

Village of Jacksonville
Regular Council Meeting
June 24, 2026 6:30 PM

The Village of Jacksonville met in regular session with Council President Leonard “Butch” Chapman presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM. Council members present were Kenneth “Jay” Chapman, Leonard “Butch” Chapman, Dave Moleski and Eric Clift. Also present were Fire Chief DJ Henry and Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell.

Councilperson Eric Clift moved to excuse Council members Angela Strock and Rachel Gratz from the June 24, 2026 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Moleski. All Council members voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Councilperson Jay Chapman moved to approve the May 27, 2026 Regular Council Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council members voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Council member Rachel Gratz arrived at the meeting at 6:35P.

Fire Chief Henry asked if the BCI background checks for Welch and Nichols were received. Fiscal Officer Rockwell stated they were just received in the mail and both indicate there were no findings. Council reviewed the applications and physicals for Welch and Nichols. Councilperson Clift moved to appoint Welch and Nichols to the fire roster. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Moleski. All Council members voted “yes”, except Councilperson Butch Chapman who abstained due to being a member of the fire department. Motion carried.

Council discussed the training cost requirement for firefighters. Welch was previously appointed to the department and took the firefighter training course to be certified, but was not given his three opportunities to take the exam. Councilperson Gratz moved to allow an exception to the training cost share requirement for Welch with the Village paying the full cost to attend training again. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council members voted “yes”, except Councilperson Butch Chapman who abstained due to being a member of the fire department. Motion carried.

Henry inquired about the status of the internet service change. Rockwell stated it is still in the process and she will be requesting pricing from other sources. Henry stated it may affect the department if there is a limit on the number of devices that can connect to the router at once. Rockwell stated she will make sure she checks this while she is checking pricing.

Henry stated Julie and Shannon Sheridan requested the Fire Department use the house on 5 S Second Street as a training fire. Henry will meet with them to assess the situation and possible apply for the state permits to perform the training. Henry stated he also addressed illegal burning issues at 15 W Palmer Street.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell presented the May bank reconciliation and financial statements and requested approval of the April 2026 financial statements and bank reconciliation. Councilperson Moleski moved to approve the April 2026 bank reconciliation and financial statements as presented at the May 27, 2026 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council members voted “yes”. Motion carried.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell reported that the property tax abolishment issue was not likely to be placed on the November General election ballot. The issue is not gone, however. Rockwell stated it will likely appear on the 2027 ballot.

Rockwell reported that she made contact with Jane Forest Redfern of the Athens Hocking Solid Waste District. Redfern requested the Village find out if Bateman’s will participate in a Community Cleanup and asked for a Village designee for her to communicate with. Council asked Rockwell to reach out to Ally Jago about Bateman’s participating and find out what type of contact person Redfern needs.

Rockwell presented two resolutions to request Auditor's Certificates for upcoming levy renewals. Rockwell recommended placing both levies on the ballot as renewals due to the failure rate of additional levies in recent elections.

Fiscal Officer Rockwell read the Minutes for the June 24, 2026 Fire Committee meeting. The Committee recommends continuing with the BCI background checks rather than FBI checks or both. The Committee recommends not accepting documentation from any other department for an applicant. The issue of requiring physicals will be deferred to Solicitor Grillo to decide. The Committee also recommends keeping the requirement for driver's abstracts. Councilperson Clift moved that background checks and driver's abstracts remain a requirement for new hires, physical will be required as advised by the Solicitor and no new hire documents from or for an outside source will be accepted for Jacksonville applicants. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Moleski. All Council voted "yes", except Councilperson Butch Chapman who abstained due to being a member of the fire department. Motion carried.

Councilperson Gratz discussed the updated Old Settlers Reunion contract. New language was added for the Sixth Street road closure. Council had no objections to this change. Fiscal Officer Rockwell stated that the fee being charged for water does not cover overhead costs or any sewer charges the Village incurs at the park. Rockwell stated she feels the fee should be more than "Village cost", but not the full customer rate. Council agreed to charge \$1.50 per 100 gallons of usage for the festival. Councilperson Clift moved to approve the Old Settlers contract with amendments to the water rate. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Moleski. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Butch Chapman moved to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution 2026-10 declaring an emergency. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution 2026-10: Resolution of Necessity. Councilperson Butch Chapman moved to adopt Resolution 2026-10 as read. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Butch Chapman moved to suspend the rules and read by title only Resolution 2026-11 declaring an emergency. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Gratz. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried. Resolution 2026-11: Resolution of Necessity. Councilperson Butch Chapman moved to adopt Resolution 2026-11 as read. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Councilperson Jay Chapman moved to enter executive session per Ohio Revised Code section 121.22(G)(1) to discuss employee compensation with the Fiscal Officer present. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Moleski. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting suspended for executive session at 7:56P.

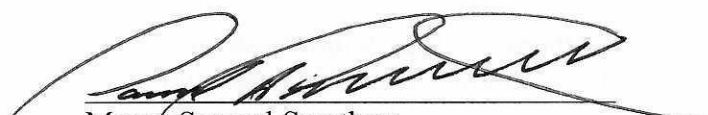
Councilperson Butch Chapman moved to exit executive session. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Clift. All Council voted "yes". Motion carried.

Meeting resumed at 8:09P. No decisions were made as a result of executive session.

Council President Butch Chapman entertained a motion to adjourn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.



Mayor Samuel Smathers



Fiscal Officer Heather Rockwell