



**Minutes of the City Council Regular Meeting**  
**Jennings City Hall**  
**Telemeeting Via Zoom Video**  
**February 27, 2023**  
**Regular Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

The two thousand four hundred and forty-fifth meeting of the Jennings City Council was held on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in person and via Zoom Video.

**A. REGULAR MEETING**

- 1. Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**

**Council members present:** Councilman Stichnote, Councilwoman Wilson, Councilman Wilson, Councilwoman Brown, Councilwoman Morton, Councilman Johnson, Councilwoman Clower, and Councilman Turner.

**Council member(s) absent:** none.

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

**4. Approval of the Agenda**

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

**5. Copy of Approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 23, 2023**

On the motion made by Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council approved the minutes from the Regular Meeting of January 23, 2023.

**6. Approval of the minutes from the Special Meeting of February 8, 2023**

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council approved the minutes from the Special Meeting of February 8, 2023.

**B. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONERS, REMONSTRATIONS, COMPLAINTS, AND REQUESTS**

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

*Chloe Nave, 2405 McLaran Ave.*, stated her first issue is concerning speed bumps. She asked are there any plans to install signs that say speed bump ahead. She said some of the speed bumps are on a hill and it's hard to see when one is approaching one. Mayor Austin said Jim will get with her about the streets she's referring to. Ms. Nave said her second issue is a vacant house that has refuse in the yard. She stated her husband has called several times since last year. She said the weeds were finally cut down. Ms. Nave stated she pays a waste management bill and wonders if those

funds are used by the City for public waste. Mayor Austin asked for the address. Ms. Nave said 2321 McLaran Ave. and she has photos if anyone needs them. Mayor Austin asked Kellie to get with Ms. Nave about the matter.

**Freddie Bracy, 7120 Idlewild Ave.,** asked when people buy houses to rehab them, how much time does the city give them to rehab it. Mayor Austin said when they buy the house, they have 6 months to rehab the home. She said after 6 months, if they haven't done anything Kellie sends out a letter to the owner for an extended 6 months, if they haven't already pulled permits for the work. Mayor Austin asked does he have a specific house that he wants to report. He said no, not a specific house, but he has seen people work on houses in the community for 2 years or longer. Mr. Bracy asked are they going to do anything about College Ave. past Emma going towards West Florissant. He stated it's terrible down there and the streets are in bad shape. Jim reported he is getting bids right now for that street. He said it was supposed to be on this year's budget, but he didn't have the people to do it, but they are getting bids to get that contracted out. Mr. Bracy said when Elliott Davis was talking to Councilman Johnson about the \$127,000 spent on the vacant building, could they have spent that on something else. Mayor Austin reported the city has a letter stating that security needed to be at that building until the chemicals are out.

Kellie explained more about the rehab process when buying a house in the City of Jennings. She stated the buyers have 18 months to rehab the property. She reported the City of Jennings has a vacant registry ordinance that says, after 6 months, if your house remains vacant with no improvements, they will owe the city \$200. She stated they will also receive a letter and the fee accumulates. She said then it will be taken through their legal process. Kellie spoke on the Xograph property that was mentioned. She said there were dangerous chemicals in the building and the chemical contract company is several months behind. She reported the chemicals have to be removed a certain way and certain hazardous materials have to be removed. She stated until that is done, they have to keep insurance on the property. Councilman Johnson asked, outside of someone purchasing from the auction, how long do they have to rehab a home. He reported Berkeley and Ferguson when someone buys a house the fees automatically go on their closing statement. He said that's how they know a house, has been bought in their city. Councilman Johnson asked how does the city know the person bought the house. Kellie said they have the same amount of time, because the city has an ordinance that states they have 18 months to rehab the house. Kellie stated they don't have a system to know if someone bought the house. Councilman Johnson said they need to figure out the houses outside of the auction, and what they need to do to make sure the city knows they were bought.

Councilwoman Clower stated she has three houses on her block that were sold at the auction back in 2019. She said she spoke with Kellie regarding those houses, sent emails, and spoke with Sam as well. She said nothing has been done. She said two of the houses are owned by the same owner. She said the city has more houses sold on auction that have not been rehabbed. Councilwoman Clower said that's a problem for the City of Jennings. Kellie acknowledged that she has spoken with Councilman Clower on several occasions about these properties. She said those properties from 2019 weren't being managed the first time. Now they have sent out letters now they are getting ready to reclaim those properties through the city's Legal Department. Councilman Johnson asked how many houses they have sold in the auction. Kellie gave an estimate of 220. He then asked how many of those houses fell under the vacant property registry after 6 months to a year. Kellie stated it was quite a few, but now they are in the process of legally reclaiming those properties.

**Kenya Ballard, 5 Simmons Dr.,** stated she is a resident of Councilman Stichnote's Ward. She said she lives in a cul-de-sac, and she has a complaint about cars that block the driveway. She said when she calls St. Louis County Police they come out and ask the resident to move their car, but nothing happens. She reported this has been going on for two years. She said she has spoken to Councilman Stichnote, and he told her that they have a police officer that was hired to address those matters. She said she hasn't met the police officer at all. She said when she goes to talk to the resident and ask them to move their car, it becomes a problem. Ms. Ballard reported a house next door to her has been vacant since 2019. She stated the owners haven't done anything and the house is falling apart. Councilman Stichnote stated Captain Mann will work on that issue and they will see what they can do. Mayor Austin asked Kellie to get the address of the vacant home from Ms. Ballard.

*Marietta Beck (via zoom)*, asked do the council members and Mayor go through a security check at the council meetings. Mayor Austin stated she doesn't. Ms. Beck stated she would feel safer if everybody went through it, including the Council and Mayor. She said she would like that changed in the future. She reported two homes near her residence are not secured, they are vacant. She stated one is 5458 at the corner of Hodiamont and Garesche, the front door is wide open. She reported 5479 Hamilton, the house has been vacant for 9 months and the basement window is open. Ms. Beck asked Jim if Garesche between Helen and Hodiamont could be paved. She said something like a large pothole is there. She said 5426 Hodiamont, there is no improvement with all those cars still there. Ms. Beck stated the candidates that are running for office, does anyone check to see if their taxes are all paid. Mayor Austin stated they do not check to verify if their taxes are paid, she said they sign an affidavit in which they are saying they have paid their taxes. She stated someone has to file a complaint first. Jim added that he and Kellie have been working on the Garesche project for some time and it's going to be from Janet down to Wilborn with the CDBG funds. He said the 5400 block he got a call on that today, he stated it was a utility cut, with them doing a lead replacement.

*State Rep. Yolonda Henderson (via zoom)*, stated she has reported 2525 Hord for over 6 months. Ms. Henderson asked Mayor Austin why she has Alice Wilson on the city website, welcoming her as a new council member, while she is running for public office. She reported she didn't put Councilwoman Morton on the city website. She said they have never done that, and she needs to take that down while being in an election. Ms. Henderson reported pole J397, which is in front of the school Gary Gore, the lights need to be changed. She said it is completely dark and when you go down the hill it is dark, and she has been reporting that for 6 months. She reported 8917 St. Cyr. the green car is still in the middle of the yard. She said 2407 Petrov, a the back yard is filled with trash. Ms. Henderson stated she reported a dog being loose on Darnell over and over again. She said the residents are getting furious because the dog doesn't have a leash on, and he runs freely. Ms. Henderson expressed her feelings about what happened at the last council meeting. She said she is very disappointed at what happened. She said she felt like Mayor Austin pushed Aja Owens to get upset. She reported since Cori Bush's information is on the city website can she put her information on the website so that residents can know what's going on in Jefferson City. She also said they can go to her website and she will send out a weekly booklet on what's going on. Councilwoman Wilson asked if she has a picture of the dog. She said yes. Councilwoman Wilson asked her to forward the information she has on the dog.

*Aja Owens (via zoom)*, stated she wanted to address what happened at the council meeting. She stated she wanted to apologize to the City of Jennings, the Council, and Mayor Austin for her conduct. She expressed that she wanted to give more clarity on why she responded the way she did. She stated the seniors from Fairview Village were displaced and she went there to help out. She said there's this narrative that's out that she asked the Urban League or Rise Management to stop servicing the seniors. She stated that never happened. She reported the Urban League and Rise didn't stop servicing the seniors. She said she understands that Mayor Austin was trying to thank her. She said the way it came off, made it seem like she was trying to stop the services the seniors were already getting. Ms. Owens said she apologizes to everyone for how she responded. She said many people helped and assisted those seniors. She stated she is a former council member from the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward, and Fairview Village is in that Ward. She still has a relationship with some of the seniors. She said some of them reached out to her personally to come over and assist them when the tragedy happened. She continued by saying, she would never ask anyone to stop assisting the seniors.

## **2. Councilmember's Reports (Reports are limited to 5 minutes. See Decorum Ordinance)**

*Councilman Turner* stated last month he shared he had a stroke. He said he wanted to acknowledge the un-present guest that's always there, Jesus Christ. He said because of that situation taking place, his life is wonderful. He stated he asked Public Works about dumping on Hamilton. He said if Jim could take care of that it'll be helpful. He stated there's a house at 8510 Hamilton that was sold a while back, and it's still vacant. He reported he asked one of the inspectors to go by there, but he is not sure if they did or not. He said he mentioned the house that caught fire at the last meeting. He said he gave them an application, but he is unsure if they turned them in or not.

*Councilwoman Clower* asked Sam if it was appropriate to talk about religion as a council member at City Hall. She stated she has been gone for 2 months and Ward 4 looks a mess. She

said they have two council members in each Ward, which is herself and Councilman Turner. She said since she has been back, she has reported 15 lots with trash and dumping all over. Councilwoman Clower asked Sam to answer her question. Sam said as long as they're not trying to convert anyone to their religion, there is nothing that would prevent a council member from bringing up religion. Councilwoman Clower asked Schona who is the inspector over Ward 4. Schona stated it was Ronald Jones, but now it's Mr. Hopkins. Councilwoman Clower said whoever the inspector is, she wants to set a date and ride around the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward, to see what's going on. She said she doesn't understand how she's coming back and dealing with dumping. She said she has been to the office since she has been back and spoke with Schona and Leslie. She said that she doesn't understand when an inspector drives through the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward, why they're not seeing those issues. Councilwoman Clower asked Sam if the city has an emergency on the dumping, if it's severe. Sam said there's always an emergency mechanism. She then said to Jim, she has 15 lots and that she wants to make sure the debris is picked up because it's an emergency. She said it's a mess in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward. Jim stated the address on Lena that she was talking about with the debris, has been picked up. He said the Building Department has been sending in more stuff lately, so if she has the lots, she can turn them in. She asked Jim what is going on with the street sweeper, she said the streets are terrible with trash. Jim said he doesn't have a body for that at the moment, but he is hoping one of his guys gets approved this evening, because he has a CDL.

**Councilman Johnson** said he emailed Jim about the light being out outside of St. John Neuman, by the parking lot. He said the light at Sapphire and College is dismantled. He reported the speed bump on College and Emma has come apart. He asked if they could put a barrier up near the walk area that leads to Lucas and Hunt. He said they are dumping in that area. He reported on the gate that's left open at Beulah and White Castle. He asked Jim to make sure the locks that are holding it haven't been tampered with. Councilman Johnson asked Captain Mann if they can do a citywide burst on no-parking areas. He stated he saw a post by a resident that said leaving Jennings on a rainy day, if you are in a small car going west on Highway 70, and if you got out, you would probably drown. He asked if somebody could tell St. Louis County that there is a huge drainage problem at Jennings Crossing, every time it rains. He said it's embarrassing when residents post stuff like that on social media.

**Councilwoman Morton** asked Jim if he could give an update on Osborn. She asked if he knew of any resources for residents to get tree trimming services. She reported she went to the Monument of Faith Community Outreach with MCU. She said MCU is hosting a mayoral debate on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Councilwoman Morton addressed an issue with residents finding guns on their back porches and people knocking on doors. Jim addressed the tree concerns. He said it's a civil matter if it's private property. He said they have an ordinance that says the trees in the front yard are the homeowner's responsibility. He reported Ameren stated the ones that are covering the lights are the homeowner's responsibility. He said if there's a tree on city property, he has that budgeted and they can address that right away. Jim said the update on Osborn is that he has people out getting bids for that street. Councilwoman Morton asked what the timeline looks like after they get the bids. Jim said once it's done and approved, it will go before Ways and Means and the Council. Councilwoman Morton asked Captain Mann if he had any input on what residents can do to be more vigilant. He said that's why their camera program is so instrumental, because if they had those cameras to use as resources, they would be able to detect where the individuals are coming from. He said what everyone is witnessing is a result of their violent crime initiative. He said they have undercover patrols the city 2 or 3 days a week. He stated they are in unmarked vehicles, so when those individuals see some activity from the police, they will run through backyards, stash their guns and come back to get them later. He said if residents are finding guns in their backyard they need to call the police. He encouraged everyone to keep calling the police and to use the crime portal as well.

**Councilman Wilson** reported he had an opportunity to hang out with the police officers. He said they had a fundraiser in support of the Pal Program in memory of Detective Antonio Valentine. He said it was a huge success and the community came out as well. He thanked Jim's department for working on the potholes that they called out two weeks ago. He then thanked the Building Department for their attention to the issue on Whitestone. He said he received three calls from them and they were very happy. Councilman Wilson reported that there is a lot of drag racing on Halls Ferry between the hours of 11-12:30 p.m. He asked Captain Mann if they could have an officer out there during those times. He asked Councilwoman Brown when they having their next Public Works meeting, because he's requesting a traffic study for Pickford and Wilson Bridge. He said

he has gotten several requests for stop signs and speedbumps. Jim stated the stop sign is on the agenda for the next Public Works meeting. He said as far as the speed bump the resident is requesting more police presence. He said the resident is asking for speed bumps not speed bumps. Councilman Wilson reported March 9<sup>th</sup> is the Neighborhood Watch Meeting and the application for the Citizens Police Academy is available. He said on March 25<sup>th</sup> he and Councilwoman Brown are hosting a Ward 2 First Time Homebuyers Event. He said they've partnered with Evergreen & Reality, State Farm Insurance, Legacy Title Escrow, Crown Insurance, and Allen Engineer Specialist. He said there will be speakers there going over the full process. He said it will be held at the Jennings Civic Center from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Councilwoman Brown** said they have a Curb Appeal contest going. She said if you have a green thumb and you enjoy working with flowers they will come by twice a year and check your yard. She said the winner will be up for a very nice prize. She reported Anni, who's the programs coordinator, said 12 residents signed up already. She said it was good to hear the news blast today concerning the Curb Appeal. Councilwoman Brown thanked Lola Nash. She said their seniors at Jennings Place Apartments, will be participating in the Curb Appeal contest with container flowers. She reported they have one business owner on board, which is STS Carcare. She said the Senior Commission invited the Community Action Agency of St. Louis County Inc. to make their mobile outreach unit available last Thursday. She said the people were coming in to get information on home energy assistance and many other services. Councilwoman Brown closed out her report by saying let us keep working together and moving forward with visionary leadership.

**Councilwoman Wilson** stated she has been a resident of Jennings for the past 5 or 6 years. She said she has been an active member of the Youth Commission for the past 4 years. She stated she help put together events for the youth in Jennings. She reported they do have an event coming up called March Madness, which is on March 18<sup>th</sup> from 2-5 p.m. at Gary Gore. She said you will be able to watch the games and play in some as well. Councilwoman Wilson stated she is new to the council and wants to learn as much as she can. She reported she attended the Missouri Municipal League Conference in Jefferson City. She said she received a lot of valuable information there and did a little networking. She stated that she is being very observant and that she is open and willing to learn. She stated if you are a senior 62 or older or disabled and you own your home, Beyond Housing has listed Jennings as one of their cities for the Home Repair Program. She said to contact Beyond Housing for more information.

**Councilman Stichnote** welcomed Councilwoman Alice Wilson to the council. He reported across from 8805 College there are several bags of trash and a couch on the curb. He said to Captain Mann that he has received complaints from the contractors at the Fire House about speeding vehicles. He also mentioned that he has gotten complaints about temporary tags and no license plates. He asked are they still working on that issue. Captain Mann explained, since they've transitioned over to 12-hour shifts, they have additional officers patrolling the City of Jennings. He said they do speed enforcement throughout the city with those extra cars. He said it's hard to do radar enforcement because the officers are radio responsive. He said a radio call takes priority over traffic enforcement. He said an officer can post up for about 15-20 minutes, but a radio call may pull them away. Captain Mann stated they are trying to allocate their resources accordingly, to get those specialized assignments and their highway safety unit back up as well. He said as far as the temporary tags, that's a problem throughout the region again. He said from his experience most of those drivers have already been cited. He explained they do not sieze temporary tags from motorists. He said those temporary tags have an identification marker that they can run through the Department of Revenue. If they get a car involved in a crime they can trace the tag back to the individual. Councilman Stichnote reported several potholes near the 8800 block and 2400 block of Sharidge. He asked if anyone can give him an update on 8811 Scottdale. He said he has turned in that address several times. Jim said he believes that the house was auctioned and the person who bought it didn't know what they were walking into. He said that address was sent to his department for clean up and he will see movement on that. Councilman Stichnote asked if anyone has noticed a little white card on their front door. He said the card is from St. Louis County Assessment Bureau. He reported St. Louis County is going to raise their taxes to 15%. He said the assessment is for St. Louis County, not Jennings.

### **3. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Austin thanked St. Louis County's Sam Paige who appointed her to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for another term. She reported they met last week and spoke about the need

for improvements in the juvenile system, mental health, and people who are involved in stolen vehicles. She went on to say she agrees with Captain Mann about needing more people to use the crime portal. She reported with the ring doorbell program, they have approximately 447 residents who participate. She reminded everyone with a ring doorbell to register their camera with the Police Department. She said they have forms on the counter at the City Hall as well as on the City's website. Mayor Austin reported the council approved the Community Emergency Relief Fund for residents to receive \$1,000, due to unforeseen emergencies. She said they allocated \$150,000 for that fund and \$50,000 has been allocated for businesses. She stated they are still working on the application and they will receive \$1,000 as well. Mayor Austin thanked all of the department heads and their staff. She said she encourages residents to call in their concerns and use the website, and check with their council members.

## **C. MONTHLY DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

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

## **D. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

- 1. Ways & Means and Public Safety Committee-** Councilman Wilson reported they had two meetings. He said they had a meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. He explained more about the agenda items. He reported they had another meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup> and he explained the discussion on the agenda items.
- 2. Public Works & Building Committee-** Councilwoman Brown stated they discussed numerous agenda items. She stated they also discussed the monument for former Pastor Essel Johnson.
- 3. Parks & Recreation Committee-** Councilman Stichnote reported they had a meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup>. He stated they discussed two items on the agenda.
- 4. Policy and Ordinance Committee-** Councilman Turner reported they had a meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. He went over the agenda items they discussed.
- 5. Municipal League-** Councilman Wilson reported the Municipal League held its annual legislature update in Jefferson City. He said he was able to go to the Senate floor and hear them debate on personal property tax and eliminating personal property tax. He reported there's a huge lawsuit with streaming companies as well.
- 7. Economic Development Board-** There was no meeting.
- 8. Youth Commission-** see the packet.
- 9. Senior Commission-** see the packet.

## **E. LEGAL BUSINESS (Proposed Ordinances)**

## **F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **G. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Approval of resolution to rename the area of the 5400 Block of Janet Avenue where Monument of Faith Church is located to honor former Pastor, Essel Johnson**

On the motion made by Councilwoman Morton, seconded by Councilwoman Clower, the council voted to approve the resolution to rename the area of the 5400 Block of Janet to Pastor, Essel Johnson. Sam did the first reading. All in favor, none opposed.

- 2. Approval of the Title VI Plan**

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the council voted to approve the Title VI Plan. All in favor, none opposed.



***3. Approval of the contractor recommended for the 2021 CDBG Demolition***

On the motion made by Councilwoman Clower, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the council voted to approve the contractor recommended for the 2021 CDBG Demolition. All in favor, none, opposed.

***4. Approval of the contractor for the City of Jennings Demolition***

On the motion made by Councilwoman Clower, seconded by Councilman Turner, the council voted to approve the contractor for the COJ Demolition. All in favor, none opposed.

***5. Approval of the disposition of non-operational and obsolete computer equipment***

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, the council voted to approve the disposition of non-operational and obsolete computer equipment. All in favor, none opposed.

***6. Approval of the auction with Purple Wave***

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the council voted to approve the auction with Purple Wave. All in favor, none opposed.

***7. Approval of the participating in the government buyback program***

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Turner, the council voted to approve the participation in the government buyback program. All in favor, none opposed.

***8. Approval of the purchase of the city vehicles***

On the motion made by Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the council voted to approve the purchase of the city vehicles. All in favor, none opposed.

***9. Approval of the installation of speed bumps***

On the motion made by Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the council voted to approve the installation of speed bumps. All in favor, none opposed.

***10. Approval of the monthly bills for payment***

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Turner, the council voted to approve the monthly bills. All in favor, none opposed.

Councilman Johnson reported he has been out on McLaren and Xograph night in and night out looking for St. Louis Protection. He said they were not there. He said he witnessed them not being there but an invoice was turned in from the previous five weeks. He expressed that he has concerns about paying them. Mayor Austin asked if he spoke with Lieutenant Jones about the matter. He said no, he just noticed it tonight on the last page of the bills. He said his concern is that he did not see them out there and they've turned in invoices to get paid. He then asked how can this situation go forward if he witnessed them not being there. Councilman Wilson asked Lieutenant Jones how do they verify their time. Lieutenant Jones stated he emails Stephanie Crayton what's emailed to him and that is how they pay the bills. Councilman Wilson stated so nobody verifies if they're there. He then asked what's the accountability of knowing if they were there. Lieutenant Jones said he takes pictures but he doesn't go by there every day to see if they're there. He stated he's going by there at times when they are there and Councilman Johnson is going by during times they're not. He said he hasn't received any reports of them not being there. Councilman Johnson reported there's a resident who lives very close to the building and he said he hasn't seen anyone. He also mentioned there is a lady who has a camera on her house who says she never sees them either. Councilwoman Wilson asked if the lady's camera is registered with the police. He stated no. Councilman Johnson stated he just wants to know who they're verifying their time with.

Councilwoman Clower stated she has concerns too. She said she knows companies have to check in or have proof showing they're on sight. She said the city is constantly paying the security company and they're being told that they're not on sight. She suggested before paying the security company they need to think some things out. Councilwoman Morton asked if the Lieutenant could

walk them through the process of verifying their time. He said he has no way of verifying other than occasionally going by the site on his way to work. He said they get time sheets that are submitted by email and sent to Mrs. Crayton. He said they can come up with other ways of doing it but it still has to be submitted electronically. He said can't just sit and make sure they're there while he's working a full shift. Councilman Wilson asked if there was a city camera in that area. Councilman Johnson said there's a hidden camera there but not a public camera. Councilwoman Clower stated they need to consider getting a city camera because they're paying security with no way of verifying time.

Councilwoman Morton stated she wanted to make a motion to pay all the bills except for the portion to the security company until they do some verification. Deletra stated this report is a list of bills that are paid, which is what the city is required to receive. She said any recommendations on how to move forward would take place on future bills. Councilman Johnson asked are we approving bills that are already paid. Deletra said yes. Councilman Wilson said they need to put something in place on how they're going to pay them moving forward. He suggested they make a motion to stop all payments until they receive the process of how they verify the attendance of the company. He asked the Lieutenant if he could come up with a plan within the next week to verify the time. Deletra mentioned keeping in mind they do have a contract with the security company for services. She said the city has to give them a 30-day notice if they're going to cease services with them. Councilman Wilson stated they're not trying to cease services. He said once the Lieutenant gives them the time verifications they will resume paying them.

Councilman Wilson suggested they call a Ways and Means meeting next week to review the process.

## **H. MAYOR'S CLOSING REMARKS**

Mayor Austin thanked those who were still there and via zoom. She asked Captain Mann to speak about an event this upcoming Saturday. Captain Mann stated he would like to invite everyone Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at noon to their annual "Balling in the Lou" event. He said it will be a Basketball Event, City Police vs County Police. He said there will be prizes and free food. Captain Mann gave a special thanks to Dr. Knight and the Jennings School District for hosting the event at Jennings High School.

## **I. CLOSED SESSION, LEGAL AND PERSONNEL (RSMO 610:021-3)**

On February 27, 2023, on the motion made by Councilwoman Morton, 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, A. Wilson, T. Wilson, Brown, Morton, Johnson, Clower and Turner; none absent; none opposing nor abstaining.

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

PERSONNEL - The following actions were taken:

- a. Approved recommendations for hire

### Part-time Public Work Laborer

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council voted to approve the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to hire Damarr Jackson for the Part-time Public Works Laborer position, pending the pre-employment screenings and background checks. The motion was approved by the following roll call vote of councilmembers voting in favor: Stichnote, A. Wilson, T. Wilson, Brown, Morton, Johnson, Clower and Turner; none absent; none opposing nor abstaining. **APPROVED**

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**



On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Turner, the City Council voted by the following roll call of councilmembers in favor of adjourning at 10:47 p.m.: Stichnote, Wilson, Brown, Morton, Johnson, and Turner; Clower absent; none opposing nor abstaining.

Approved:

  
Yolanda Austin, Mayor

Attest:

  
Deletra Hudson, City Clerk

