

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The City of Jesup Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., at the Cracker Williams Community Center. Mayor Pro-Tem Nick Harris called the meeting to order. Roll call was as follows:

Mayor, David Earl Keith	Absent
Commissioner, Shirlene Armstrong	Present
Commissioner, Don A. Darden	Present
Commissioner, Nick Harris	Present
Commissioner, Bill Harvey	Absent
Commissioner, Ray House	Present
Commissioner, Stanley Todd	Present
City Attorney, Mike Conner	Present
City Manager, Mike Deal	Present
Police Chief, Mike Lane	Present

The Lord's Prayer was led by City Attorney Conner.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Police Chief Lane.

Mayor Pro-Tem Harris stated Mayor Keith was absent due to an out of town family emergency.

Commissioner Darden made motion seconded by Commissioner Armstrong to approve the minutes of the regular meeting dated June 2, 2020, special called meeting dated June 16, 2020 and special called meeting dated June 30, 2020, as corrected.

All Council present voted yes.

Sheron Daniels stated she opposes the Council considering locating the new City cemetery on city property near Sumac Drive. She asked Council to reconsider their decision to build a cemetery on that land, which is in her neighborhood.

Commissioner Harris informed Ms. Daniels the City bought 60 acres of land near Sumac Drive, but has not completed a study yet to find out whether or not a cemetery could be located anywhere on that property.

Commissioner Harris also noted he feels the City should not be in the cemetery business.

Commissioner Darden assured Ms. Daniels if the engineering report comes back stating a cemetery could be located on that property, a Public Hearing would be held before any decision would be made by Council.

Linda Lockley Kelly, representing the Concerned Citizens of the Pine Street Area, noted she grew up in a home on W. Pine Street. She asked Council why would they allow a doublewide to be placed on a well-traveled street like Pine Street without consulting the neighbors.

Commissioner House stated the Pine Street property was already zoned R-3, which allows doublewides, and the neighbors didn't need to be notified.

Ms. Kelly inquired about options the residents have to prevent any future mobile homes from being placed in the Pine Street area.

Building Inspector Don Herrin stated the property owners would have to agree to request property in that area to be up zoned. Building Inspector Herrin noted R-2 zone requires a minimum of 1,200 sq. ft. houses, but R-3 requires a minimum of only 900 sq. ft. houses.

Ms. Kelly asked would the doublewide decrease property value of other homes in the Pine Street area.

City Manager Deal stated the doublewide would have to be brought up to standards so it looks presentable; and he does not think it would affect other property values.

Ms. Louise Sapp, a resident on W. Walnut Street, noted she became concerned when the first doublewide was placed in the area. Now she is more concerned about the second doublewide.

Commissioner Todd suggested the Concerned Citizens of the Pine Street Area to meet, come to a consensus, and go before the Planning and Zoning Board to request rezoning in that area.

Assistant Public Works Director Allen Boyd asked Council for permission to use Sourcewell to purchase a new garbage truck. He stated Sourcewell is a nationwide agency for governments to purchase vehicles through. He noted Sourcewell solicited cooperative contracts ready to use, and Peterbilt was the lowest at \$246,936.00. This truck would replace the City's backup truck. He noted this process, instead of the normal sealed bid process, would save the City approximately \$6,000.00. He said the City could have this Peterbilt truck by the end of July 2020 using Sourcewell, but would have to wait 12-14 months to buy it through Peterbilt using normal sealed bid process.

Quotes were as follows:

Peterbilt Motor Company	\$246,936.00
New Way Trucks (Mack Chassis)	\$256,338.43
New Way Trucks (Auto Car Chassis)	\$282,029.22

City Manager Deal stated Sourcewell is the same as the old State Contract. Mike Cosoto, with Sourcewell, explained their process.

Commissioner House asked Public Works Director Eddie Williams did these prices compare to what the City has paid for a garbage truck in the past.

Public Works Director Williams stated prices have increased from what the City paid in the past, but these prices are comparable.

Commissioner House asked City Attorney Conner how does this process affect the City's sealed bid process. City Attorney Conner was still researching the matter, and stated he didn't know yet.

Commissioner Harris suggested tabling discussion on purchasing a new garbage truck until City Attorney Conner works out the answers, and requested discussion be put back on the agenda for next meeting.

City Manager Deal reported back to Council on whether or not purchases made out of SPLOST 4 Fund for pumps totaling \$42,291.75 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant were discussed in a Council meeting. City Manager Deal explained the invoice for 2 pumps in the amount of \$17,265.60 was legal for him to approve because each pump cost less than \$10,000.00. He stated the invoice for 1 pump in the amount of \$24,666.15 was more than he could approve. He stated the pumps were emergency purchases, and assumed Council had discussed them in a Finance meeting.

City Manager Deal noted the pumps were purchased during the time former Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor Stanley Efaw was retiring and using sick time, while the new Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor Partrick Martin was operating the plant. He stated he and former Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor Efaw failed to come before Council to get the purchase approved in a proper format, and he'll take credit for that.

City Manager Deal announced Assistant Fire Chief Josh Huffman has been promoted to Fire Chief. Former Fire Chief Gene Lane retired on June 30, 2020. City Manager Deal stated he looks forward to working with Fire Chief Huffman in the future. Council congratulated Fire Chief Huffman on his promotion.

City Manager Deal asked City Attorney Conner could he Swear-In Fire Chief Huffman at the next meeting. City Attorney Conner stated he would be glad to do it.

Commissioner Armstrong introduced Tyrone McGill and Landus Nixon, and recommended using them to help clean up Pepperhill area as needed since the prison inmate details are still unable to come out due to COVID-19.

Commissioner Harris stated he thought City Manager Deal was supposed to be working with the Department Supervisors to come up with a solution to that problem and report back to Council. Also he said Council previously discussed hiring a service as opposed to individuals, who would require supervision.

City Manager Deal stated the City has requested prices from businesses, and Assistant Public Works Director Allen Boyd is working on that. He noted he was interested in the price Mr. McGill and Mr. Nixon were offering, and asked them to meet with him the next morning.

Commissioner Armstrong noted Mr. McGill and Mr. Nixon recently cleaned MLK Park at no charge. Council applauded them for their volunteer service.

Commissioner Darden reported dilapidated houses on Poplar Street, Third Street, Third Street Lane, and Fourth Street need immediate attention.

Commissioner Darden stated the contract work on sidewalks on N. Fourth Street and E. Walnut Street is looking good.

Commissioner Darden said he would've liked to have seen retired Fire Chief Gene Lane come before Council before he left. City Manager Deal stated Fire Chief Lane wanted to keep everything quiet.

Commissioner Harris reminded Council the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, July 21st at 4:00 p.m. on St. Simons Island to tour the Neptune Pool, and get some ideas for Cracker Williams Park swimming pool. He suggested getting with Mayor Keith and Commissioner Harvey to find out how much interest Council has in touring the pool.

Commissioner Armstrong also reported a dilapidated house on the corner of N. Third Street and Walnut Lane needs some attention. Commissioner Harris suggested Council members ride through their district and make a list of dilapidated houses.

Meeting Adjourned.

City Clerk/Treasurer