

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
JASPER, ALABAMA, HELD APRIL 21, 2020**

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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 and Willie Moore, III, Mayor David P. O’Mary, City Clerk/Administrator Kathy Chambless, and Russell B. Robertson

**Absent:** Councilmembers V. L. “Sonny” Posey and Jennifer W. Smith

**Invocation:** Mayor O’Mary

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Councilmember Gary Cowen

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held April 7, 2020 be approved.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
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 Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore that the agenda be approved.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Read Proclamation for Fair Housing Month.** Mayor O’Mary read the proclamation to proclaim the month of April 2020 as Fair Housing Month. The proclamation will be posted at City Hall.

**Consider Re-appointment of Mary Beth Barber to the Board of Education.** Councilmember Cowen nominated Mary Beth Barber for re-appointment to the Board of Education.

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore to close the nominations for the Board of Education, District 3.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore to reappoint Mary Beth Barber to the Board of Education for a term to expire April 27, 2025.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to amend the Families First Coronavirus Response Act Policy.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore to amend the Families First Coronavirus Response Act Policy, as adopted on April 7, 2020.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to award a contract for On-Call Concrete Service.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to adopt a Resolution to award a contract for on-call concrete service to Suburban Concrete.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. "Sonny" Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to enter into a contract with Nelson Engineering Associates, Inc. for CE&I services for Downtown Sidewalk Improvement Project Phase IV.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore to adopt a Resolution to enter into a contract with Nelson Engineering Associates, Inc. for CE&I services for Downtown Sidewalk Improvement Project Phase IV.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. "Sonny" Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of a Resolution to set cost for Nuisance Abatement of an Unsafe Structure.** Following a public hearing during which no comments were offered by the public, a motion was made.

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to adopt a Resolution to set cost for Nuisance Abatement of an unsafe structure.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. "Sonny" Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Consider adoption of an Ordinance, by unanimous consent, to amend the Sales and Use Tax and Lodging Tax Ordinance to waive late payment penalties for certain businesses that submit taxes past the due dates for February, March, and April, 2020 sales or lodging taxes.**

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen that the rules be suspended and unanimous consent be given for immediate consideration of and action on said Ordinance.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Motion**

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore to amend the Sales and Use Tax and Lodging Tax Ordinance in order to waive late payment penalties for certain businesses that submit taxes past the due dates for February, March, and April, 2020 sales or lodging taxes.

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

**Comments:**

Mayor O’Mary praised the public works employees for their hard work in responding to the recent flood damage.

Mayor O’Mary stated that there is a plan in place to operate the City of Jasper with reduced staff if the City is hit hard with the Coronavirus. He is hopeful that that plan will not have to be put into place.

Mayor O’Mary stated that March financial numbers will be coming in soon and April numbers will be accessible in early May, which will provide some indication of the financial state of the City in terms of the impact of the Coronavirus.

Councilmember Cowen stated that citizens have been pleased with the work of the first responders and City workers during this challenging time.

Presiding Officer Gambrell recognized that the public works employees were behind due to the pandemic prior to the flooding and even with the potential for more severe weather this week, the City will get caught up.

Councilmember Smith encouraged everyone to keep social distancing and wished his mother a happy 85<sup>th</sup> birthday at Ridgeview Nursing Home.

Revenue Compliance Officer, Brent McCarver, recommends moving the Foothills Festival to the weekend of April 30 and May 1, 2021, due to the Coronavirus and the impact to the city and its partners.

Talent buyer, Zach Baker, reiterated the need to postpone the Foothills Festival for fundraising reasons.

The municipal courtroom was made available to the public to view and participate in the Council Meeting with strict adherence to the guidelines set forth by the State of Alabama during the COVID-19 pandemic, however, no one was present.

**Consider adjournment of the meeting.**

**Motion**

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

**Vote**

Councilmember V. L. "Sonny" Posey	Absent
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Absent
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

10:30 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