

Village of Jacksonville Council Meeting
December 29, 2022
6:30 PM

The Village of Jacksonville met in regular session with Acting Mayor Butch Chapman presiding and the meeting called to order at 6:30 PM. Council members present were Jay Chapman, Butch Chapman, Clinton Augustine, Rachel Gratz, Angela Strock and Gary Simons. Also present were Solicitor Andrew Grillo, Water Operator Ron Riley, and Fire Chief DJ Henry.

Water Operator Ron Riley reported that a tree in the railroad right-of-way that fell on Tenth Street was cleaned up and removed to reopen the road. Riley and Administrator Rockwell have been working on water leaks, salting of the roadways, call outs for various items during the recent extreme cold weather, sealing roof leaks at the Garage, repairing air leaks due to damage by animals at the Garage, organizing the Garage, installing shelving in the records room, and installation of lighting over the fuel tanks and back of the Garage.

Councilperson Jay Chapman made a motion to approve the October 27, 2022 Council Minutes as read. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Don Gossel of the Athens County Emergency Management Agency reported that the functional part of the mock disaster is scheduled for Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 10:00A-2:30P. Gossel, Melody Barnhart, an EMS representative, representatives from the Athens County Sheriff's Office, American Red Cross representatives and other agency representatives will be on site at the Municipal Building during the mock disaster. The exercise is expected to last approximately four hours with each hour of the exercise representing one day of the response to the disaster. Council, Mayor and other Village representatives are encouraged to attend. The disaster siren was ordered and is expected to be delivered in mid-January. The new siren can also serve as a tornado siren for the community with a voice over feature. The volume can be controlled on the new siren as well. Melody Barnhart has been watching for grants for Jacksonville to install gates at the railroad crossing on Sixth Street.

Fire Chief DJ Henry reported that the MARCS radios were received, installed and are operational. Two members were sent to firefighter training classes. One member passed the test and is now certified. The other member did not complete the classes. Henry requested Solicitor Grillo send a letter to the member that did not complete the classes requesting reimbursement for the training cost per Village Policy. Henry reported that Unit 1773 was taken to Atlantic Emergency Solutions in McConnelsville to obtain a quote for repairs. Atlantic Emergency Solutions repaired the truck without Henry's approval and without providing a quote. Henry stated the repairs were about \$6,000 and the Fire Department budget did not have the funds this late in the year to pay for the repairs. Henry stated the Village of Trimble paid for the repairs and thanked them for their assistance. Henry reported there were 7 fire runs in November and 9 fire runs in December. The fire department voted in October to add Braxton Mitchell to the fire roster. Henry stated the department has removed Brooks Faires, Derek Lowry and Colton Kline from the fire roster. Henry stated that some members have no interest in taking the firefighter training and would like to remain on the roster as auxiliary members to assist with fundraising and station duties only. Council stated this is okay as long as they are not responding to any fire runs. Henry requested a Finance Committee meeting to discuss replacing Unit 1773 with a new or used truck in 2023. A Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for January 26, 2023 at 5:00P.

Henry reported that the department used 479.5 gallons of diesel and 460.7 gallons of gasoline in 2022. In 2021 the department used 396.6 gallons of diesel and 175.9 gallons of gasoline. Henry will be applying for an 50/50 grant through Ohio Department of Natural Resources for up to \$10,000, a state equipment grant that is 100% match up to \$10,000, and the State Fire Marshall grant for reimbursement for training costs. Councilperson Gratz asked which Fire Department vehicles use gasoline. Henry stated the command vehicle and brush truck use gasoline. The command vehicle was utilized more in 2022 to send members to training classes.

Councilperson Gratz asked if the day of the week for Council meetings is going to change. Acting Mayor Butch Chapman stated he is not sure yet. Chapman stated Smathers is having some health issues and he is not sure if he will be able to continue as Mayor. Chapman asked Council to keep Smathers in their prayers.

Solicitor Grillo discussed the draft Noise Ordinance and draft Trash Ordinance with Council. The issue with the Trash Ordinance will be enforcement. Grillo stated there is no problem with Council putting the Ordinance in place and sending letters to at least try to resolve the issues. Citations to court can be costly for the Village. Grillo is scheduling to discuss the Noise Ordinance with the Sheriff's Office to ensure it can be enforced. There was a criminal case from Halloween in Municipal Court that was settled without court action. Grillo discussed recent changes in legislation regarding self-defense claims. Council discussed the trash problems throughout the Village. Grillo reported that he completed the Sunshine Law training for himself and as designee for Councilperson Jay Chapman and Councilperson Butch Chapman.

Amy Simons asked for the status of the paving grant application submitted by Jacksonville. Chapman stated he did not know the status. Fiscal Officer Rockwell was going to provide an update, but is currently sick and contagious and could not attend the meeting.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to approve the August 2022 financial statements as presented. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes", except Councilperson Strock who abstained due to absence from the September 29 meeting. Motion carried.

Councilperson Gratz reported on the Records Committee meeting. The Committee searched for a requested personnel file and was unable to locate the file at this time.

Councilperson Gratz reported that the Park Committee met. It was determined that the park signs will need to be updated and replaced. Butch Chapman stated there are community members that would like a dog park established in the back section of the park. They would be willing to pay a membership fee and have a code to enter the dog park. The legality of this would need to be researched. The back section of the park would have to be filled in to bring the level of the ground up and make it more usable. The baseball field is no longer usable without work on the outfield. A grant would likely be needed to make the necessary park improvements.

Councilperson Butch Chapman discussed the success of the Old Settlers Reunion Committee haunted trail fundraiser in the park. Chapman stated Council will need to meet with the Old Settlers Reunion Committee soon to discuss the 2023 festival.

Councilperson Butch Chapman presented the October and November bank reconciliations and financial statement on behalf of Fiscal Officer Rockwell.

Councilperson Simons stated he received complaints regarding an outdoor drinking area blocking the sidewalk in front of Muddy Creek Tavern. Councilperson Butch Chapman stated this was brought up at the last meeting. About three feet of the sidewalk is still accessible. Simons stated there would be issues with asking to have it removed because part of the VFW parking lot covers a sidewalk. Chapman stated that in the past residents have been asked not to park vehicles on sidewalks. Grillo will research this matter and ownership and maintenance of sidewalks and report back to Council.

Councilperson Strock stated there are issues with the road washing out on North Seventh Street.

Councilperson Augustine made a motion to approve the September financial statements presented at the October 27, 2022 Council meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Strock. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Butch Chapman requested a Street Committee meeting before the January Council meeting to discuss motor vehicle accidents at Palmer Street and Main Street. State Highway Patrol stated there have been

seven accidents at this location and it is recommended that Palmer Street be one-way traffic from Main Street south. Chapman also feels that Seventh Street and Ninth Street should be taken into consideration for one-way traffic also. Simons expressed concerns with detouring of traffic during the Old Settlers Reunion if all of the streets east of Sixth Street are made one-way from the highway. Alleyways that adjoin with the highway in that area will need to be one-way as well. Council discussed how this would affect school bus routes. It was also agreed that the fire trucks would be exempt from the one-way rule when responding to emergencies. Henry stated this will need to be made known to the public so they don't see the fire department traveling the wrong way and assume they can as well. Grillo will look into requirements for passage of an Ordinance making streets one-way. The Street Committee meeting will be scheduled once Grillo has researched the requirements.

Councilperson Jay Chapman stated that due to a water break issue over Christmas weekend he would like it required that whichever employee is on call must respond to a call-in within one hour. Chapman also requested that the water reading and test be conducted between 7:00AM and 9:00AM each day. Council wants the on-call person to be at the Village Garage within ninety minutes of receiving the call. If they are unable to respond in that time frame, the Mayor should be contacted to call out the other employee.

Councilperson Jay Chapman made a motion that employees must respond to the Village of Jacksonville to call-ins within ninety minutes. Seconded by Councilperson Simons. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

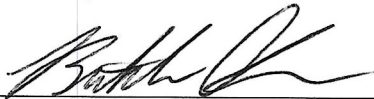
Chief Henry requested the Village workers plow and salt around the fire station first when there is inclement weather.

A resident on Fifth Street experienced a water break during the extreme cold weather. The Village was experiencing a lot of leak alerts due to residents leaving water drip at their faucets to keep lines from freezing. Council discussed how to make sure all residents are contacted when a leak alert is generated. Council discussed if the resident should have to pay for the water lost during the leak. Grillo stated he believes there are stipulations in the Water Ordinance already. Councilperson Chapman said that he did not have any information about the amount of water used, but believed it was leaking for several hours, partly due to a slow response from Village workers. Council discussed that if the slow response from the Village to the leak alert resulted in the bill being larger than it would have been if there was a timely response, it may be the Village's responsibility to cover the cost of that bill. Council stated that they would need more information about the amount of water used and the time of the Village workers' response to make a decision.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance 2022-33 declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Strook. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance 2022-33: 2022 Supplemental Appropriations and Declaring an Emergency. Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-33 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Simons. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Acting Mayor Butch Chapman entertained a motion to adjourn.

Councilperson Jay Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20P.



Acting Mayor Butch Chapman



Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell