

Village of Jacksonville Council Meeting
March 31, 2022
6:30 PM

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

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to approve the February 24, 2022 Regular Council Minutes as read. Seconded by Councilperson Jay Chapman. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Resident Emily Swart addressed Council regarding the status of road repairs, upgrades to the park, water office hours, website updates and the Christmas parade. Council will be deciding the water office hours later in the meeting. Road repairs are in the process of being quoted and seeking funding. The website updates are currently in progress. Swart stated she would like to see more of Sixth Street decorated for Christmas and the Village possibly partnering with the Old Settlers Reunion on the project.

Resident Amy Simons addressed Council regarding loud music at the park. Simons asked if signs could be posted at the park regarding the noise ordinance. Mayor Smathers stated a sign can be posted at the park entrance. Simons said there are a lot of issues with barking dogs in town. Simons was advised to contact Linda at the Humane Society. Simons expressed concerns regarding rats at a property in town. Solicitor Grillo will review the Village's trash ordinance to see if anything can be done to address this. Simons stated it was disheartening that someone damaged the Welcome to Jacksonville sign, but was glad it has been repaired.

Mayor Smathers reported on behalf of resident Chuck Shafer about an issue with storm drains on Fourth Street and the bushes in front of the Eagles obstructing the view if you are pulling out of East Palmer Street. Smathers reported on behalf of resident Liz Skinner that there are a lot of complaints regarding Muddy Creek Tavern. Smathers requested a motion from Council for the Water Office hours to be set at Tuesday through Friday, 9:00A to 3:00P. Mondays the office would be closed for the Fiscal Officer to work on finances without interruption. Two hours each morning will be spent picking up and processing mail, returning phone calls and any other items that need completed before the office opens for the day.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to open the Water Office to the public Tuesday through Friday, from 9:00A to 3:00P. Seconded by Councilperson Jay Chapman. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Smathers stated that a head count of the number of Council attending the EMA Disaster Response exercise will be needed by the end of the meeting for Don Gossel who is organizing the event. Smathers reported that the Village has an opportunity to apply for a grant for a replacement generator for the Municipal Building. This item was on the Council Project List. Smathers requested approval to enter into a grant agreement for this should the Village qualify. Nine people will be attending the EMA exercise representing Council, Mayor and Administrative offices.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion authorizing Mayor Smathers to enter into a grant agreement for a replacement generator if the Village qualifies. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Smathers reported that the necessary updates to the Employee Policy Manual are complete and are included in legislation for Council's approval.

Interim Fire Chief DJ Henry asked when he and the Assistant Chief will be changed from Interim to Permanent. Smathers stated that the new hire packets for all firefighters need to be completed before this will be considered.

Administrator Rockwell reported that repairs have been made to the Welcome to Jacksonville sign. Rockwell is continuing work on the Municipal Building improvements. Several old water meters were replaced in town during the past month. Potholes have been patched and continue to be patched around town as the materials become available. Several water leaks were located and either fixed or contact was made with the owner to repair the leak.

The Administrator and Water Operator are now able to access the water meter software and receive alerts if there is a leak detected.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell presented Council with the January and February 2022 Monthly Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliations. Rockwell requested a motion to approve the December 2021 Financial Statements presented at the February 24, 2022 meeting. Rockwell reminded Council that employee medical insurance is due for renewal by May 2022. Rockwell stated Village properties were reviewed by an appraiser at the request of Public Entities Pool. The vehicle and equipment lists were updated with the insurance broker. It remains to be seen how much this may affect the Village's insurance rates until the renewal quote is received. Rockwell provided Council with an updated project list prioritized according to the responses received from Council. Rockwell verified that Council would want to consider making something a higher priority on the list if grant funding is available. Council agreed. Rockwell presented a water adjustment to Council for approval due to being over the \$100.00 limit permitted by ordinance for Mayor's approval. The leak was due to a failure of a gasket which falls under the Village's equipment. The customer would receive credit for the entire amount above their average usage.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to approve the December 2021 Financial Statements as presented. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to approve a water leak credit due to failure of Village equipment in the amount of \$765.97 for account 02430-001. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Rockwell presented Council with the Auditor's Certificate for renewal of the Current Expense Levy. Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to accept the Auditor's Certificate for renewal of the 6.00 mill Current Expense Levy. Seconded by Councilperson Strock. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Rockwell presented a 2022 Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources to update the revenue budget for 2022. Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to file the 2022 Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources with the Athens County Auditor. Seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Rockwell reported that the Ordinance passed at the February 24, 2022 meeting concerning High Street contained an incorrect address. Rockwell stated that a revised Ordinance is included with this meeting's legislation rescinding the previous Ordinance and correcting the address on High Street. Rockwell presented the 2022 Permanent Appropriations for Council approval. The permanent budget includes the MARCS Radio Grant awarded to the Fire Department and purchase of a box blade for maintaining alleyways, a trash pump, heater and lite box, and miscellaneous tools requested for the Public Service Department. Rockwell stated a Backflow Ordinance requested by Water Operator Riley was included in Council's packets. This Ordinance requested by the EPA of the Water Operator. Rockwell also presented a Resolution to place the renewal of the Current Expense levy on the fall ballot.

Rockwell stated a traffic study was performed on Sixth Street by the Athens County Engineer. The daily average number of cars that travel Sixth Street is 1,345. Rockwell stated that contracts for online water bill payment acceptance are executed and the setup process has started. Rockwell estimates 45 days until implementation is complete. Rockwell requested Council approve \$100.00 as floating cash to be used in the water office cash register to provide change to customers. Rockwell stated this amount should make additional trips to the bank for change unnecessary.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to keep \$100.00 cash on hand in the water register for providing change to water customers. Seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Solicitor Andy Grillo stated he will research the trash and noise legislation to see what can be done. Grillo stated there was a criminal domestic violence case that was reduced to a non-violent offense. Grillo also reported that the Muddy Creek Tavern charges are not being prosecuted.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell reported on behalf of Committee Chair Jay Chapman for the Fire Committee. Rockwell reported that the Fire Committee met on March 30, 2022 at 5:00P with Mayor Smathers and Interim Chief Henry present. The Committee discussed door lock issues. The Committee recommends giving the locks a couple more

months to work out the kinks. The Fire Committee does not recommend that any department have locks that allow access to the building using keys, keys fobs or cell phone access. Henry will advise the firefighters to meet with Fiscal Officer Rockwell to program fingerprints for the door locks to serve as a backup method of entry to the building, in addition to the PIN access codes already in use. The Committee also recommended that minors not be permitted in the Village Municipal Building without adult supervision. Resident Vanessa Henry stated she disagreed with the Committee's decisions. Mrs. Henry stated the current door lock system is not working. Mrs. Henry stated sometimes her son needs access to the building to pick up the Chief computer, and it is inconvenient if he cannot access the building. Council stood by the Committee's decisions.

Councilperson Gratz asked if Bateman's Refuse Hauling would be willing to provide a dumpster for Spring Cleanup as they have in previous years. Mayor Smathers stated "yes". Gratz announced that the 2022 Community Cleanup Day is scheduled for May 14, 2022. Further details will be provided at a later date.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance 2022-12 declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance 2022-12: An Ordinance Rescinding Ordinance 2022-11 and to Secure the Structure Located at 21 High Street in Jacksonville, Ohio for the Safety of the Public and Declaring an Emergency. Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-12 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance 2022-13 declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance 2022-13: An Ordinance to Make Permanent Appropriations for the Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the Village of Jacksonville, Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2022 and Declaring an Emergency. Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-13 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

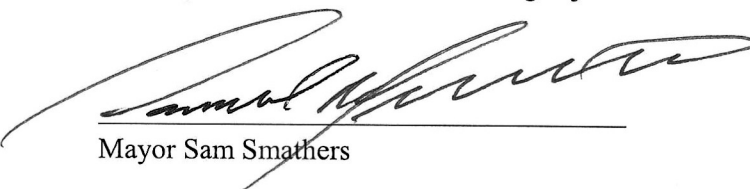
Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Ordinance 2022-14 declaring an emergency. Seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance 2022-14: An Ordinance Adopting a Revised Village of Jacksonville Employee Policy Manual Adopted by the Council of the Village of Jacksonville, Ohio and Declaring an Emergency. Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-14 as read. Seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to table Ordinance 2022-15. Seconded by Councilperson Augustine. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Ordinance 2022-15 tabled.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution 2022-16 as a first reading. Seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution 2022-16: A Resolution Declaring It Necessary To Levy A Tax In Excess Of The Ten Mill Limitation.

Mayor Smathers entertained a motion to adjourn.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilperson Jay Chapman. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:59P.


Mayor Sam Smathers


Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell