

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 5, 2011

The Jackson, Tennessee, City Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. in the George A. Smith Meeting Room at City Hall with Mayor Jerry Gist and Council members Charles “Pepper” Bray; Ernest Brooks, II; Harvey Buchanan; David Cisco; Maurice Hays; Willie L. Moore, Jr.; Frank Neudecker; Charles Rahm and Randy Wallace present. Also present was Anita Brooks, recorder of the minutes.

Council member David Cisco gave the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The minutes of the March 1, 2011, meeting were approved and signed.

Mayor Gist asked the City Council to strike the consideration of a contract with USI Consulting Group to study the City’s post-retirement health insurance costs and retirement payments in the city’s retirement fund from the agenda and advised that Teresa Trice would address the City Council regarding a matter following comments given by Drew Baker.

Mayor Gist presented proclamations for Equal Pay Day; Jumpstart Jackson Community Wellness Month; Sexual Assault Awareness Month; Public Safety Telecommunicators’ Week and Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month.

Mayor Gist acknowledged the presence of Madison County Commissioner Gary Tippett and Dr. Nancy Zambito, Superintendent of the Jackson Madison County School System.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council member Brooks read a statement (attached hereto and made a part of the record) to his fellow council members that expressed his position on a proposed Resolution agreeing to deed five acres, more or less, located south of Highway 70 Bypass between Phillips and Cartmell Streets, to Connections Preparatory School for the establishment of a charter school.

Council member Buchanan made a motion to amend the proposed Resolution agreeing to deed five acres, more or less, located south of Highway 70 Bypass between Phillips and Cartmell Streets, to Connections Preparatory School for the establishment of a charter school by adding a clause that would allow the property to revert back to the Community Redevelopment Agency, if the property was not used solely for the intent of building a charter school. The motion was seconded by Council member Wallace and was approved 7-0-2, with Council members Bray, Brooks, Buchanan, Cisco, Moore, Rahm and Wallace voting yea and Council members Hays and Neudecker abstaining.

Council member Brooks made a motion to amend the proposed Resolution agreeing to deed five acres, more or less, located south of Highway 70 Bypass between Phillips and Cartmell Streets, to Connections Preparatory School for the establishment of a charter school by having the approval of the resolution with a reversionary clause be contingent upon the approval of the Community Redevelopment Agency and the local school board or the Tennessee Department of Education. Council member Brooks' motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Gist advised that the Resolution agreeing to deed five acres, more or less, located south of Highway 70 Bypass between Phillips and Cartmell Streets, to Connections Preparatory School for the establishment of a charter school indicated that

a Letter of Intent would be established for deeding the property to Connections Preparatory School once approval of all organizations had been gained to establish the charter school, if the resolution was approved by the City Council.

On the motion of Council member Brooks, seconded by Council member Buchanan, the Resolution agreeing to deed five acres, more or less, located south of Highway 70 Bypass between Phillips and Cartmell Streets, to Connections Preparatory School for the establishment of a charter school was approved 5-4, as amended, with Council members Bray, Brooks, Buchanan, Cisco and Moore, voting yea and Council members Hays, Neudecker, Rahm and Wallace voting nay. Monola Patterson and Bishop Nathaniel Bond, Charter School Planning Board members, were present and expressed support for the adoption of the Resolution. Dr. Allan Sterbinsky, Researcher for the Jackson Madison County School System, advised the research that was conducted on charter schools. Dr. Nancy Zambito advised that monies to support the efforts of establishing a charter school would come directly from the school system and would pull from \$750,000 to possibly a million dollars from the school system's current budget.

Sammy West, Chairman of the Charter Review Committee, presented the Charter Review Committee's proposed Charter revision recommendations and answered questions about the recommendations. Sammy West advised the names of the Charter Review Committee members and thanked the city attorney, city staff members, city Department Heads and other officials for providing insight into the workings of city government. On the motion of Council member Rahm, seconded by Council member Brooks, the Charter Review Committee's Charter revision

recommendations were approved 8-1, with Council member Buchanan voting nay. Mayor Gist commended the committee for their hard work.

On the motion of Council member Hays, seconded by Council member Cisco, a joint city and county resolution opposing legislation adversely affecting the Jackson Madison County General Hospital was approved 7-0-2, with Council members Neudecker and Wallace abstaining. Council member Neudecker expressed concern for adopting a resolution that would oppose legislation adversely affecting the Jackson Madison County General Hospital. Bobby Arnold, President and Chief Executive Officer for the Jackson Madison County General Hospital, was present and answered questions regarding the Jackson Madison County General Hospital's concept on indigent care and taxpayer support. Steve Grubbs, Chief Executive Officer for the Regional Hospital of Jackson, was present and answered a question that was relative to the Regional Hospital's concept on indigent care. Steve Grubbs also expressed opposition to the adoption of the resolution.

On the motion of Council member Brooks, seconded by Council member Bray, unanimous approval was given to a Resolution authorizing the purchase of a building located at 447 East Main Street, formerly known as the Bell South building, for a police annex.

Dave Ralston with the Jackson Housing Authority's Community Development Office was present and answered questions from City Council members regarding a Resolution to approve a substantial amendment (#1) to the 2010-2011 Jackson Housing Authority's Community Development Program Annual Action Plan.

On the motion of Council member Buchanan, seconded by Council member Brooks, the Resolution approving a substantial amendment (#1) to the Jackson Housing

Authority Community Development Program's Annual Action Plan (2010-2011) was approved 8-0-1, with Council member Neudecker abstaining.

The following list of City Council Board Appointments and Liaisons was presented:

Council Member	Board
Maurice Hays	Chamber of Commerce
	Jackson Madison Co. General Hospital
	Taxi Board
Willie L. Moore	Jackson Madison County Library
	Expenditure Committee
	Jackson Community Redevelopment Agency
Ernest Brooks, II	Jackson Housing Authority
	Expenditure Committee
Harvey Buchanan	Jackson Transit Authority
	Beer Board
	Health, Education & Housing Facilities
Frank Neudecker	Keep Jackson Beautiful
	Taxi Board
Charles "Pepper" Bray	Beer Board
	Recreation and Parks
	Expenditure Committee
Randy Wallace	Industrial Development Board
	Planning Commission*
Charles Rahm	Beer Board
	Jackson Energy Authority
	Community Economic Development Commission
David Cisco	Airport Authority
	Taxi Board

* includes Historical Zoning Commission and Zoning Appeals

Council member Neudecker advised that the Jackson Community Redevelopment Agency's By-Laws required that city appointments to the Jackson Community

Redevelopment Agency must be approved by the City Council. On the motion of Council member Wallace, seconded by Council member Brooks, the appointment of Council member Moore to the Jackson Community Redevelopment Agency was approved 8-0-1, with Council member Moore abstaining.

Drew Baker, Jackson-Madison County Committee Chairman of the Tennessee Equality Project, and Teresa Trice, a resident of Jackson, advised their concerns regarding a message posted on Council member Neudecker’s website. Teresa Trice asked that immediate action be taken to remove Council member Neudecker from the City Council for posting the message on his website and advised that she had a petition signed by Jackson citizens that expressed their feelings toward the matter.

On the motion of Council member Cisco, seconded by Council member Buchanan, unanimous approval was given to the appointment of Kim Lewis to the Vicious Dog Commission.

Mayor Gist announced that the city had ninety days from the date of receiving data from the U.S. Census to adopt a redistricting plan for the nine City Council Districts. Mayor Gist advised that the census numbers reflected that the city had grown by approximately 9.3%. Mayor Gist further advised that City Council members could go by the Planning Department to assess the redistricting plan and offer recommendations to the Planning Staff.

On the motion of Council member Cisco, seconded by Council member Brooks, unanimous approval was given to the following FY2011 budget amendment requests:

CAPITAL FUND		Current	Amendment	Amended
<i>Revenue:</i>		Budget	Request	Budget
315-36725	Reimb: EMA K-9 Unit		25,000	25,000
315-36726	CID: Homeland Security		25,000	25,000
CAPITAL FUND				
<i>Expenses:</i>				
315-42130-900	Reimb: EMA K-9 Unit		25,000	25,000

315-42115-941	CID: Homeland Security		25,000	25,000
315-42220-900	Fire Operations	1,084,728	-16,000	1,068,728
315-51610-900	Transfer to General Fund	5,832	16,000	21,832
GENERAL FUND				
<i>Revenue:</i>				
110-37840	Transfer from Other Funds	2,005,832	16,000	2,021,832
GENERAL FUND				
<i>Expenses:</i>				
110-42220-339	Motor Vehicle Expense	72,000	16,000	88,000

Police Department is receiving funds from EMA for the purchase of a K-9 dog and for training with this unit in the amount of \$25,000. In addition, the Police Department is receiving funds from EMA for an AVID Video System in the amount of \$25,000. This will be 100% reimbursed by EMA.

Fire Department has had an engine to go out in a fire truck. The cost of repairs is \$16,000. They are requesting to move \$16,000 from their capital funds as they will not purchase the SCBA equipment originally budgeted and will use this \$16,000 to cover repairs expense in their operating budget.

On the motion of Council member Rahm, seconded by Council member Brooks, unanimous approval was given to the following FY2011 budget amendment requests:

GENERAL FUND:		Current Budget	Amendment Request	Amended Budget
<i>Expenditures:</i>				
110-42128-112	Reimbursable Overtime		31,112.96	31,112.96
110-42128-130	Employee Benefits		8,839.19	8,839.18
<i>Revenue:</i>				
110-33129	CRE Grant (Crash Reduction Enforcement)		39,852.15	39,852.15

The Jackson Police Department has received a grant in the amount of \$39,852.15 for Crash Reduction enforcement from the State of Tennessee. This grant will be used to cover overtime and benefits for employees working in this enforcement program.

On the motion of Council member Buchanan, seconded by Council member Cisco, unanimous approval was given to the following FY2011 budget amendment requests:

GENERAL FUND:				
<i>Expenditures:</i>				
110-41900-771	Appropriation to IDB	\$151,000	\$69,244	\$220,244
<i>Revenue:</i>				
110-37900	Draw on Fund Balance	1,706,690.41	\$69,244	1,775,934.41

Budget amendment requested to move funds into IDB Appropriation and transfer from fund balance.

On the motion of Council member Cisco, seconded by Council member Buchanan, unanimous approval was given to the following FY2011 budget amendment requests:

CAPITAL FUND		Current	Amendment	Amended
<i>Revenue:</i>		Budget	Request	Budget
315-36961	Transfer from General Fund	1,104,328.00	475,000	1,579,328.00
CAPITAL FUND				
<i>Expenses:</i>				
315-42152-900	Police Annex-BellSouth		475,000	475,000
GENERAL FUND				
<i>Revenue:</i>				
110-37900	From Fund Balance	1,706,690.41	475,000	2,181,690.41
GENERAL FUND				
<i>Expenses:</i>				
110-41900-761	Transfer to Capital Fund	1,104,382.00	475,000	1,579,328.00

The Jackson Police Department will purchase the old Bellsouth Building located at 447 E. Main Street for the purpose of utilizing as a Police Annex. The funding will be used for purchase and renovations of this facility.

On the motion of Council member Bray, seconded by Council member Moore, the payment of invoices over \$10,000 was approved 7-2, with Council member Neudecker and Wallace voting nay.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

JERRY GIST, MAYOR

Statement made by City Councilman Ernest Brooks, II at the April 5, 2011, City Council Meeting to his fellow council members regarding A Resolution agreeing to deed 5 acres, more or less, located south of Highway 70 Bypass between Phillips and Cartmell Streets to Connections Preparatory School to be used for the establishment of a charter school.

I have sponsored an alternative resolution to the one before the council in January that I made a motion to table.

I have stated publicly that I am neither for nor against Charter Schools. Moreover, this resolution is neither an indictment on the present public school system nor an endorsement of Charter Schools in general or Connections Preparatory School, most specifically. If that was my interest, I would have run for the school board.

However, as the only City Councilman with sections of both Community Redevelopment projects in his district, this resolution is simply an effort in support of economic development and jobs in East Jackson.

The land, which is located in East Jackson Community Redevelopment District 2, is also in a Tax Increment Financing District or TIF District. I propose that Connections Preparatory School make an annual payment in lieu of taxes or PILOT, based on the assessed land value. Like any other residential, commercial or industrial tenant, because of its location in a TIF district, the taxes or payment would go towards infrastructure and improvements in the East Jackson community.

Transfer of the land is contingent upon approval of the Community Redevelopment Agency and the State Department of Education.

I urge my colleagues to seize this opportunity to support growth, economic development and jobs in East Jackson by supporting this resolution.