

**Village of Jacksonville Special Council Meeting**  
**October 16, 2023**  
**5:30 PM**

The Village of Jacksonville met in special session with Mayor Samuel Smathers presiding and the meeting called to order at 5:30 PM. Council members present were Jay Chapman, Clinton Augustine, Angela Strock and Cameron Lowery. Also present were Fire Chief DJ Henry, Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell, Water Operator Ron Riley and Administrator Ron Rockwell. Absent were Council members Butch Chapman and Rachel Gratz.

Councilperson Lowery made a motion to excuse Butch Chapman and Rachel Gratz from the October 16, 2023 special meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilperson Strock. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Smathers reported that the Village of Jacksonville did not receive the request from the Athens County Commissioners for American Rescue Plan Act funds as submitted. The Athens County Commissioners did, however grant the Village \$75,000 for a generator for the Municipal Building and \$100,000 for a brush truck for the Jacksonville Fire Department. Smathers stated although this was not the entire amount requested by the Village, the award does represent two-thirds of the Village's request. Smathers reported that the County will purchase the items directly and "gift" them to the Village. This will save the Village time and additional paperwork and avoid having to contract for an extra audit. This will also ensure that rules pertaining to procurement for American Rescue Plan Act funds are followed.

Smathers stated the Finance Committee will need to meet and oversee all aspects of these purchases to ensure compliance and timely responses to Athens County. Smathers stated the County needs specifications for the two items. Smathers also stressed that it is imperative that the Village stay within the amounts granted by the County. Smathers further stated that all communication with Athens County must be done through the Fiscal Officer or Mayor after the matter is discussed with the Finance Committee in a public meeting.

Fire Chief Henry asked if the department could pay for any amount over the \$100,000 awarded out of their funds. Fiscal Officer Rockwell stated that would all have to be discussed with the Finance Committee. Rockwell asked Henry how much time he will need to prepare specifications for the brush truck. Henry stated he would need about a week. Fiscal Officer Rockwell stated she has specifications for the generator from quotes previously requested. Councilperson Jay Chapman asked what type of generator was quoted before. Rockwell stated that it was a diesel generator. Chapman asked why diesel was quoted instead of natural gas. Rockwell answered that the diesel generator gives the Village more refueling options in the event of a long-term emergency. Chapman stated he doesn't recall a time when natural gas wasn't available. Rockwell stated this is what was requested previously and that a lot of water and sewer treatment plants utilize diesel generators. The matter can be discussed further with the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee scheduled a tentative meeting for Monday, October 23, 2023 at 5:30P.

Mayor Smathers entertained a motion to adjourn.

Councilperson Lowery made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilperson Strock. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:46 PM.

  
Mayor Samuel Smathers

  
Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell