

Village of Jacksonville
Regular Council Meeting
September 24, 2025 6:30 PM

The Village of Jacksonville met in regular session with Mayor Sam Smathers presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. Council members present were Cameron Lowery, Eric Clift, Jay Chapman, Butch Chapman and Rachel Gratz. Also present were Solicitor Andrew Grillo and Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell. Absent was Council member Angela Strock.

Councilperson Clift motioned to excuse Council member Angela Strock from the September 24, 2025 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Butch Chapman. All Council members voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Gratz motioned the approval of the August 27, 2025 Regular Council Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council members voted "yes", except Councilperson Butch Chapman and Councilperson Jay Chapman who abstained due to being absent from the August 27, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell reported on behalf of Water Operator Riley and Administrator Rockwell that the gauge is repaired on the fuel tank, a backup water pump was repaired and can now be used, and a hydraulic cylinder on the backhoe was replaced. Park restrooms are repaired, new water taps are installed with meters and all new meter installations have been activated. A platform was built to mount a pump sprayer on the tractor, water disconnects were performed, mowing and hang tags were completed. Butch Chapman stated there is a water spigot in the small shelter house at the Grove Park and the water was left on after the Old Settlers Reunion. Water was spraying out of the spigot and it has been turned off.

Solicitor Grillo reported he has not received any of the fire investigation items requested.

Mayor Smathers asked Council if they would like to set Trick or Treat for October 30, 2025 from 6:00P to 7:00P as the surrounding villages have done. Councilperson Butch Chapman motioned that Trick or Treat will be held on October 30, 2025 from 6:00P-7:00P. The motion as seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council members voted "yes". Motion carried.

Mayor Smathers reported that the Village's application for the Appalachian Regional Council (ARC) grant was approved for \$750,000. This project includes improvements to the park road and parking areas, wayfinding and artistic crosswalks, sidewalk, curb and crosswalk improvements to N. Sixth Street and an amphitheater in the park. Council asked if the location of the amphitheater is already decided. It is not. Fiscal Officer Rockwell provided Council with an updated grant award spreadsheet. The Village has received over \$1.9 million in grant funding since 2024. Construction for the larger grants will likely begin next spring and can take two to three years to complete. Councilperson Gratz asked if the two larger grants are coordinating with each other. Rockwell stated the same engineer is working on both grants so there will be coordination.

Rockwell invited Council to see the new backup generator that was installed last week. A quote for an annual maintenance agreement was also requested for the new generator. The Village will be responsible for pouring a concrete pad under the new generator and installing bollards to ensure that a car can't drive into it. The old generator will be installed at the garage. The Village will need to pour a concrete pad for the old generator and purchase a transfer switch. This will ensure that the fuel tanks will be operational for all departments during a power outage.

Smathers stated there was a resident complaint regarding dust on their house during the Labor Day weekend event. The resident is requesting the Village pay to power wash the house or provide water at Village cost to power wash the house themselves. Council stated they checked the house prior to the event

and it was already dusty before the event started. They also did not wish to set a precedent by selling water at cost for power washing or paying to have the residence power washed.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell requested approval of the July financial statements presented at the last meeting. Councilperson Gratz motioned to approve the July financial statements and bank reconciliation as presented at the August 27, 2025 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Lowery. All Council members voted "yes", except Councilperson Butch Chapman and Jay Chapman who were absent from the August 27, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell presented the August 2025 monthly financial statements and bank reconciliation for Council review. Rockwell reported that the Hellyer settlement has been paid in full with the Water Office. All thank you notes requested by Council have been sent.

Rockwell reported that Teri Brooks needs reappointed to the TTWWTD Board of Trustees. Councilperson Butch Chapman motioned to reappoint Terri Brooks as Jacksonville representative on the TTWWTD Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jay Chapman. All Council members voted "yes". Motion carried.

Rockwell reported that Doug Davis needs reappointed as the Satellite System Representative on the Burr Oak Regional Water District Board. This is a three year term from November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2028. Councilperson Butch Chapman motioned to reappoint Doug Davis as the Satellite System Representative for Burr Oak Regional Water District Board. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council members voted "yes". Motion carried.

Rockwell reported that a resident is requesting the Village replace guard rail posts in front of their residence. Rockwell stated if any Council members are contacted regarding this matter, they should be aware that in the past, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has maintained guard rails. ODOT historically sends the Village legislation authorizing repairs with ODOT covering 100% of the cost. Legislation has been passed by Council with ODOT as recently as 2024.

Councilperson Butch Chapman requested a curb cut in front of the Campbell residence on Seventh Street. Councilperson Gratz mentioned that she requested a curb cut on Eighth Street that didn't happen. Rockwell stated she believes the curb cut on Eighth Street was approved and was supposed to happen during the Paving Project. Final payment on the Paving Project is not yet issued and Rockwell will request this be completed. Councilperson Jay Chapman motioned to approve the curb cut on Seventh Street. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Butch Chapman. All Council members voted "yes". Motion carried.

Rockwell reported that before she can invoice the Old Settlers Reunion for water usage, she needs clarification from Council on the contract language. The contract states that the Old Settlers Reunion will be billed at Village cost for water usage at the lot, hydrant and park. Rockwell stated she doesn't believe that any part of the festival used water in the park. However, a park water agreement was completed and paid for water usage for a private party during the festival. Rockwell does not feel it would be fair for the Old Settlers Reunion to be charged for any park water usage. Rockwell also expressed concerns that the water is charged at cost when there are overhead items. Rockwell stated she is not saying that the festival should be charged at the customer rate, but the Village is losing money charging for the water at cost. Rockwell stated she can't invoice the water different from the contract without a motion of Council to document why she is billing a different amount than the contract states. This will likely need to be provided to audit. Councilperson Butch Chapman motioned not to charge the Old Settlers Reunion for park water usage for the 2025 festival. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council members voted "yes". Motion carried.

Rockwell reported that House Bill 96 was passed by the State and requires a Cybersecurity Program be adopted by public entities in Ohio. Rockwell stated the Village will not meet the September 30, 2025

deadline, but will be able to meet the Auditor of State's deadline for implementation of July 1, 2026. Rockwell still has a webinar to watch on how to develop the plan and is aiming to bring a draft plan to Council for the October meeting.

Councilperson Lowery stated there needs to be a Fire Committee meeting to discuss the Fire Department requisition for computers and televisions. Lowery stated at the previous meeting, he asked the Chief why he was requesting a Fire Committee meeting. The Chief responded that it was "fire related". A meeting was previously scheduled, but was cancelled because items the Chief needed "didn't come through". A Fire Committee meeting was scheduled for September 29, 2025 at 5:30P.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell stated that in a recent meeting the Fire Chief mentioned that it is not possible to get a purchase order for the testing of the Breathing Air System because an agreement is being completed by someone other than him. Rockwell provided Council with a printed copy of an email sent on June 11, 2025 to Fire Chief Henry from Breathing Air Systems which she was copied on. Rockwell stated she did not respond to the email despite being copied. Any time she is copied on an email regarding a fire department matter, she simply archives the email because it is the Chief's job to run the department. Rockwell stated the email shows the testing schedule and when kits for the test will be shipped to the Chief. Rockwell said the emails still show the former Fire Chief's name. Mayor Smathers has requested Henry update the name on the file with the vendor to the current Chief's name multiple times. Clift asked if we are sure that is the current Chief's email address. Rockwell stated it is Henry's email address. Rockwell stated she is upset about the lies were said in the last two meeting that she couldn't attend. Rockwell stated Council is only seeing a fraction of what actually goes on and she is tired of dealing with it. Clift asked if Rockwell knows if Henry responded to the email from Breathing Air Systems. Rockwell stated she's not sure because he could have responded only to them. Clift stated if Henry is not getting the emails or not responding to them, that needs to be corrected. Council agreed that the former Chief's name shouldn't be on any invoices and should be updated immediately.

Councilperson Lowery motioned to enter executive session per Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) regarding investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee with the Solicitor, Mayor and Fiscal Officer included as needed. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Butch Chapman. All Council members voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended for executive session at 7:15 PM.

Councilperson Butch Chapman motioned to exit executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council members voted "yes". Motion carried.


Meeting resumed at 7:47 PM.

As a result of executive session, the Fire Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, September 29, 2025 at 5:30P was changed to a Special Council Meeting to meet with the Fire Chief.

Mayor Smathers entertained a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Councilperson Butch Chapman and seconded by Councilperson Clift to adjourn. All Council members voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.


Mayor Samuel Smathers


Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell