

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2011

The Jackson, Tennessee, City Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. in the George A. Smith Meeting Room at City Hall with Mayor Jerry Gist and Councilmembers Charles “Pepper” Bray; Ernest Brooks II; Harvey Buchanan; Scott Conger; Johnny Dodd; Vicky Foote; Charles Rahm; and Randy Wallace present. Councilmember David Cisco was absent. Also present was Anita Brooks, recorder of the minutes.

Councilmember Randy Wallace gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The minutes of the November 8, 2011, meeting were approved and signed.

Mayor Gist proclaimed Tuesday, December 6, 2011, as University School of Jackson Lady Bruins Soccer Team Day in honor of the team being the first high school team in Madison County to win a soccer state championship for two consecutive years. Mayor Gist recognized University School of Jackson Coach Chris Leonardi, members of the University School of Jackson Lady Bruins Soccer Team and their parents.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

On the motion of Councilmember Wallace, seconded by Councilmember Conger, unanimous approval was given to an Ordinance to close and abandon a six (6) foot section of excess right-of-way for Wiley Parker Road.

SECOND READINGS:

On the motion of Councilmember Rahm, seconded by Councilmember Wallace, unanimous approval was given to an Ordinance to rezone property located at 428 North Cumberland Street from RG-3 (General Residential) District to RG-3/H (General Residential/Historic) District, containing 0.28± acres, submitted by Kathi Leatherwood.

On the motion of Councilmember Buchanan, seconded by Councilmember Bray, unanimous approval was given to an Ordinance to close and abandon a portion of Preston Alley running north from Preston Street to an unnamed alley.

On the motion of Councilmember Rahm, seconded by Councilmember Foote, unanimous approval was given to an Ordinance to close and abandon an unimproved section of Birchwood running north from Charjean Drive to a dead end.

On the motion of Councilmember Conger, seconded by Councilmember Foote, unanimous approval was given to an Ordinance to amend Title 8, Alcoholic Beverages, Chapter 1, Intoxicating Liquors, Section 8-117 of the Jackson, Tennessee, Code of Ordinances, relative to Minors, Persons Visibly Intoxicated and Habitual Drunkards.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilmember Brooks made a motion to approve a Resolution to repeal recent Tennessee legislation requiring photo identification for voting and urged his fellow colleagues to support the adoption of the resolution. Councilmember Brooks also submitted, for the record, a copy of an article regarding a 96-year-old Chattanooga resident who was denied a voting ID. The motion to approve the

adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilmember Buchanan. The motion failed 2-3-3, with Councilmembers Brooks and Buchanan voting yea, Councilmembers Bray, Rahm and Wallace voting nay and Councilmembers Conger, Dodd and Foote abstaining.

Councilmember Brooks made a motion to reopen the council redistricting process for the City of Jackson. Councilmember Brooks' motion died for lack of a second. Harrell Carter, President of the Jackson Madison County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (N.A.A.C.P.), expressed support for adopting a council redistricting plan, proposed by Councilman Ernest Brooks II and the Jackson Madison County Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. for the City of Jackson, and read a letter written by Marcia Johnson-Blanco, Co-Director, Voting Rights Project, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, which urged the city to reopen the council redistricting process and consider suggested council redistricting plans submitted by the Jackson-Madison County Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. Councilmember Foote expressed that some of the people who lived in her district told her they liked the city's current council redistricting plan. Councilmember Conger expressed concern regarding the possibility of citizens having a third council person to represent them which they did not vote for if the council district lines were drawn again, since the City Council had already adopted a council redistricting plan. Councilmember Conger also submitted, for the record, copies of correspondences from people who expressed opposition to reopening the council redistricting process. Stan Pilant, City Planner, advised that the process by which the city used to reapportion the nine city council districts was a standard process that had been followed for some time. Stan Pilant

also advised that the city's intent on reapportioning the nine council districts was to recognize where the districts were geographically, match the demographics of the districts to what they had been in the past and create districts that made sense in terms of where people have been associated and have voted. Councilmember Dodd expressed that he ran for the Office of City Council to represent people because he wanted to make a difference in his community. Councilmember Buchanan expressed that there was no more taxation without representation in city government and since African-Americans now lived in all parts of Jackson and housing patterns had changed for the City of Jackson, the community's energy and attention should be focused on diversity, inclusion, tax money spending, redevelopment and stabilization of neighborhoods, crime reduction, jobs, economic development, voter education and participation for the betterment of the city.

On the motion of Councilmember Rahm, seconded by Councilmember Foote, unanimous approval was given to the disbursement of Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP) funds to all employees covered under the City of Jackson medical insurance plan. Valerie Horton, Risk Manager for the City of Jackson, advised that in September 2011 the city received funds from a federal program that was established under the Affordable Care Act known as the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program. Total amount of funds received was \$145,489.57. Mayor Gist commended Valerie Horton and Keith Patterson, Benefits Consultant for the city's medical plan, for their efforts in getting the ERRP funds.

On the motion of Councilmember Buchanan, seconded by Councilmember Foote, unanimous approval was given to a Resolution for a salary supplement in

the amount of \$500 for the fiscal year 2012 for regular, full-time, active employees; regular, part-time employees who were hired on or before January 1, 2007, and who have received regular paychecks for the past three (3) years; and for retirees/beneficiaries of the pension plan in place prior to May 1, 1974.

On the motion of Councilmember Brooks, seconded by Councilmember Buchanan, unanimous approval was given to the sale of surplus city property located at 809 East Lafayette Street for \$1,099.

On the motion of Councilmember Rahm, seconded by Councilmember Dodd, unanimous approval was given to the write-off of delinquent 2010 property taxes less than \$20.00 before transfer to Chancery:

- Total number of properties – 405
- Total dollar amount - \$4,460.55
- Average dollar amount - \$11.01
- Total number of personal properties – 181

On the motion of Councilmember Conger, seconded by Councilmember Buchanan, a Resolution to approve the City of Jackson, Tennessee, Debt Management Policy as “revised” to reflect the State mandated language per MTAS published guidelines was approved 7-0-1, with Councilmember Foote abstaining.

On the motion of Councilmember Dodd, seconded by Councilmember Bray, unanimous approval was given to an equipment lease between the City of Jackson and Pope Golf.

On the motion of Councilmember Conger, seconded by Councilmember Buchanan, unanimous approval was given to the donation of a surplus 1984 Pirsch Fire Truck to the Local Fire Union 1850.

On the motion of Councilmember Foote, seconded by Councilmember Brooks, unanimous approval was given to a request to write off 86 checks totaling \$15,081.56 outstanding on the city's general account.

On the motion of Councilmember Rahm, seconded by Councilmember Dodd, the following FY12 budget amendment requests were approved 7-0-1, with Councilmember Brooks abstaining:

GENERAL FUND		Current	Amendment	Amended
<i>Expenses:</i>		Budget	Request	Budget
110-xxxx-111	Salaries for All Departments		419,785.10	
110-41900-144	Old City Pension	820,000	26,374.00	846,374
<i>Revenue:</i>				
110-37900	From Fund Balance	846,281.46	446,159.10	1,292,440.56
SPORTSPLEX FUND:				
<i>Expenses:</i>				
124-44505-111	Salaries	401,950.62	4,996.40	406,947.02
<i>Revenue:</i>				
124-37900	From Fund Balance	3,853.62	4,996.40	8,850.02
H & S FUND				
<i>Expenses:</i>				
131-43230-111	Salaries	1,029,852.21	18,111.93	1,047,964.14
<i>Revenue:</i>				
131-37900	From Fund Balance	609,763.53	18,111.93	627,875.46

Budget amendment for salary supplement for full-time city employees and regular part-time city employees.

On the motion of Councilmember Bray, seconded by Councilmember Buchanan, unanimous approval was given to the payment of invoices over \$10,000.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

JERRY GIST, MAYOR