



City of Jasper
 200 Burnt Mountain Road
 Jasper, GA 30143
 MINUTES | REGULAR MEETING
 Monday, October 3, 2022, 6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT
 Mayor Steve Lawrence
 Folsom C. Proctor
 John Foust
 Jim Looney
 Anne Sneve
 Kirk Raffield

STAFF
 Sonia Jammes
 Lonnie Waters
 Tara Benson
 David Hall
 Lindsey Williams
 John Sherrer
 Stacy Johnson
 Mike Davis

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE
 Haley Bouchie
 Greg Meadows

MEMBERS ABSENT

LEGAL COUNSEL

PRESS
 Mari Livsey – KnowPickens
 Angela Reinhardt – Pickens Progress

AGENDA ITEM: Call Meeting to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance	PRESENTER: Mayor Steve Lawrence
Mayor Lawrence seeing a quorum called the meeting to order. Mayor Lawrence called on Councilmember Kirk Raffield to provide the Invocation. Councilmember Folsom Proctor led the pledge of Allegiance.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
None	N/A
	DEADLINE
	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: Adopt Agenda	PRESENTER: Mayor Steve Lawrence
CONCLUSION: Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Anne Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Approved	N/A
	DEADLINE
	N/A

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: Minutes Regular Meeting September 15, 2022 Development Report Financial Report Fire Report Police Report COVID Policy Leak Adjustment Policy Disconnection of Service Policy New Meter Purchasing Policy	PRESENTER: Mayor Steve Lawrence
CONCLUSION: Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously. A copy of Leak Adjustment, Meter Purchase and Disconnection of Service are attached.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Approved	N/A
	DEADLINE
	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: National Long-Term Care Proclamation	PRESENTER: Mayor Steve Lawrence
CONCLUSION: Mayor Lawrence asked Ashley Nichols with North Georgia Programs and Services to approach. Mayor Lawrence read the National Long Term Care Proclamation.	

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: Swearing in of Jasper Police Officers Cheyenne Evens and Joseph Long	PRESENTER: Chief Dawkins
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CONCLUSION:

Chief Dawkins provided background on the new Police Offices. Cheyenne Evens started with JPD on June 8, 2022. Officer Evens had a month of pre-mandate instruction which included driving training, firearms training, and case law. Officer Evens started mandate on July 5, 2022, and graduated on September 23, 2022, as class president for Session 18. Officer Evens is the first officer sent to the police academy by the Jasper Police Department since 2005. Officer Evens is the first female that has been hired in the past 25 years. Joseph Long started with the Jasper Police Department on September 12, 2022. He started his law enforcement career as a mandated officer in 2002. Chief Dawkins stated that both officers will go through the department’s Field Training Program, which ranges from a minimum of four weeks to 14 weeks. Chief Dawkins swore in Cheyenne Evens and Joseph Long.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business #1 Consideration and approval of Ordinance 2022-12 Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Jasper	PRESENTER: Lonnie Waters
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DISCUSSION:

Mr. Waters stated that staff is requesting to amend the permitted use table in Section 94-50 to include the use of parks and recreation in the C-1A district along with the inclusion of said use as to be defined through amending Section 94-313. This will change the zoning maps to include parks and recreation. Based on the analysis of the standards and criteria found in Section 94-246 of the Zoning Ordinance staff is requesting the approval of Ordinance 2022-12. Mr. Waters stated that this has gone before the Planning Commission Board on September 27th, and they voted all in favor of approving. This has also been brought to Mayor and council in a public hearing held on September 29, 2022.

CONCLUSION:

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-12 Text Amendment. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Foust provided a second. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business #2 Consideration and approval of Ordinance 2022-13 to rezone Parcel 030A 030 consisting of 62.04 acres from M-1 Industrial to C-1A. This Parcel is located at 540 Lumber Company Road.	PRESENTER: Lonnie Waters
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DISCUSSION:

Mr. Waters is requested approval to rezone 540 Lumber Company Road (Hope House and Doris Wigington Park) to be rezoned to C-1A. Based on the analysis of this application, using the standards and criteria found in Section 94-246 of the Zoning Ordinance, staff recommends Approval of the request to rezone the property from M-1 to C-1A. If approved the rezoning request, it is expected that the applicant adheres to the minimum standards of the zoning ordinance. Mr. Waters stated that this has gone before the Planning Commission Board on September 27th, and they voted all in favor of approving. This has also been brought to Mayor and council in a public hearing held on September 29, 2022.

CONCLUSION:

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-13. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business #3 Consideration and approval to amend Ordinance 2022-15 section 82-2 Billing, Delinquency, and Penalties	PRESENTER: Lindsey Williams
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DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Williams is requesting to change section 82-2 Billing, Delinquency, and Penalties. Mrs. Williams explained that this amendment would include adjusting the late penalty from a 10% penalty to a flat rate of \$25.00.

Example: Currently, water bills are due on the 10th of the month. If you have not paid your bill by the 10th, you are charged a 10% penalty and mailed a late notice. If the next month you have not paid your bill, you are again charged a 10% penalty (only on that bill since the previous month was already charged) and mailed another notice with a disconnection date of the 20th of the month. Mrs. Williams is requesting changing the current disconnection from two months past due to the current month disconnection. The disconnection date would be the 20th of the same month. The water bills will continue to be due on the 10th of each month. If approved this Ordinance would take effect January 1st, 2023. Councilmember Proctor stated that this has been approved by committee and to be advanced to council. Mrs. Williams stated that it has been brought to Water and Administration committee.

CONCLUSION:

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve the amend Ordinance 2022-15 section 82-2 Billing, Delinquency, and penalties. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EFFECTIVED
Approved	N/A	January 1.2023

AGENDA ITEM: New Business #4 Consideration and approval of quit claim deed to Hope House of North Georgia	PRESENTER: Kim Goldener
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DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Goldener reminded the Council of the upcoming plans for Doris Wigington park. The development of Mountain biking trails, pump tracks and skills area. During the planning, staff was reminded that both the park and Hope House reside on a single City-owned parcel. Mrs. Goldener explained that back in 1996, a previous administration allowed the Rotary Club of Jasper, Big Canoe Chapel, and local community members to build a residence for the Georgia Division of Family and Children Services to place children pulled from their homes due to abuse and neglect until such time their cases had been settled through Juvenile Court. Originally known as Pickens Emergency Shelter, the Hope House of North Georgia has cared for hundreds of children over their history here in Jasper. On behalf of the Hope House Board, Reverend Max Caylor has presented City Staff with a boundary survey for a proposed 1-acre tract to be carved out of the overall City-owned parcel (#030A 030) and deeded to the Hope House of North Georgia. City Attorney David Syfan has prepared a Quit Claim Deed document to transfer this 1-acre tract to Hope House, with the condition that the parcel will revert back to City ownership should any one of a number of situations occur - if the property ceases to exist, merges with another entity, files for bankruptcy protection, allows liens to be filed against the property, is dissolved in any fashion, or ceases to maintain and operate the property for the purpose of sheltering children who have been removed from their home by the Court system on an emergency basis. While Staff agrees that the Hope House is providing a worthy service for the Jasper and Pickens County communities, we are concerned over the liability of being a landlord under the current single parcel ownership situation, as well as the requirements for liability insurance should this continue to be City-owned land.

CONCLUSION:

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve the quit claim deed to Hope House. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business #5 Consideration and approval of CCSWA		PRESENTER: Sonia Jammes
<p>DISCUSSION: Ms. Jammes stated that the city currently purchases water through a connection point from Cherokee County Water & Sewerage Authority at a market rate of \$4.80 per 1,000 gallons. Currently the city’s maximum purchasing capacity is 115,000 gallons per day based on limitations within our infrastructure at Henderson Mountain pump station. Staff is requesting that the Mayor and City Council enter into the capacity reservation agreement pursuant to the 2009 CCWSA policy and reserve 200,000 gallons per day capacity for a one-time capacity fee of \$500,000 and to purchase at the wholesale rate currently set at \$2.40 per 1,000 gallons. The City currently has 5,463 gallons per day of baseline reserved capacity from 2009 which was based on average usage. The additional 200,000 gallons per day reservation will provide the city with a total of 205,463 gallons per day. Staff is requesting to approve becoming a wholesale customer of Cherokee County Water & Sewerage Authority and to reserve 200,000 gallons per day to be distributed into the City Water System at a one-time capacity reservation fee of \$500,000 and then purchasing water at the wholesale rate.</p> <p>CONCLUSION: Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve. Councilmember Proctor made a motion to approve. Councilmember Foust provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously. Mayor Lawrence added that this is a step forward for the city.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business #6 Consideration and approval of Resolution 2022-12 Extension to Temporary Moratorium		PRESENTER: Sonia Jammes
<p>DISCUSSION: Ms. Jammes stated that a temporary moratorium for residential was put into place on August 26, 2021, during the time of redoing our zoning ordinance. The temporary moratorium has been extended a few times. As a result of the complexity of drafting the modified zoning ordinance and the current efforts at master planning for the Utility System and Development Department, City Council is requested to adopt a ninety (90) day extension to the moratorium until January 15, 2023. This extension will allow the city to vet the Master Plan (after completion) on the development side and wastewater side, to make sure we have the infrastructure in place to withstand the growth that is coming. Councilmember Proctor clarified that this extension is for all rezoning and proposed residential use.</p> <p>CONCLUSION: Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve Resolution 2022-12 Extension to Temporary Moratorium. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved	N/A	January 15.2033

AGENDA ITEM: Committee Reports		PRESENTER: Council
<p>Council provided updates on various projects. Updates included: The rewriting the zoning around the residential ordinance has been completed and sent to legal for review. The electric upgrade at Lee Newton park is still underway. The bridge at Jasper City Park (Duck pond) continues to be closed, a temporary gravel walkway is in place. The Administration committee stated that job descriptions for Planning and Development Director and Building code official have been reviewed by committee and released to staff to be used for job postings. The Bid opening for the addition to the Fire Station will be on October 11, 2022.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
none	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn	PRESENTER: Mayor Steve Lawrence
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CONCLUSION:

Councilmember Raffield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Sneve provided the second. Motion to approve passed unanimously. Mayor Lawrence adjourned the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Adjourn	N/A	N/A



Mayor

City Clerk