



July City Council Meeting

Register in advance for this meeting:

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For accommodations due to disability, please call City Hall at 314-388-1164, or Relay Missouri (TDD) at 1-800-735-2460, 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

Meeting posting date: _____ **initials by:** _____

B. REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 28, 2021

1. Comments by public. (Please sign in. Comments are limited to 3 minutes. See Decorum Ordinance.)
2. Councilmember's Reports (Reports are limited to 10 minutes. See Decorum Ordinance)
3. Mayor's Report

1. Finance Department
2. Courts
3. Jail Report
4. Building Department
5. Sewer Lateral
6. Economic Development Report
7. Public Works Report
8. Recreation Department
9. St. Louis County Police Department
10. North County Fire & Rescue
11. Emergency Management
12. Approval of monthly reports

1. Ways & Means and Public Safety Committee
2. Public Works & Building Committee
3. Parks & Recreation Committee
4. Policy and Ordinance Committee

- 5. Municipal League
- 6. Planning Commission
- 7. Economic Development Board
- 8. Youth Commission
- 9. Senior Commission

F. LEGAL BUSINESS (Proposed Ordinances)

1. AN ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FROM CHRISTOPER DEEKEN TO JAMES CRANGLE AND DONNA CRANGLE TO OPERATE ANDY’S AUTO REPAIR, INC. AT 8101 WEST FLORISSANT ROAD, IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AND GRANTING SAME TO EDNA MCGOWAN TO OPERATE AN EVENT/OFFICE SPACE FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES KNOWN AS CLASSY EVENTS, LLC AT 8890 JENNINGS STATION ROAD IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI.

H. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Approval of the Planning Commission Appointment
- 2. Approval of the Senior Commissioner Appointment
- 3. Approval of the Special Event Permit
- 4. Approval of the Engineering Svc recommendation for Cochran Eng.
- 5. Approval of the purchase of a street sweeper
- 6. Approval of the line item transfers for the street sweeper purchase
- 7. Approval of the monthly bills for payment

I. MAYOR'S CLOSING REMARKS

J. CLOSED SESSION, LEGAL & PERSONNEL (RSMO 610:021-1, 3)

- 1. Legal (RSMO 610:021 - 1)
- 2. Personnel (RSMO 610:021-3)

K. Adjournment

- 1. Adjournment



**Minutes of the City Council Regular Meeting
Telemeeting Via Zoom Video
July 26, 2021
Regular Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

The two thousand four hundred and twentieth meeting of the Jennings City Council was held on Monday, July 26, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Video.

A. PUBLIC HEARING

B. REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Austin asked for a moment of silence for former St. Louis County Councilwoman, Hazel Erby, former Missouri State Representative, Betty Thompson, and long-time President for Harris-Stowe State University, Dr. Henry Givens jr. She said that all three of them had passed within the last couple of weeks.

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Council members present: Allan Stichnote, Yolonda Fountain Henderson, Terry Wilson, Jane Brown, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Lorraine Clower, and Joseph Turner.

Council member(s) absent: None.

Also present: Mayor Yolanda Austin; Deletra Hudson, City Clerk; and Sam Alton, City Attorney.

3. Approval of the Agenda

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the City Council approved the agenda for the meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

4. Approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 28, 2021.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council approved the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 28, 2021. All in favor; none opposed.

C. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONERS, REMONSTRATIONS, COMPLAINTS, AND REQUESTS

1. Comments by the public. (Please sign in. Comments are limited to 3 minutes. See Decorum Ordinance.)

Dorothy Howard, 5831 Janet Avenue, asked what the next step was for the residents of the 5800 block of Janet Avenue, regarding their complaint about the tractor-trailers parked on the lot and the Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church giveaway food sitting on the streets. She reported that she had attempted to contact staff at the Church, once they had consulted the City Council members. She expressed that she felt as though their complaints have fallen on deaf ears. Ms. Howard felt that there should be more done to help the residents of the 5800 block of Janet Avenue.

Mayor Austin welcomed Ms. Howard to contact the Building Department to check the lot's residency status. Mayor Austin asked Schona McClellon, Director of Housing, what she has done regarding the complaints she had received about the lot. Schona said that the process of abatement had begun. Jim Maixner, Public Works Director, reported that he and Schona have discussed an "no overnight parking" ordinance, so the City would have the legal rights to tow any vehicles

parked at the lot. He said that when Officer Bakula investigated the parking of box trucks at the lot, Officer Bakula warned the owners that the trucks were liable to be towed, and the owners responded that if the trucks were towed, they have threatened to sue the City of Jennings. Jim said that if the City posted the signage, then the truck could be towed.

Ms. Howard asked about the lot with the tractor-trailer that was parked near the corner of Janet Avenue and Gladys Avenue. Jim said that he has been in touch with Capt. Law regarding the tractor-trailer and the trailer could be ticketed if parked overnight. Mayor Austin asked for Capt. Law's input on the situation. Capt. Law reported that the tractor-trailer does get moved before the overnight parking times. Ms. Howard reported that she recently saw the trailer parked overnight on a Saturday night going into Sunday morning. Capt. Law told her that if she saw that again, to contact the non-emergency line for the Police Department so they can go and check it out. Mayor Austin requested that the Jennings Precinct patrol that area more often.

Councilwoman Clower reported that she spoke with the reporting officer that went there, who took the VIN off the truck, and she was told that he would be sending a citation to the address listed under the vehicle registration. She said that was more than a month ago, then she called another officer who said that he would do the same. Councilwoman Clower asked what else could be done. Mayor Austin asked if it was the same truck. Ms. Howard said that there was more than one tractor-trailer or truck that parks there. Capt. Law said that he could look into it if the same truck was being reported. Jim said he didn't know the legal ramifications of moving the truck in the lot.

Sam asked if there were signs posted at the lot that no one could park on City property. Schona and Jim said yes. Sam said if Section 22-45 of the City of Jennings code, with proper signage, there, then vehicles left on City property without City permission could be towed. He asked if the privately-owned property there near the lot had signs, stating that someone could not park there. Schona said that the owner allowed the owner of the truck to park on their side of the lot. Sam said that there was not much that could be done about private property owners allowing vehicles to park there. Jim reported that the private property owner only owned approximately ten to fifteen feet of the lot and the trucks are encroaching upon City property, additionally the area where the property owner is located in is a residential zone and never commercially zoned.

Mayor Austin asked Schona, Jim, and Sam to meet over the phone with her to discuss the issue more. Councilwoman Clower stated that when she spoke with Jennings Precinct officers, it was apparent that the police officers did not know which side of the lot was City-owned or privately owned. She asked that there be an indicator placed to identify what was City property and the privately-owned lot. Mayor Austin asked Capt. Law to ensure that his staff knew which part of the lot was City property and private property.

Brenda Rutlin, 9037 Ellison Drive, reported that she filed a complaint at City Hall in May of 2021, regarding neighbors who have left their trash cans in the street since they moved into the neighborhood, now other neighbors are following suit by leaving their trash cans in the street. Ms. Rutlin commented that Ellison Drive was beginning to look like an alleyway, with trash and debris left in the street but it has been starting to clear up and some residents have come to their senses and brought in their trash cans. She said that the residents at 9038 Ellison Drive have never once taken their trash cans out of the street, and they stay out permanently. Ms. Rutlin reported that at 9031 Ellison Drive, he had continued to leave his trash can in the street and it contains a lot of yard waste, but not all of the yard waste had been contained in the trash can and has been blocking the sidewalk.

Ms. Rutlin said that 9031 Ellison Drive is directly next door to her, when the weather had begun to warm up, he would put his dog out in the backyard, but he has allowed his yard to become overgrown with weeds. She said now he brings his dog to the front yard, allowing the dog to roam untethered. The dog wanders into her front yard and defecates without the owner following behind to pick up the dog waste. She reported that she has had to clear her yard of the weeds growing over the shared fence into her yard twice and will have to do it again soon. Ms. Rutlin would appreciate some help with this neighbor.

Mayor Austin asked Schona to have an inspector visit Ellison Drive. Ms. Rutlin reported that there was an easement behind her home, that she has had to cut back the weeds that are coming towards her property line every year. She asked who was responsible for the care of the easement there. Jim said that he would look at the easement near her home, and Alliance Credit Union may be

responsible for the maintenance of the easement. Ms. Rutlin asked if utility companies were responsible for the upkeep of easements. Jim said no, the utility companies were not required by law to maintain the easements. Ms. Rutlin said the weeds were growing up the utility lines and coming into her yard. Jim said that he had a government contract that he will call from the forestry department.

Marilyn Bonds, 5738 Janet Avenue, reported to Deletra that she had a neighbor behind her at 5741 Helen Avenue, who has been playing loud music for months, and she has spoken with Mayor Austin and Councilwoman Clower. Ms. Bonds relayed to Deletra that she has tried to get assistance from the police by calling them, then the music stops, and the music starts up again after the responding police leave. Ms. Bonds reported to Deletra that the music was shaking her whole home. Mayor Austin said that she had given that complaint to Capt. Law and she asked him to follow up on that complaint on Tuesday, July 27, 2021. Capt. Law said he would follow up and asked that he get contact information for Ms. Bonds, so he could follow up with her.

Ms. Rutlin said that she was not sure if she said this during her time, back in May 2021 when she was at City Hall to file a complaint about the issue she brought before the City Council that evening, it was suggested to her that she contact her City Council members. Ms. Rutlin talked to Councilman Stichnote on two separate occasions, and she was told that it would be taken care of, it has yet to change. She wanted to make sure the City Council knew that.

Marietta Beck, 5446 Hodiament Avenue, said that she was following up on the forestry ordinance she had requested at the June City Council meeting. Ms. Beck suggested that the City of Jennings follow the example of Webster Groves or Ferguson since they both have ordinances concerning forestry. She reported that none of her complaints regarding vacant properties and forestry have been addressed, and the trees keep growing up towards the streetlights and power lines. She would like to see the policy and process updated and enforced.

She thanked Jim and Public Works staff for coming to clean up the ceramic floor tile that was dumped near her store inlet and near a sewer. Ms. Beck said she would call MSD (Missouri Sewer District) again because some of that seemed to be going down the drain. She appreciated the barriers that were placed and there were drivers doing donuts on Emma Avenue.

Ms. Beck reported that at 5458 Hodiament Avenue, there was a vacant home with trespassers inhabiting the home. She asked what was going on with that situation during a phone call to City Hall, it was responded with the comment, "What's new, we get squatters all the time". She said that the trespassers have built a fire in the house and vehicles are being left there. Ms. Beck commented that things in Jennings are not improving, it seems to be getting worse and other residents are tired of the slow response to their concerns or no response at all. She thanked the City Council and apologized for having to be so negative, but it was apparent to her that she was not the only one that felt that way.

Mayor Austin asked Capt. Law to investigate the cars left there the following day. Capt. Law replied that he would investigate the situation. Mayor Austin asked Ms. Beck if the windows or doors were open at 5458 Hodiament Avenue. Ms. Beck said that the front porch window was open for ventilation. She said that she got her binoculars out and she could see someone coming in and out from the kitchen, onto the back porch. She said the fire they built inside the house was very large, and she thought the house was being set on fire, but it seemed that they were just cooking. The house was not boarded up. Mayor Austin thanked Ms. Beck for the information. Capt. Law promised to investigate the issue. Mayor Austin asked Schona to follow up with her on the issue at 5458 Hodiament Avenue. Schona said she would follow up with Mayor Austin.

Alice Wilson, 1 Old Lucas and Hunt Road, reported that she noticed that at Sievers Park, people were playing in the water fountain. She wondered why the splash pads were not on and she did not see signage instructing the public how to operate them.

Mayor Austin asked Willie Brandon, Parks and Recreation Director, about the operation of the splash pads. He said that they are operational, but they are set on a timer that could be adjusted so that they do not run all day.

Ms. Wilson asked for the operation times to be posted. Willie said that he would look into posting the operation times of the splash pad.

Shirley Wayne, 5838 Janet Avenue, greeted the City Council. She thanked them for their hard work in the City of Jennings and she appreciated their dedication to moving the City back to where it used to be. Ms. Wayne thanked Capt. Law for bringing back Coffee with the Cops meetings.

Ms. Wayne asked how many notices are sent to residents that are not registered with having trash service. She reported that at 5824 Janet Avenue, the property renters have been buying vehicles, one has been tagged and the other not, and those untagged vehicles have been sitting for months. She wanted to know what happens once the violators are ticketed. She said this was the same property that had four to five derelict vehicles in the driveway, and she wanted citations to go to the residents. Ms. Wayne said that there were three pitbulls now and she was concerned about the safety of her grandchild.

Ms. Wayne reported that the vacant lot at 5829 Helen Avenue had large hauling trucks parked there and the yard was overgrown with weeds. She said that the yard at 5825 Helen Avenue was in a similar state of overgrowth. Ms. Wayne thanked the City Council and Mayor Austin for what they are doing for the City, she appreciated it.

Mayor Austin thanked Ms. Wayne for her concerns. She asked Schona to follow up on 5824 Janet Avenue regarding the ownership of the pitbulls. Mayor Austin said that the City had been working on the cars at the Janet Avenue location for a while, she asked if Capt. Law had more information on the issue. Capt. Law said that he would follow up with Ms. Wayne the following day. Schona said that the notifications had been sent about the dogs and the vehicles that were parked there, which she discussed with Ms. Wayne some time ago. Mayor Austin asked if she was waiting on a court date. Schona confirmed that she was.

Councilwoman Clower said that she had spoken to police officers when she inquired about the issue, she was told there was nothing more that could be done further about the vehicles due to the City ordinance. She asked if the City should review the ordinance to perhaps revise it. Mayor Austin reminded her that the police officers were responsible for vehicles that were parked on the street to issue citations and Code Enforcement Inspectors are responsible for vehicles on private property, which Schona had stated the process had begun and they are now waiting on a court date. Mayor Austin said that she would have Schona look into the court date. She asked Capt. Law to share the process regarding vehicles parked on the street. Capt. Law said derelict vehicles are tagged, the owner is allowed 48 hours to move the vehicle, if it is not moved within that time, the police department may tow them. Mayor Austin asked him to ensure that officers were following up on the vehicles after the 48 hours, so they can be towed. Capt. Law affirmed that he would. Sam Alton, City Attorney, said that it was a more difficult process when there are vehicles parked on private property, but the code laid out the process, which was an administrative warrant process to work through, to enter the property to deal with those vehicles if they are there too long or present a danger to the residents of the City. He said that the code provides guidance in this area but it was a process that could take some time.

Jim said that at 5829 and 5825 Helen Avenue had three dump trucks parked there. He said that the property was owned by George Spite, the vehicles are not his trucks, but he has given the owners of the trucks permission to park on his private property.

Joell Aguirre, Republic Services, greeted everyone. She introduced herself and explained what her role was with Republic Services. Ms. Aguirre wanted to make sure they had her contact information. She was invited by Councilman Wilson at the Missouri Municipal League in May 2021, to check in with the City of Jennings. Ms. Aguirre said that if any residents had questions about their service or requests that need to be followed up on, she was their point of contact with an open-door policy.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson asked her to pass along her information in the chat. She asked if there was a list of properties with trash service and those who do not have trash service. Ms. Aguirre said she had a list of everyone that Republic Services provides trash service to in the City of Jennings and a list of property locations noted with trash services suspended in the City of Jennings.

Councilman Wilson thanked her for making an appearance at the City Council meeting. He commented that he appreciated it and he felt that it was important that everyone knew who the

Jennings Republic Services representative was and to be able to contact her. Councilman Wilson thanked her for honoring that invitation.

2. Councilmember's Reports (Reports are limited to 10 minutes. See Decorum Ordinance)

Councilwoman Anderson greeted everyone. She thanked Mayor Austin for honoring her request. Councilwoman Anderson addressed Mayor Austin, the City Council, and the City staff, she said it was bittersweet news and announced that this was her last City Council meeting. She thanked everyone for their support. Councilwoman Anderson recognized Ward 3, for voting her into office for three terms and for trusting her to get things done.

She said her resignation was bitter because she would be leaving her service to the Jennings community, but the change was sweet because she had received a great opportunity, that will put her where she would like to be regarding her retirement next year. Councilwoman Anderson said she could not pass it up. She did not think that preparing for retirement would come so soon, but it had, which was a blessing.

Councilwoman Anderson said that she had built so many special relationships. She intends on maintaining those relationships, but most of all, she will miss serving the community.

Mayor Austin thanked Councilwoman Anderson for her report. She commented that she also enjoyed working with her through those years and that Councilwoman Anderson will be keeping the City of Jennings within her heart, Mayor Austin knew that they will be seeing her.

Councilman Johnson thanked Councilwoman Anderson for all the wisdom and all the discipline she had imparted to him, and the support that she had shown him. He had been taken aback by that. He said that he appreciated her and appreciated that she always had his back.

Councilman Johnson recognized the Building Department for hearing his request to visit the car repair shop at Carl Avenue and West Florissant Avenue. He said his request was because the business was becoming an eyesore with wrecked cars and large vehicles parked there. Councilman Johnson reported that he went by that day and noticed that some vehicles had been moved around. He thanked the Building Department and Schona for hearing his request.

Councilman Johnson then asked who was tagging the vehicles at the Jennings Precinct because several derelict vehicles were sitting on the street in Ward 3. He did not know who to call or email about the issue and asked for that information.

Councilman Johnson said that every chance to speak at a public meeting, he will implore the City to bring a recreational space or park to Ward 3 or the south end of Jennings. He said that it may seem repetitive or persistent, every chance he gets, he will ensure that he is heard. Councilman Johnson observed that children have been playing in the street with two broken basketball hoops in Ward 3, and he expressed his concern that the children could get hurt playing in the street because there weren't ways to play without encountering traffic. He suggested if there was a park in Ward 3 within walking distance, that could prevent a harmful situation from happening to children.

Councilman Johnson expressed his concern about registering for the public meetings. He found that when he registered for the City Council meeting, the confirmation email with the link had gone to his junk email box. He said that residents were having issues logging on because of the registration requirement for the meeting held via Zoom. Councilman Johnson pointed out that this could be an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance violation because it is not accessible to those with disabilities. He asked that the registration for the public meeting be amended.

Councilman Johnson reported that he attended the Good Food Summit hosted by A Red Circle on July 22nd and 23rd, at the University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL). He said that the initiative of A Red Circle and the Good Food Summit was to bring healthy food and increase the access to food within North County, specifically in the food desert and areas that have experienced food apartheid. Councilman Johnson hopes that the vacant lots could be adopted for gardening according to the community garden ordinance. He hoped that there could be some good food grown throughout the City.

Councilman Johnson reported assisting in the cleanup of the south end of the City of Jennings along Jennings Station Road, behind College Avenue and Fairview Avenue. He said that they picked up a lot of trash, and thanked the Public Works Department and Jim, for taking care of the median entering into the City of Jennings on Jennings Station Road. Councilman Johnson commented that the area looks different and it was a very good sight to see that median under control.

Councilman Johnson told Councilwoman Anderson it was sad to see her go but he appreciated everything she had done in the City of Jennings.

Councilman Wilson greeted everyone and commented that he was also shocked about Councilwoman Anderson's resignation. He said that she was his "partner in crime" and built a strong relationship throughout the years and he would miss serving with her. Councilman Wilson said that since she was not leaving the state, he knew where to find her. He appreciated her service, she will be missed, the City of Jennings appreciates all that she had done since being elected and to present. He commented that she had grown into her role and became one of the leaders on the Jennings City Council. He appreciated her service and her friendship.

Councilman Wilson said it was good to see everyone's face. He thought about a lot of things going on in the Jennings community and the St. Louis community and encouraged the community to be caring for its young people. Councilman Wilson informed everyone that a young man that was a basketball star in the St. Louis area that he had mentored growing up was lost to gun violence. He encouraged everyone to keep praying, keep looking out for each other, and not be afraid to speak up to the police. He said the community is stronger when its members are working together and taking care of each other.

Councilman Wilson recognized the Public Works and Building Committee for a good meeting, that was chaired by Councilman Johnson. He thought that there was some great dialogue in the meeting. He appreciated Jim for the information that was provided, and the committee members for having a good conversation to move the City forward. Councilman Wilson is not a part of that committee, but he appreciated being welcome. He recognized Kellie Shelton, Economic Development Coordinator, for the excellent job that she was doing and for taking the City where it wants to go with economic development.

Councilman Wilson requested a traffic study on Catalina Drive and asked that the street be considered for placement of speed bumps. Jim said that he would add the street to the ongoing list of streets that they have received complaints on and he would provide the list to the rest of the City Council. Councilman Wilson said that he appreciated him. He also reported to Jim that at 9412 Pickford Place there was high grass and asked that the lot be cut by Public Works.

Councilman Wilson requested that Schona send a Code Enforcement Inspector to the Mike's Convenience Store on Highway 367 because of the accumulating trash in the back lot area that is shared with the chicken restaurant there.

Councilman Wilson reported that Ward 2 and Ward 1 are coming together to be accessible to constituents and answer any of their questions. The joint town hall meeting will be Saturday, August 28, 2021, at 10 a.m., due to the new mask mandates and rising COVID-19 cases, Councilwoman Brown was requesting that it be held virtually. Councilman Wilson said that Gary Gore Community Center was booked by Councilwoman Fountain Henderson for the event and the councilmembers would discuss how to proceed in hosting the joint town hall meeting. Councilman Wilson said that the town hall meeting will allow for residents to provide feedback, ideas, and suggestions to their ward council members, and they hoped to make it an annual event. He would appreciate residents attending the meeting and encouraged residents from other wards to attend the event as well.

Councilman Wilson announced that there will be a North County Fire & Rescue Protection District community outreach barbeque at Sievers Park on Saturday, July 31, 2021, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. He encouraged the community to come out and support the firefighters while meeting safely outdoors due to the delta variant of COVID-19.

Councilman Wilson reported that Senator Brian Williams and State Representative Kevin Windham will be hosting a town hall meeting on July 27, 2021, at 7 p.m. at UMSL, to discuss the potential investment of Federal stimulus funds in the North St. Louis County area and they would like to hear the voices of the residents of North County.

Councilman Wilson commented that it was good to see everyone, make sure the community was looking out for each other, keep each other in their prayers and he would see everyone next month.

Councilwoman Brown thanked Councilwoman Anderson for working with the City Council and lending them her expertise in a lot of ways. She wished her well in her endeavors, whichever that might be.

Councilwoman Brown thanked Jim and the Public Works Department for cutting the grass of the vacant lot at Berkay Avenue and Ada Wortley Avenue to keep up the rainfall. She thanked Kellie for the report on the City demolition list for the Public Works and Building Committee. Councilwoman Brown said that the list was comprehensive and the detail on the list was easy to follow. She said that the councilmembers have gotten reports in the past, but the report from Kellie was very detailed, and they were thankful.

Councilwoman Brown enjoyed the soccer event that was hosted by the Police Athletic League (PAL) and St. Louis Ambush on Saturday, July 17, 2021. She said that youth ages 5-12 participated in the soccer event, which was the cutest to witness. She reported that the event had great upbeat music, refreshments and was a lot of fun.

Councilwoman Brown appreciated the education provided by Steve Pokorney of STS Car Care, Chief Goldstein, and Jim, regarding debris after a vehicular accident and clarified who was responsible for clearing the debris. She said that they provided a comprehensive view of how debris from vehicle accidents is dealt with. Councilwoman Brown shared that for larger pieces from a collision, STS was called in to tow those off, then North County Fire & Rescue Protection District was called to remove hazardous materials, and if there was any remaining glass or smaller debris, then the Public Works Department would, out of courtesy, come to clear the rest.

Councilwoman Brown reported that she was happy to announce that the Adopt-A-Stop program was gaining traction. She said that there was a new trashcan at Hord Avenue and Jennings Station Road. Councilwoman Brown explained that she intended to have trashcans placed throughout the City of Jennings. She encouraged businesses to get involved by adopting a stop. She reported that Steve, STS Car Care, has adopted a stop in the past and will continue to sponsor a stop with blue trashcans. Councilwoman Brown said that this was a great way to keep the City looking nice and as welcoming as it could be.

Councilwoman Brown commented that it was heart-warming to see Jennings residents quietly walking the walk and taking pride in the City of Jennings. She reported that the Red Cross blood supply was low due to the COVID-19 pandemic, if any residents were inclined to donate, to contact their Red Cross. She encouraged everyone to consider giving blood. Councilwoman Brown encouraged residents to come out to have coffee with the cops.

Councilman Stichnote greeted everyone. He reported that he spoke with the residents that were mentioned earlier on Ellison Drive, who said that they would correct the issue. He asked Schona to follow up on the issue on Ellison Drive.

Councilman Stichnote said that it was asked of Capt. Law that the police report is shown in wards instead of sectors, but the report that the City Council received was not reported that way. Capt. Law said that he will continue to work on that and found that it was more difficult than he previously thought. Councilman Stichnote asked what was being done about speeding cars, because someone had lost their life to a reckless driver. Capt. Law said that the particular accident was difficult. He reported that 1300 tickets were issued in July. Councilman Stichnote asked if highway safety was still assisting the City. Capt. Law said they were still assisting the City for two hours, every day. Councilman Stichnote asked about the speed bumps and if they were placed. Jim reported that the Public Works Department would be resuming the placement of speed bumps the following day.

Councilman Stichnote reported that Thursday, July 29, 2021, was Senior Bingo night, starting at 7 p.m. Councilman Stichnote asked Sam where he was in reviewing the revision of the fence ordinance. Sam said the fence ordinance crossed the line of zoning, because it was not taken to the Planning Commission and a public hearing was not advertised, it would be moved to the August City Council meeting.

Councilman Stichnote reported that the American Legion Post 184 donated \$1,000 to the North County Mustangs towards their football team. He said that Post 184 has agreed to donate two back-to-school scholarships at \$500 each and voted for the Hope House to donate \$500. Councilman Stichnote said that on Saturday, July 31, 2021, there would be a vaccination event at the Jennings Civic Center beginning at 10 a.m.

Councilman Stichnote reported that there was no stop sign coming out of Lions Park and requested that one be placed. Jim said that he would check the ordinance regarding the placement of stop signs and their relation to the park and make efforts to accomplish the placement of the stop sign.

Councilman Stichnote commented that he was floored with the news that Councilwoman Anderson was resigning. He said that she had always been a team player, he will miss her and she was a good friend. He wished her all the luck in the world.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson thanked Councilwoman Anderson for her service to the City. She said it was nice to know her and wished her the best.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson reported that she had received a lot of phone calls regarding tall grass and vacant properties, potholes, and speed bumps. She reported that she had been reporting this home since 2015, at 2504 Shannon Avenue, the debris on the property has been growing past the house. Councilwoman Fountain Henderson thanked Schona and Jim, for their departments getting on the situation. She said that the home next door at 2508 Shannon Avenue can see the debris from their home and the property owner felt hopeless about the situation being rectified and it moved Councilwoman Fountain Henderson.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson said that a lot of people are parking on their grass. She reported at 8787 Darnell Place, the residents are parking in the yard, with only three tires on the vehicle, which in turn brings the property values of neighboring homes down.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson reported that there was a shooting in Ward 1 last month, that was reported to Capt. Law, and it seemed to have fallen on deaf ears. She said she picked up ten (10) bullet casings, which happened directly behind her car. Councilwoman Fountain Henderson said that she had reported that she had a photo of the car, yet she noticed that the car had been coming around often. She requested that there be more police visibility in the community.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson commented that regarding the town hall meeting, she reported that many ward residents would love to attend the meetings. She was concerned that should the meeting be hosted virtually; the council people may not get much participation because not everyone was computer savvy.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson said that there will be an annual back-to-school fair at 2577 Redman Avenue, the North County Recreation Complex from 3 p.m. to 6 pm. She said that donations are welcome. Councilwoman Fountain Henderson reported that the Jennings School District was also hosting a drive-thru back-to-school event for each school separately, which will be August 21, 2021. She said that school will be back in session on August 23, 2021.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson thanked Willie for the concerts at Koeneman Park for being great. She appreciated his attitude, she said that residents want the concerts to continue. Councilwoman Fountain Henderson reminded everyone that a Special Election was coming up on August 5, 2021, and she encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson said she was a part of a farmer's market in Bellefontaine Neighbors on Saturday, July 24, 2021. She reported that there was a flyer made for the event, but it had the wrong location on it. She apologized for the misinformation.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson reported that there was a deplorable United States flag flying at White Castle in Ward 4. She contacted Councilwoman Clower to let her know that she was handling the issue, and the flag was replaced.

Councilwoman Fountain Henderson asked Councilman Stichnote to clarify what he was talking about regarding the fence ordinance. He said that fences would be discussed. Councilwoman Fountain Henderson proposed that a lot of the speed bumps on Cozens Avenue be removed, because she had observed drivers going around the speed bumps. She asked for suggestions on how to submit her request. She also expressed her concern regarding the speed bumps on the opposite side of Northview Elementary School on Ada Wortley Avenue. Councilwoman Fountain Henderson suggested that some speed bumps be removed and given to wards in need of speed bumps.

She reported that she went on a field trip with Councilman Stichnote to a house, where the residents are parking their vehicles in the yard. Councilwoman Fountain Henderson reported that people are not taking care of their properties on Blewett Avenue and Hord Avenue. She said that people need to think about how overgrown properties can attract rodents. Councilwoman Fountain Henderson reiterated that someone from the Building Department must visit 8787 Darnell Place, regarding the unkempt yard and for the vehicles parked there to be tagged by the police.

Councilwoman Clower reported that Barbara Carter, Ward 4 resident, requested to be heard. Deletra said that Ms. Carter did not sign up for public comments and it would be up to Mayor Austin's discretion. Mayor Austin if Councilwoman Clower knew what Ms. Carter's complaint was. Councilwoman Clower said that Ms. Carter reported that 6350 and 6360 Laura Avenue had overgrown grass that needed to be cut around the properties. She asked that it be visited by a Code Enforcement Inspector. Ms. Carter commented that the link went to her junk email box as well.

Councilwoman Clower said that on August 28, 2021, Metropolitan Baptist Church, 5300 Helen Avenue, will be hosting a back-to-school giveaway event from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Councilwoman Clower said on Wednesday, July 21, 2021, there was a Public Works and Building Committee meeting to discuss the demolition of homes. She said that Kellie will make sure the City Council will get a copy of the list, so they will be able to explain the process to residents. Councilwoman Clower reported that there was no documentation in the committee minutes and requested that they be added to minutes. She said that Mayor Austin explained that the demolition funds for the CDBG must be approved by the City Council, yet if any other funds are taken from City revenue, then it does not have to be approved by the City Council. Councilwoman Clower said that the mayor's statement was not recorded properly in the committee minutes as well. She quoted a Jennings policy that the minutes should reflect what was discussed and any purchases over \$10,000 must be approved by the City Council, therefore each council member should know which houses are being torn down before the public hearing.

Councilwoman Clower said that Ward 4 was to receive speed bumps by approval at the last City Council meeting. She had inquired on more than one occasion when they would be placed, she was told by Jim that they would be placed but the installation date seemed to be getting pushed further and further back. She asked Jim to give her an idea of when they would be placed in Ward 4. Jim said that the speed bump installation had begun on Janet Avenue on Friday, July 23, 2021. He said that Public Works had them marked on Helen Avenue. Jim said that he intended his staff to continue placing the speed bumps on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, then move to Hamilton Avenue from there.

Councilwoman Clower reported her concern that there are residents on Hodiament Avenue that are parking on their lawns because they do not have a driveway. She asked Capt. Law to enforce the removal of the vehicles from the property line.

Councilwoman Clower said to Councilwoman Anderson that she would be missed. She appreciated her for her kind words and her smile would be missed as well.

Councilman Turner thanked Mayor Austin. He said that it was a great month for him to gain a different perspective on what has been taking place. Mayor Austin helped him to understand that

there was a process in which the City gets things accomplished. Councilman Turner said that the process was working. He said that Public Works has done a great job. He got the chance to speak with some of the Public Works staff, anytime he drives past them he encourages them for the great job done and he appreciated what they do.

Councilman Turner received the demolition list from Kellie, and he felt that it was a blessing. He said that every property that has been demolished, could be new. He said that the City is growing, and there are more homeowners. Councilman Turner said that he was so grateful for what is happening in the City as he goes around and sees things change. Councilman Turner said that he has a different way to look at Ward 4, if all the houses that are being demolished, be rebuilt with the image that he sees- it will be the best ward in the City. Councilman Turner said we have to speak what we want out loud, as opposed to only speaking complaints.

Councilman Turner shared that on Belle Avenue there was a house, that he was told by residents, was referred to as a drug house. He reported that no one was there now, but before the inhabitant left, he kicked out all the windows and kicked the door in. Jim said that he would get the address from him to turn over to Schona to enter into the MyGov system. Councilman Turner reported that Mr. White had an issue, it was taken care of. He loved to help people. He thought about Public Works and he appreciated all the help he had received from City staff, and he thought that comes down from the top.

Councilman Turner reported 8364 Eton Place, and the address did not match. He said it was the only house on the street that hasn't been taken care of and he thanked Jim for getting the correct address, 8360 Eton Place, and getting it into the MyGov system.

He again repeated his encouragement to everyone to speak out what you want something to be, and do not speak out what you do not want it to be. Councilman Turner said that words are powerful and not just for communication, but also creation.

Councilman Turner thanked Mayor Austin and everyone for all they do. Councilman Turner said to Councilwoman Anderson that he had not known her for very long, but he picked out the best of everyone, to be the best he could, and he thanked her for knowing her.

3. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Austin thanked all the department heads for the work that they do. She commented that sometimes residents and other councilmembers, may receive negative feedback, but she wanted to let them know that she truly appreciated them and thanked them for working in the conditions that they are working in and the City was getting things done, as best as we can.

Mayor Austin thanked those councilmembers who have heard Sam Alton, City Attorney, and heard herself when asked to direct their concerns to the department heads. She said that the City staff had a lot going on and when things are brought directly to them, they believe that they are supposed to address those concerns right away. Mayor Austin reiterated that those requests or concerns must go to department heads, they know how to delegate those tasks. To those council people who are following that process, she thanked them and urged them to continue contacting department heads by email or by telephone to schedule an appointment with them.

Mayor Austin asked for prayers for the senior citizen from St. Andrews, Melvin Stewart, who lost his life to a hit and run, speeding vehicle along Halls Ferry Road the week prior. She reported that there was another speeding driver along Jennings Station Road and Highway 367, Capt. Law did not mention this but Jennings had an extra twelve to fifteen officers from St. Louis County Police Department that have been lent to Jennings, who are in the City trying to help and assist. Mayor Austin said that Capt. Law has heard everyone and does not want the community to believe that together, the City and Jennings Precinct are not working aggressively on speeding and other crime throughout Jennings.

Mayor Austin thanked Willie and the Parks and Recreation staff for the concert. She commended them for handling the 600 to 700 people at the final concert of the Summer Concert Series. Mayor Austin thanked the security company who had built relationships with the people that come to the concerts and making the parks a safe environment to visit.

Mayor Austin reminded people that the City had brought back Coffee with the Cops, which was beginning Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at the McDonald's off Halls Ferry Road for one hour. She reported that City Hall was still using masks in City offices and practicing social distancing. She said that the public was asked to continue to wear their masks and their temperatures are checked at the door.

Mayor Austin reported that the Senior Neighborhood Watch meeting would be held July 29, 2021, and will be combined with Senior Bingo that evening so they had a chance to speak with the police officers regarding crime trends and strategies they are using to combat crime. She said that others who cannot join in person are encouraged to join via zoom.

Mayor Austin reported that at the August City Council meeting, there would be a public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and hearing different ways that the funds could be used. She said that the City would be meeting as a team on Monday, August 2, 2021, to come up with some ways the funds could be used. She said that the public hearing would be held at 6 p.m., August 23, 2021, and there would be another public hearing that evening at 5 p.m. regarding the park master plan.

Mayor Austin reported that the City of Jennings had not received the funds from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), in which the City was anticipating over \$2,000,000. She said that there will be a committee to present ways in which the funds could be used, and she hoped that would be presented at the August or September City Council meetings. Mayor Austin reported that the City had also been asking for suggestions, which she had only heard from one or two council members. Mayor Austin said that the memo was sent out but it would be sent out again.

Mayor Austin reported that the KFC on the corner of Jennings Station Road and Ada Wortley Avenue was still working on building their new restaurant. North County Fire & Rescue Protection District was still working on plans for the new firehouse on Jennings Station Road; the new Jennings City Hall and Recreation Center, the City has been meeting with KAI Architects on finishing design; the Speedway gas station and convenience store was still working to be on the south end of Jennings. She reported that the City was constantly received inquiries from businesses to come into the city, and it takes everyone and the vision that is set forth for the Jennings community to have the best city in North St. Louis County.

D. MONTHLY DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the City Council approved the monthly department reports. All in favor; none opposed.

E. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Ways and Means & Public Safety Committee – Councilman Wilson reported that there was no meeting.

2. Public Works & Building Committee – Councilman Johnson reported that there was a meeting on Wednesday, July 21, 2021. The committee discussed the purchase of the street sweeper, and through the information provided by Jim, the committee approved the recommendation for the purchase of the 2021 Schwarze street sweeper.

He reported the committee also had a detailed conversation about how the CDBG funds are allocated for demolition and the process in which Kellie has developed for residents to suggest homes for demolition in the future. The committee had a candid conversation about the demolition process.

The committee discussed the placement of the speed bumps, and moving forward, each ward would discuss in the committee where adjustments or placements of speed bumps would be made and have it noted on the running list of streets for a traffic study to keep the process moving.

3. Parks & Recreation Committee – Councilman Stichnote reported that there was no meeting. Willie reported that he spoke with the U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding the geese, they want to work with the City of Jennings as long as the City documents its progress towards keeping the geese protected and the residents safe. He said that the geese seem not to be doing well and

with residents feeding them, they get sick and could not leave the park. Willie reported that the Department of Agriculture would like to see more signage and protection of the geese. Willie said that if the City makes progress regarding the geese, there could be a 30 to 40 percent decrease in the geese population.

4. Policy and Ordinance Committee – Councilwoman Anderson reported that there was no meeting.

5. Municipal League – Councilman Wilson reported that the MML conference will be held from September 26th to September 29th at Union Station.

6. Planning Commission – Councilman Johnson reported that there was a meeting on Thursday, July 1, 2021. The commission approved the construction of a fire station at 8730 Jennings Station Road.

The committee discussed the amendment of the ordinance relating to R-1, R-2, R-3, and C-1 zoning districts to allow the installation of six-foot-high fencing on residential property that resulted in a vote tie. The discussion must return to the Planning Commission to vote on the recommendation for an amendment at that time.

7. Economic Development Board – There was no meeting.

8. Youth Commission – There was no meeting.

9. Senior Commission – Report provided.

F. LEGAL BUSINESS (Proposed Ordinances)

1. AN ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FROM CHRISTOPHER DEEKEN TO JAMES CRANGLE AND DONNA CRANGLE TO OPERATE ANDY’S AUTO REPAIR, INC. AT 8101 WEST FLORISSANT ROAD, IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI.

On the motion for the first reading made by Councilman Stichnote, seconded by Councilwoman Fountain Henderson for Bill #2657. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilman Stichnote, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2657 became Ordinance #2594 by the following roll call vote of the councilmembers, voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Yolonda Fountain Henderson, Jane Brown, Terry Wilson, Gary Johnson, Phyllis Anderson, Lorraine Clower, and Joseph Turner.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AND GRANTING SAME TO EDNA MCGOWAN TO OPERATE AN EVENT/OFFICE SPACE FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES KNOWN AS CLASSY EVENTS, LLC AT 8890 JENNINGS STATION ROAD IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI.

On the motion for the first reading made by Councilwoman Fountain Henderson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson for Bill #2658. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Fountain Henderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2658 became Ordinance #2595 by the following roll call vote of the councilmembers, voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Yolonda Fountain Henderson, Jane Brown, Terry Wilson, Gary Johnson, Phyllis Anderson, Lorraine Clower, and Joseph Turner.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of the Planning Commission Appointment

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the City Council approved the recommendation to appoint John Schlereth to the Planning Commission for a four-year term. All in favor; none opposed.

2. Approval of the Senior Commission Appointment

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council approved the appointment of Lola Nash for a two-year term to the Senior Commission. All in favor; none opposed.

3. Approval of the Special Event Permit

On the motion made by Councilwoman Clower, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council approved the Special Event Permit for Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church to host a Back-to-School Giveaway event on August 28, 2021. All in favor; none opposed.

4. Approval of the Engineering Svc recommendation for Cochran Eng.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council approved the recommendation and proposed bid from Cochran Engineering for engineering design services for the Garesche Street Improvements Project for \$102,713 and construction administration, inspection, and testing for \$77,035. All in favor; none opposed.

5. Approval of the purchase of a street sweeper

On the motion made by Councilwoman Clower, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council approved the purchase of the 2021 Schwarze street sweeper for \$267,161.75. All in favor; none opposed.

6. Approval of the line item transfers for the street sweeper purchase

On the motion made by Councilwoman Fountain Henderson, seconded by Councilwoman Clower, the City Council approved the line item transfers from multiple accounts to the Equipment Purchases line for \$33,500 for the street sweeper purchase. All in favor; none opposed.

7. Approval of the monthly bills for payment.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council approved the monthly bills for payment. All in favor; none opposed.

I. MAYOR'S CLOSING REMARKS

Mayor Austin added that Kellie was working on the demolition request form and wanted to make sure it was able to go directly to her and asked for a couple of days for Kellie to work that out. Mayor Austin thanked the twenty (20) people who were still participating. She acknowledged that Dr. Knight has made a point to be present at the City Council meeting, and she promised to try to be on the monthly call to be kept in the loop of things going on in the City.

J. CLOSED SESSION, LEGAL AND PERSONNEL (RSMO 610:021,3)

On July 26, 2021, on the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council approved a closed session for Personnel (RSMO 610:021,3) by the following roll call vote of councilmembers voting in favor: Stichnote, Fountain Henderson, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Clower, and Turner; none absent; none opposing nor abstaining.

Also, present were Mayor Yolanda Austin; Sam Alton, City Attorney; and City Clerk, Deletra Hudson.

PERSONNEL - The following actions were taken:

1. Hiring Full Time Accounting Clerk

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Clower, the City Council approved the recommendation from Deletra Hudson, Interim Finance Director, to hire China Johnson for the full-time Accounting Clerk position pending the outcome of all pre-employment testing. The recommendation was approved by the following roll call vote: Stichnote, Fountain Henderson, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Clower; Turner was absent from the vote; none opposing; none abstaining.

2. Hiring Part Time Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Fountain Henderson, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to hire Justin Johnson for the part time Public Works Laborer position, pending the outcome of all pre-employment screening. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Fountain Henderson, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Clower, and Turner; none absent; none opposing; none abstaining.

3. Hiring Part Time Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to hire Tracey Harris for the part time Public Works Laborer position, pending the outcome of all pre-employment screening. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Fountain Henderson, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Clower, and Turner; none absent; none opposing; none abstaining.

4. Hiring Full Time Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to hire Rosalyn Turner for the full time Public Works Laborer position, pending the outcome of all pre-employment screening. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Fountain Henderson, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Clower, and Turner; none absent; none opposing; none abstaining.

5. Hiring Alternate Full Time Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to hire Tracey Harris for the alternate full time Public Works Laborer position, pending the outcome of all pre-employment screening. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Fountain Henderson, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Clower, and Turner; none absent; none opposing; none abstaining.

6. Promotion to Corporal

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council approved the recommendation from Lt. Jones, Corrections Department, to promote Venus Johnson to the Corrections Department Corporal position. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Fountain Henderson, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Clower, and Turner; none absent; none opposing; none abstaining.

LEGAL - The following actions were taken:

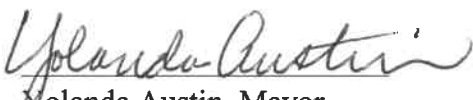
1. Construction Management Contract Award

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council approved the Construction Management Contract for Emanon Group, Inc. and Irvetta Williams dba IJAY Enterprise in the amount \$180,000. The recommendation was approved by the roll call

votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Clower, and Turner; none absent; Fountain Henderson opposing; none abstaining.

K. ADJOURNMENT

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council voted the roll call votes of the following council members to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m.: Allan Stichnote, Yolonda Fountain Henderson, Terry Wilson, Jane Brown, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Lorraine Clower, and Joseph Turner; none were absent; none opposed nor abstained.

Approved: 
Yolanda Austin, Mayor

Attest: 
Deletra Hudson, City Clerk