



City of Jasper
 200 Burnt Mountain Road
 Jasper, GA 30143
 MINUTES | REGULAR MEETING
 Monday, May 2, 2022, 6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT
 Mayor Steve Lawrence
 Folsom C. Proctor, M.D.
 Kirk Raffield- Via Zoom
 Anne Sneve
 Jim Looney
 John Foust

STAFF
 Sonia Jammes
 Kim Goldener
 Shaunna Coleman
 Tara Benson
 David Hall
 Lindsey Williams
 John Sherrer
 Matt Dawkins

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE
 Green Suttles
 Victoria Mealer
 Ralph Barker
 Jack Dunn

MEMBERS ABSENT
 None

LEGAL COUNSEL
 R. David Syfan

PRESS
 Mari Livsey – KnowPickens
 Angela Reinhardt – Pickens Progress
 Fetch Your News

AGENDA ITEM: Call Meeting to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance **PRESENTER:** Mayor Steve Lawrence

DISCUSSION:
 Mayor Lawrence seeing a quorum called the meeting to order. Mayor Lawrence announced that Ralph Barker, President of the Pickens Ministerial Association will be providing tonight’s Invocation. Mayor Lawrence stated that City Manager Sonia Jammes reached out to the Ministerial Association on behalf of the City of Jasper and what a good thing this will be. Ralph Barker provide the Invocation.
 Councilmember Kirk Raffield led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: Adopt Agenda **PRESENTER:** Mayor Steve Lawrence

DISCUSSION:
 Mayor Lawrence announced to Council that revisions have been made to the agenda. The added item # 8 for Approval of Alcohol license for Rocco’s Pub, Inc., and due to technical difficulties, the April 4th Regular Council Meetings will not be voted on for approval.

CONCLUSION:
 Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to adopt the revised agenda. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: Approve Minutes from March 28, 2022, Work Session **PRESENTER:** Mayor Steve Lawrence

DISCUSSION:
 Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve.

CONCLUSION:
 Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve the minutes from March 28, 2022, Regular Council Meeting. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: Old Business
 Item # 1 Consideration and Approval of Variance to the Zoning **PRESENTER:** Lonnie Waters

Ordinance 2202-04 for 3622 Camp Rd (Old Bargain Barn).		
DISCUSSION: Mr. Waters stated that the variance would be to lower the amount of parking places from 108 to 20. Based on the analysis of this application, using the standards and criteria found in Section 94-210 of the Zoning Ordinance, staff recommends approval of the request for a parking variance for the current existing business only. The owners will provide a letter stating that if they sell the business or building and the use changes from a U-Haul company to another retail store, that the purchaser will need to be evaluated and the parking would have to follow city ordinances. (Letter attached to minutes as well as with the deed.) This has been brought before Planning and Zoning Commission as well as a Public Hearing with Mayor and Council. Council asked if the additional storage buildings will be coming back to Planning and Zoning and council. Mr. Waters confirmed that is correct.		
CONCLUSION: Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Looney proved a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approval Ordinance 2022-04 Variance	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business		
Item #1 Consideration and Approval of Resolution 2022-03 Rural Development Grant		PRESENTER: Kim Goldener
DISCUSSION: Kim Goldener provided background information on the GA DCA Rural Downtown Redevelopment Grant Program. This project was previously applied for under the GDOT TAP grant program last year, but not awarded funding. DCA is looking for transformative revitalization projects centered around core downtown areas. Staff believes that the downtown pedestrian and streetscape improvements in combination with the public restrooms project is an excellent example of a transformative downtown revitalization project. The grant application is due to DCA no later than Friday, June 3 rd , and the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission is assisting with the grant application. The minimum match requirement is 10% of the total project cost. The City has previously allocated \$360,000 from 2020 SPLOST to use as matching funds for the TAP grant project. As Jasper was not awarded funding through that program, staff requests that this amount be reallocated to pull the matching funds from for the Rural Downtown Redevelopment Grant Program.		
CONCLUSION: DCA Rural Development. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-03 and the application for the DCA Rural Development. Councilmember Sneve provide a second. Motion to approved passed unanimously.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Application submitted by June 3 rd , 2022	Kim Goldener	June 3 rd , 2022

AGENDA ITEM: New Business		
Item #2 Consideration and approval for Resolution 2022-04 Pickens County Broadband Amendment to the Joint Comprehensive Plan		PRESENTER: Sonia Jammes
DISCUSSION: Ms. Jammes is requesting council to approve Resolution 2022-04 for the Pickens County Broadband Amendment to the Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Northwest Georgia Regional Commission completed its regional review of the Broadband Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for Pickens County, City of Jasper, City of Nelson, and Town of Talking Rock. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs has reviewed and approved the amendment at their level of the process.		
CONCLUSION: Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Looney provide a second. Motion to approved passed unanimously.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business Item #3 Resolution 2022-05 Extension to Temporary Moratorium	PRESENTERS: David Syfan
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------

DISCUSSION:
 Mr. Syfan has reminded Mayor and Council that that they have instituted a temporary moratorium. The moratorium that will lapse on June 1st. Mr. Syfan has revised the moratorium extension to go through July 15, 2022. This longer extension will give the Council more time to discuss the proposed residential density changes to the zoning ordinance and give the Council more time to discuss. It will also give the Council two meetings where it would be possible to adopt the new zoning regulations – June 6th and July 11th. If the Council reaches a decision quickly and does not need all this time, then the Council at the meeting wherein the Council adopts the new zoning regulations, could lift, and rescind the moratorium at that same meeting. So, if the Council is ready to act by the June 6, 2022, meeting, then the Council could lift the moratorium on June 6, 2022. If the Council needs more time, then this revised moratorium extension would allow the Council to consider the zoning ordinance changes at the July 11th meeting and lift the moratorium then. Councilmember Dr. Proctor added that the Development Committee has completed its work and is in the process of submitting it to legal for review before bringing it before Council.

CONCLUSION:
 Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve Resolution 2022-05 for the extension to Temporary Moratorium. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Looney provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approval Resolution 2022-05	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business Item #4 Consideration and Approval of Alcoholic Ordinance 2022- 05 Adding Distilleries & Package Sales	PRESENTER: David Syfan
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------

DISCUSSION:
 Mr. Syfan reminded Council that in 2021, we amended the alcoholic beverage ordinance to provide for distilleries. During this process the General Assembly amended the statutory law to allow distilleries to have retail package sales to consumers, as well as sales by the drink to consumers. Therefore, we will need to amend our alcohol ordinance to mirror the Georgia statutory law and allow distilleries to have package sales and sales by the drink to consumers. By doing this, it will eliminate the distillery with cocktail room license. The current distillery license is \$3,000 and the distillery with cocktail room was \$4,000. Mr. Syfan asked council if they want to leave the distillery license at \$3,000 or raise to \$4,000.

CONCLUSION:
 Mayor Lawrence made a motion to approve subject to discussion. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve the amended Alcoholic Ordinance 2022-05 with the licenses fee of \$4,000. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approve Ordinance 2022-05 Fee set at \$4,000	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business Item #5 Consideration and Approval to Payoff Loan for Police Department Located at 55 GG Lovell Street	PRESENTER: Lindsey Williams
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------

DISCUSSION:
 Mrs. Williams addressed Mayor and Council stating that to reduce the city’s debt, staff would like to use funds from our ad valorem account to pay off the loan for the police department located at 55 GG Lovell Street. The current payoff is approximately \$105,000. This will save close to \$7,800 in interest. Currently, the property is in the DDA’s name and staff would need to get approval for our city attorney to prepare the paperwork like the payoff of the Perrow property.

CONCLUSION:
 Councilmember Foust made a motion to pay off the loan at located at 55 GG Lovell Street. Councilmember Looney

provide a second. Councilmember Dr. Proctor stated that in the future he would like to have a discussion among council about a debt strategy.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business
 Item #6 Consideration and Approval of Purchasing Turn Out Gear (PPE) **PRESENTER: John Sherrer**

DISCUSSION:
 Fire Chief Sherrer addressed Mayor and Council. Chief Sherrer requested the approval to purchase Structural Turnout Gear (PPE). Current NFPA, and manufacturer standards state that Structural PPE has a usable life expectancy of 10 years. The total number of sets that need to be purchased to equip personnel is eight sets. These three include two new hires and Chief Sherrer. In addition to that, we have four sets that are at their ten-year mark that need to be replaced and one additional set that has sustained damage due to excessive heat from fire. One set of Structural PPE is currently quoted at \$3,801. The total for all eight sets would be \$30,408. Councilmember Foust asked if more sets would be need for spares. Chief Sherrer stated that the turn out gear is measured specifically for each person. Mrs. Williams added that if approved this purchase would come from SPLOST funding.

CONCLUSION:
 Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve the purchase of eight sets of Turn Out Gear. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Approved-\$30,408	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business
 Item #7 Street Closure Request for Second Saturdays **PRESENTER: Kirk Raffield**

DISCUSSION:
 Councilmember Raffield on behalf of the DDA is requesting a cross section of Main Street to be closed for the Second Saturday events. The requested section would be from the Courthouse side of Main Street across to Stegall Drive. Silver barricades would be placed on both sides to divert traffic down Court Street for one side and Depot Street for the other. Detour signs will also be put up. The following are the dates and times for the closure.
 Saturday, May 14th – 12:00 pm to 10:00 pm
 Saturday, June 11th – 12:00 pm to 10:00 pm
 Saturday, July 9th – 12:00 pm to 10:00 pm
 Saturday, August 13th – 12:00 pm to 10:00 pm

CONCLUSION:
 Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve the street closure for Second Saturdays. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Foust provide a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Street closure for 2 nd Saturdays	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: New Business
 Item #8 Approval of Alcohol License for Rocco’s Pub Inc. **PRESENTER: Lindsey Williams**

DISCUSSION:
 Mrs. Williams stated that Rocco’s Pub Inc., located at 47 Mountainside Village Pkwy, has made application for a new

alcohol license due to the change in ownership. The new owners are Robin & Michael Catalano.

CONCLUSION:

Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: Committee Reports

Committees gave updates. Updates included that DDA did vote on an agreement with a professional vendor for the maintenance planters on main street and staff has tentatively scheduled a stakeholder meeting for Doris Wiginton on May 18th at 6:00pm.

Mrs. Williams provided the Financial Report.
Mr. Waters provided Development Report.
Fire Chief Sherrer provided Fire Report - Burn band started May 1st.
Police Chief Dawkins provided to Police Report.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None	N/A	N/A

AGENDA ITEM: Adjourn **PRESENTER: Mayor Steve Lawrence**

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to adjourn.

CONCLUSION:

Councilmember Foust 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
None	N/A	N/A



Mayor



City Clerk