

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
JASPER, ALABAMA, HELD MARCH 2, 2021**

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10:00 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 City Attorney Russ Robertson

**Absent:** Councilmember Jed Daniel

**Invocation:** Police Chief J.C. Poe

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Fire Chief Alan Clark

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen that the minutes of the regular meeting held February 16, 2021, 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 Moore, 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

**Present a Proclamation for Future Business Leaders of America Week.** Mayor O’Mary read the Proclamation and presented it to Jasper High School Commerce and Information Technology Teacher Monique Lawrence and JHS FBLA President Taryn Prater.

**Present a Proclamation for Career and Technical Education Month.** Mayor O’Mary read the Proclamation and presented it to Jasper High School Chef/Instructor Marulynn Lockett and JHS student Brock Woods who was recently named the FCCLA STAR Event Culinary Arts State winner.

**Consider approval of travel for police personnel attending classes in Smyrna, TN April 11-16, 2021, and April 13-16, 2021.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to approve travel for police personnel attending classes in Smyrna, TN April 11-16, 2021, and April 13-16, 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 Councilmembers attending the annual Alabama League of Municipalities Convention in Huntsville, AL May 12-15, 2021.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to approve travel for councilmembers attending the annual Alabama League of Municipalities Convention in Huntsville, AL May 12-15, 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

**Introduce Budget Amendment #2020/2021-6.** The budget amendment was introduced by the City Clerk and will be considered at the next council meeting.

**Consider accepting the recommendation presented by the Park Director relative to various recreational activities for spring, summer, and fall 2021.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore to make a resolution to agree with the Mayor and the recommendation of the Park Director relative to opening Parks & Recreation activities.

**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 Zach Baker to provide talent buying for Foothills 2021.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to allow Mayor O’Mary to enter into an agreement with Zach Baker to provide talent buying for Foothills Festival 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 to approve the application for an ARC grant in the amount of \$300,000 and a CDBG grant for \$300,000 for the Jasper Lumber Company, LLC expansion.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to approve the application for an ARC grant in the amount of \$300,000 and a CDBG grant for \$300,000 for the Jasper Lumber Company, LLC expansion.

**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 fuel service.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to receive the report of the Purchasing Agent and accept the recommendation to reject the bid and negotiate a contract for 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

**Receive reports on the purchase of a Chevy Silverado and the purchase of a Kubota RTV, and consider a request for permission to purchase a 54” zero turn Kubota lawn mower through Sourcewell (Cooperative Program.)** The Purchasing Agent reported that the Chevy Silverado will be purchased for the police department through a grant reimbursement from the State of Alabama Drug Task Force, the Kubota RTV will be paid from the forfeiture fund and mayor’s discretionary fund (under bid law), and the 54” zero turn Kubota lawn mower for the cemetery will be purchased through Sourcewell, a cooperative program.

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Moore to accept the reports of the Purchasing Agent and approve the purchase of the Chevy Silverado, Kubota RTV, and 54” zero turn Kubota lawn mower.

**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, grass/weeds, and inoperative vehicles.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, 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

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Moore to adopt a Resolution for Nuisance Abatement of Grass/Weeds.

**Vote**

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

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Moore to adopt a Resolution for Nuisance Abatement of Inoperative Vehicles.

**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 an Ordinance levying Ad Valorem Taxes.****Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to adopt an Ordinance levying Ad Valorem Taxes

**Vote**

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

**Comments:**

Mayor O'Mary recognized outgoing Fire Chief David Clark for 26 years of service with the fire department. Chief David Clark officially retired on February 28, 2021. Councilmembers Cowen, Moore, and Gambrell, and Police Chief Poe commented on working with Chief Clark and commended his leadership and work with the council and police department respectively.

Councilmember Moore addressed the Mayor regarding parks in District 5, specifically regarding manicuring and upkeep of two parks that have not had any attention. He asked that this issue be addressed now and in the future.

Councilmember Smith thanked Britton Lightsey for his communication with her regarding questions about lighting in her district. She also thanked Zach Baker for his work with the Foothills Festival. She

commented on potentially addressing the salary of councilmembers in the future as it has not been changed since the 90's.

**Consider a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.** City Attorney Russ Robertson certified that the reasons for going into executive session are subject to the exception in the open meetings law that permits executive sessions to discuss pending and threatening litigation against the city.

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

**Vote**

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

**10:46 a.m. – meeting recessed to Executive Session.**

**10:58 a.m. – Executive Session convened.**

**11:34 a.m. – Executive Session concluded.**

**Consider adjournment of the meeting.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore 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

11:35 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