

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
JASPER, ALABAMA, HELD JANUARY 12, 2021**

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10:07 a.m. - The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 400 19<sup>th</sup> Street West, Jasper.

**Present:** Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell, Councilmembers Gary Cowen, Jennifer W. Smith, and Willie Moore, III, Mayor David P. O'Mary, City Clerk/Administrator Kathy Chambless, and Jud Allen, Esq.

**Absent:** Councilmember Jed Daniel, Russell B. Robertson, City Attorney

**Invocation:** Police Captain Justin Tidwell

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Police Chief J.C. Poe

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen that the minutes of the regular meeting held December 15, 2020, be approved.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider amendments to the agenda.** No amendments were made to the agenda.

**Consider approval of the agenda.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen that the agenda be approved.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Conduct a public hearing and consider approval of a Retail Restaurant Liquor License (for on premise consumption) for Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. d/b/a Cracker Barrel 712, located**

**at 240 Carl Cannon Blvd.** Following a public hearing during which no comments were made concerning the license, a motion was considered.

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to approve a Retail Restaurant Liquor License (for on premise consumption) for Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. d/b/a Cracker Barrel 712, located at 240 Carl Cannon Blvd.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider an appointment to the Mental Health Board.** Mayor O'Mary submitted the name of Dr. Roger Childers for appointment to the Mental Health Board.

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to appoint Dr. Roger Childers to the Mental Health Board.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider appointments to the Jasper Industrial Development Board.**

Mayor O'Mary submitted the following names for re-appointment: Curt Ballard, Kevin Callahan, Kenny Harris, Lamar Lawrence, Tony Sparks, and Charles Tatum; and the following names for appointment: Jon Williams, Josh Gates, Jerry Byars, Jr., and Carlos Pedroza.

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore to re-appoint Curt Ballard, Kevin Callahan, Kenny Harris, Lamar Lawrence, Tony Sparks, and Charles Tatum, and to appoint Jon Williams, Josh Gates, Jerry Byars, Jr., and Carlos Pedroza to the Jasper Industrial Development Board.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider approval of travel for Municipal Court personnel to attend scheduled magistrate certification training for 2021.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Smith to approve travel for Municipal Court personnel training in 2021.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider approval of travel for Parks & Recreation employees to attend the annual ARPA Conference in Gulf Shores, AL, January 24 – 27, 2021.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Smith to approve travel for Parks & Recreation employees to attend the annual ARPA Conference in Gulf Shores, AL, January 24 – 27, 2021.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider accepting \$5,000 in grant funds from the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable through the Walker County Health Action Partnership for trail improvements and accessibility to the existing trail system around TR Simmons and Jasper High School.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Moore to accept \$5,000 in grant funds from the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable through the Walker County Health Action Partnership for trail improvements and accessibility to the existing trail system around TR Simmons and Jasper High School.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Receive report on Police Ballistic (Bullet Proof) Vests and Safe Room Storm Shelters.** The Purchasing Agent tabled the report on Police Ballistic (Bullet Proof) Vests.

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to receive the report of the Purchasing Agent on Safe Room Storm Shelters and reject all bids.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider a request for permission to purchase a 2021 Chevy Silverado from the state contract list.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to approve the purchase of a 2021 Chevy Silverado from the state contract list for use by the Police Department.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider a request for permission to renew the following contracts at the same terms and pricing:**

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| a) Dual Wall Pipe     | d) Hauling Service |
| b) Concrete Ready Mix | e) Tornado Sirens  |
| c) Inmate Food        |                    |

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to adopt a Resolution to renew contracts under the same terms and pricing for Dual Wall Pipe, Concrete Ready Mix, Inmate Food, Hauling Service, and Tornado Sirens.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider a request for permission to send bid invitations for the following:**

- a) **Eight Yard Slant Cans (Dumpsters)**
- b) **Tree Removal Service**
- c) **Fuel Service**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to give permission to send bid invitations for Eight Yard Slant Cans (Dumpsters), Tree Removal Service, and Fuel Service.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Introduce Budget Amendment #2020/21-04.** The budget amendment was introduced by the City Clerk.

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to add Reserve Police Officers to worker's compensation coverage.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to adopt a Resolution to add Reserve Police Officers to worker's compensation coverage.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to allow Mayor O'Mary to enter into an agreement with Municipal Intercept Services to provide debt collection assistance in conjunction with the Alabama Department of Revenue.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to allow Mayor O'Mary to enter into an agreement with Municipal Intercept Services to provide debt collection assistance in conjunction with the Alabama Department of Revenue.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes

Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to allow Mayor O’Mary to enter into an agreement with ALDOT for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) project no. TAPOA-TA21(903) for Downtown Sidewalk Improvements Project, Phase V.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to allow Mayor O’Mary to enter into an agreement with ALDOT for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) project no. TAPOA-TA21(903) for Downtown Sidewalk Improvements Project, Phase V.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to allow Mayor O’Mary to enter into an agreement with ALDOT for right-of way mowing.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Smith to allow Mayor O’Mary to enter into an agreement with ALDOT for right-of way mowing.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to extend paid leave to employees who are required to be off of work due to exposure to COVID-19.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Moore to adopt a Resolution to extend paid leave to employees who are required to be off of work due to exposure to COVID-19.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes

Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to extend the business license renewal delinquency date to March 1, 2021.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to adopt a Resolution to extend the business license renewal delinquency date to March 1, 2021.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution for nuisance abatement of unsafe structures.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to adopt a Resolution for Nuisance Abatement of unsafe structures.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Introduce an Ordinance rezoning a 3.8 acre+- parcel(s) of land located at 1400 19<sup>th</sup> Street West from the R-2 (Single Family Residential) Zoning District to the B-1 (Neighborhood Business) Zoning District for the purpose of operating a clinic.** The Ordinance was introduced by the City Planner and will be considered at the next council meeting.

**Comments:**

Mayor O'Mary shared some things to be optimistic about. On the residential side, Mayor is pleased with the residential growth. He recently had a conversation with a prospect group wanting to develop in Jasper, east of the high school to accommodate high density housing. On the commercial side, both the Heiche project and the sawmill project will bring business to the city during construction and expansion. All of this will generate sales tax revenue. Mayor is optimistic that the city is in a favorable position to have a good 2021.

Chief J.C. Poe addressed a couple of items. First, the equipment approved by the council will greatly enhance the JPD’s investigation department. Second, the reserve program is for citizens who want to assist the department. He described some of the similarities the reserve officers have with police officers. The vetting is done the same way as the police officers. They do not have arrest power and do not act on their own. They will also go through some of the same training as police officers and must meet the same firearm standards as Jasper police officers. He thanked the council for approval of worker’s comp coverage for these officers.

**Consider adjournment of the meeting.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to adjourn the meeting.

**Vote**

Councilmember Jed Daniel	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

10:42 a.m. - Meeting adjourned.

A P P R O V E D:

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Danny Gambrell, Presiding Officer

A T T E S T:

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Kathy Chambless, City Clerk/Administrator