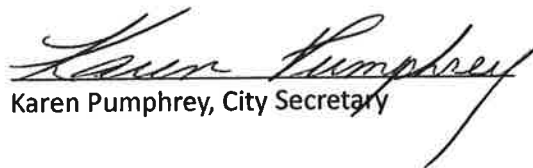
Motion by Council Member David Shultz to approve the annual Holiday hams for city employees. Second by Council Member Rashad Lewis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Ronald Sample to approve the appointment of five citizens of the city of Jasper to a Charter Review Committee as listed and suggested by Mayor Land – Mr. Willie King, Mr. LeQuin Hilderbrand, Ms. L.V. Rasberry, Mr. Ben Hancock and Mr. Lou Spadaccini. Second by Council Member Marcus Barber. Discussion. Council Members voiced their opinions regarding not being able to make suggestions of their own as per the city charter. Mayor Land asked for a vote. Those voting for the motion were Ronald Sample and Marcus Barber. Those voting against the motion were Council Members David Shultz, Rashad Lewis, and DeMarcus Holmes. Mayor stated the motion dies with a vote of 3 to 2.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Land adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.


Anderson Land, Mayor

Attest:


Karen Pumphrey, City Secretary