

Village of Jacksonville Council Meeting
April 25, 2019
6:30 PM

The Village of Jacksonville met in regular session with Mayor Sam Smathers presiding and the meeting called to order at 6:33 PM. Council members present were Emily Swart, Christina Ewing, Butch Chapman, Rachel Clift, Dave Moleski and Jay Chapman. Also present were Assistant Fire Chief DJ Henry, Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell and Solicitor John Haseley.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2019 Regular Council meeting and the March 29, 2019 Special Council meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Moleski. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell presented Council with the March Bank Reconciliation, March Financial Statements, March Work Log and an Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources. Rockwell requested a motion to approve the December, January and February Financial Reports presented at the March 28, 2019 meeting. Rockwell explained that the Amended Certificate was to increase revenue due to a Fire Department grant and to adjust for hall rentals for 2019. Rockwell also presented Council with an email from the U.S. Census requesting information on any new construction residences in the Village for the 2020 Census to ensure all residents are counted.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to approve the December 2018, January 2019 and February 2019 Financial Reports. Seconded by Councilperson Moleski. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion to file the Amended Certificate with the County Auditor. Seconded by Councilperson Moleski. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Assistant Fire Chief Henry reported presented the Fiscal Officer with a check from the Jacksonville Fireman’s Association for half of the 5% match for the FEMA AFG Grant. Henry discussed insured vehicles, the trailer donated to the Village, an issue with ODNR due to two post office boxes on file for the Village, and possibly moving the fire siren to the radio tower site. Councilperson Clift asked for a copy of the siren policy to post on the website and Facebook. Henry asked for an update on the status of the iPad for the ODNR grant. Rockwell stated that she had been to two different Walmart stores and they are unable to accept checks from the Village due to the check verification system denying them without a reason. Rockwell spoke to store managers at both locations and they were not able to help. The next step will be to obtain a cashier’s check from the bank and see if Walmart can accept that form of payment. Assistant Chief Henry stated that the SCBAs purchased with the FEMA AFG Grant have been received. One pack was shipped with the wrong fitting and had to be returned. Henry requested someone contact ODOT regarding installing signs on the State Route indicating the fire station is nearby. Councilperson Butch and Jay Chapman stated they will contact ODOT. Henry provided Council with an update roster of fire department members. The Fire Department is looking into hosting a Firefighter 1 training class that would be reimbursed by the State Fire Marshall.

Solicitor Haseley recommended a motion of Council to dispose of an old fire hydrant.

Councilperson Butch Chapman made a motion authorizing the Mayor to negotiate an agreed upon price for a non-functional fire hydrant. Seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Mayor Smathers reported that the General Fund officially had a positive balance for the first time on April 20, 2019. As the Village pays bills throughout the year the fund will dip back into the negative, but the Village is on its way to recovering the deficit! Smathers also asked Council to consider abandoning Eleventh Street. The Bateman Spring Cleanup is coming up and they will accept everything except tires. Letters were mailed to property owners about mowing and cleaning up properties. Smathers also reported that Nelsonville Cable picked up the scaffolding left after the Old Settlers Reunion.

Councilpersons Swart and Clift reported that the Parks Committee discussed various improvements to the park. The improvements include new picnic tables, replacing the counter in the shelter house, moving an outlet in the shelter house, new chains for the swings, the addition of a baby swing, painting the swing set frames, repairs to the park fountain, repairs to the basketball court, new benches, and the addition of a second fountain in the park. The Committee requested that Council decide which improvements should be made. Council discussed the improvements and which items should be a priority. Councilperson Clift made a motion to get new nets for the basketball court, repaint the lines on the court, get new chains, seats and a baby swing for the swing set, replace the counter and move the outlet in the shelter house, repair the existing park fountain and add a second water fountain if funds allow. Seconded by Councilperson Butch Chapman. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Clift stated that the Bridge Builders declined the sign grant. Councilperson Ewing asked if a gate was going to be installed at the park. Council discussed the matter. Councilperson Butch Chapman asked about the status of the mulching at the park. Council discussed the disposal of monkey bars and a slide at the park. These items were recommended for disposal by the Public Entities Pool Risk Assessor that visited the Village.

Councilperson Swart made a motion directing Solicitor Haseley to put out to bid the removal and salvage of the monkey bars and slide from the Village park. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Butch Chapman. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Swart requested an update on the locks on the water meters and the repair to the radio tower. Burr Oak and Administrator Smith are working on these items. Swart asked about the status of the guardrail installation on Tenth Street. The Village already has the guardrail, but it needs to be installed. Swart reminded Council that the bushes and trees need trimmed back from the roadways. Swart asked if Council can revoke the ATV Friendly Ordinance that was passed. Swart asked who is responsible for sidewalks according to the Ordinance that was passed. Swart asked what the holdup is on the keypad for the Municipal Building. Swart stated she would get quotes for a keypad.

Councilperson Swart stated she drove through all the alleys in town and they are in terrible shape. Swart requested gravel on Eighth Street. Swart also requested that the Fourth Street alley be grated and graveled. Swart stated cold mix needs to be put in the pot holes and that Administrator Smith should be using berm mix.

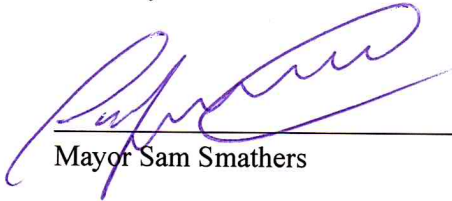
Councilperson Jay Chapman stated that stop sign needs to be installed at Palmer and Tenth Streets for traffic leaving Athens Metropolitan Housing. Chapman also stated that the guardrail and hydrant at State Route 13 and Palmer Street need to be checked due to a recent accident.

Councilperson Butch Chapman proposed making Eighth and Railroad Streets one-way due to excess traffic trying to avoid the speed bumps on Sixth Street. Council discussed the matter and possibly installing speed bumps on the side streets instead.

Solicitor Haseley stated he would need a motion instructing him if Council wished to vacate Eleventh Street. Councilperson Moleski made a motion instructing Solicitor Haseley to post a public notice and draft an Ordinance to vacate Eleventh Street effective August 29, 2019. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jay Chapman. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Resident Amy Simons asked when the secondary speed bumps were expected to be installed. Council responded that the budget would need to be checked to see if they can be purchased. Resident Gary Simons asked if a handicap space could be added in front of the post office on Sixth Street. Council stated a handicap space is already there, but the curb will need to be painted blue. Amy Simons stated she would volunteer to help plant flowers at the Village sign. Gary Simons stated he would volunteer to help with the shelter house repairs at the park.

Councilperson Swart made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:38PM.



Mayor Sam Smathers



Council Clerk Heather Rockwell