

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
JASPER, ALABAMA, HELD MAY 19, 2020**

10:01 a.m. - The meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 400 19th Street West, Jasper.

Present: Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell, Councilmembers V. L. “Sonny” Posey (by phone), Gary Cowen, Jennifer W. Smith and Willie Moore, III, Mayor David P. O’Mary, City Clerk/Administrator Kathy Chambless and City Attorney Russell B. Robertson, Esq.

Absent:

Invocation: Revenue Compliance Officer, Brent McCarver

Pledge of Allegiance: City Planner, Keith Pike

Approval of Minutes:

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore that the minutes of the regular meeting held May 5, 2020, be approved.

Vote

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Did Not Vote
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

Consider amendments to the agenda. Two amendments were made to the agenda: 1) consider forgiving a portion of the rental fee charged to Desperation Church for use of the Jasper Civic Center for April and May and, 2) remove consideration of a Resolution to approve the funding for McGehee Engineering to provide a proposal related to flooding along Elliott Boulevard from the agenda.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to approve the amendments to the agenda.

Vote

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Did not vote
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

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	Did Not Vote
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

Consider forgiving a portion of the rental fee charged to Desperation Church for use of the Jasper Civic Center for April and May.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to forgive a portion of the rental fee charged to Desperation Church for use of the Jasper Civic Center for April and May.

Vote

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Did not vote
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

Introduce the Mid-Year Budget Amendment #2019/2020-08. The Budget Amendment was introduced by the City Clerk and will be considered at the next regular council meeting.

Consider eliminating the current promotion pay policy.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Moore that the current pay policy be eliminated and when established, the new pay policy will be retroactive to any promotions in the interim.

Vote

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Did Not Vote
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

Consider adoption of Resolutions for Nuisance Abatement of an Unsafe Structure, Inoperative Vehicles, and Grass/Weeds.

Motion

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

Vote

Councilmember V. L. "Sonny" Posey	Did not vote
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith to adopt a Resolution for Nuisance Abatement of inoperative vehicles.

Vote

Councilmember V. L. "Sonny" Posey	Did not vote
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Councilmember Smith to adopt a Resolution for Nuisance Abatement of grass and weeds.

Vote

Councilmember V. L. "Sonny" Posey	Did not vote
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

Consider adoption of an Ordinance rezoning a .58 acre +- tract of land located at 1503 Jones Dairy Road from the AG (Agricultural) Zoning District to the B-T (Transition Business) Zoning District for the purpose of operating a professional office. A public hearing was conducted. Andy Braden, who lives on Jones Dairy Rd., addressed the council to state that he is opposed to the rezoning due to the potential congestion. Casey Hall, who proposed the zoning change, addressed the council to explain that if approved, he would put a tax service at the property. Councilmember Posey added, by phone, that he does not know of anyone in favor of the rezoning.

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Posey, seconded by Councilmember Cowen to **deny** the adoption of an Ordinance to rezone a tract of land located at 1503 Jones Dairy Road from the AG (Agricultural) Zoning District to the B-T (Transition Business) Zoning District for the purpose of operating a professional office.

Vote

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

Consider adoption of an Ordinance, by unanimous consent, to establish a procedure related to wireless telecommunication services. (Kathy Chambless, City Clerk)

Motion

Moved by Councilmember Cowen, seconded by Councilmember Smith 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	Yes
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 Cowen to adopt an Ordinance to establish a procedure related to wireless telecommunication services.

Vote

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Did Not Vote
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Councilmember Willie Moore, III	Yes
Presiding Officer Danny Gambrell	Yes

Comments:

Mayor O’Mary recognized that we are in challenging times, however every department in the City is operating below where they could be budget-wise in this fiscal year. The City of Jasper is operating at a lower financial level this year compared to last year thanks to the City’s leadership managing effectively.

Councilmember Smith asked Mayor O’Mary if the 7:00 pm to 7:00 am park closures, put in place due to the coronavirus, are still in effect.

Mayor O’Mary doesn’t know when the parks curfew will be lifted, but wants to do what is best for the safety of the citizens of the City.

Councilmember Moore asked the Police Department to patrol district 5 on a more regular basis. The concerns are speeding and running stop signs.

Consider adjournment of the meeting.

Motion

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

Vote

Councilmember V. L. “Sonny” Posey	Did not vote
Councilmember Danny Gambrell Willie Moore, III	Yes
Councilmember Gary Cowen	Yes
Councilmember Jennifer W. Smith	Yes
Presiding Officer Willie Moore, III Danny Gambrell	Yes

10:35 a.m. - Meeting adjourned.

A P P R O V E D:

Danny Gambrell, Presiding Officer

A T T E S T:

Kathy Chambless, City Clerk/Administrator