



**Minutes of the City Council Regular Meeting**  
**Jennings City Hall**  
**January 27, 2020**  
**Public Hearing & Regular Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

The two thousand four hundredth meeting of the Jennings City Council was held on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 7 p.m. at Jennings City Hall.

**A. PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

- 1. Petition approving the application for a site development plan for the construction of a Chase Bank Building and lot to be constructed at 8425 Lucas and Hunt Road, Jennings, Missouri 63136.**

Mayor Austin opened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

Speaking for the petition was Bruce LaSurs. Bruce described the proposed new construction of the Chase Bank building as a 3300 sq. ft. single store bank building. A site layout was provided to the City Council. He described the construction layout and functionality of the building, which included the ATMs, drive lanes, parking area, with a 24 hour per day walk up ATM inside the building in the lobby and one outside. This ATM in the lobby will be accessible to customers with accounts to access with their ATM cards. This is for security to prevent people from walking in the lobby on off hours.

He explained the exterior construction extension as it relates to the existing Sonic business next door, as well as the interior construction and operations. He stated that the bank typically has 6-10 employees on any given day; open Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 6 p.m., Saturday 9 am -2 p.m. and closed on Sundays. Layout includes a service kiosk, ATMs and teller stations with seats for customers to sit and wait to be served, as opposed to standing in line. The parking lot and ATMs are well lit and under surveillance cameras.

Jerry Smith, Sr. Project Manager, described the exterior materials used for the construction. He said the project will have a modern design.

Councilman Wilson asked the representative if this Chase Bank building would be the third Chase Bank building in the St. Louis area. Bruce responded that it would depend on the construction schedule. He said if they can swiftly move forward with getting the building permits, it very well may be the third one in the area. If it is, it definitely would be the first new build. The other two Chase Banks in the area are in Brentwood and Kirkwood, which were renovations of the existing buildings. This will be a chance for Chase to roll out its prototype of a new build. They are working on other buildings in the City of Des Peres, Chesterfield, and St. Louis City. They are all in different processes of development. He said it is difficult to say which would be first to be the third to open.

One resident asked what type of security will be provided to the teller who has to go out to balance the ATM in the parking lot. Bruce said he wasn't sure of the details. It would develop as the project develops. He said it could be a full-time guard in the building or a service that they contract with or discuss with what is present at the Buzz Westfall area. He said Chase Bank takes security seriously.

There was no one speaking against the petition. The public hearing was closed at 7:14 p.m.

- 2. Petition to amend the zoning code to allow Conditional Use Permit in a C-3 zoned district for MERS Goodwill at 8007 West Florissant Ave; Jennings, MO 63136**

Mayor Austin opened the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Jason Rybak, Director, spoke on behalf of MERS Goodwill for the petition. He provided the Council with a site plan and building elevation of the proposed building. They are proposing to convert the old Target building into one of their sites. The existing building is a 130,000 sq. ft. facility. It is proposed to become MERS Goodwill's workshop, online retail, and a retail store. All of the facility will be utilized for these three components of the building. The retail location is approx. 16,000-17,000 sq. ft. It is that component for which they are requesting the conditional use permit so that they can sell secondhand merchandise at the location. The current zoning doesn't permit it.

Other aspects of the site that will be improved includes the color scheme. They will work with the existing colors but make them more modern. The company will also address site security, which will include security cameras, interior cameras, a loss prevention team that monitors the cameras regularly. Jason said the company will assist with providing video footage of the area when needed. There will be card access to enter the facility. The building's structure will not be changed. There will be dock doors added on the side of the building for trucks to access the building.

Building operations will be Monday - Saturday 9 am - 8 pm; Sunday from 10am - 6 pm. They occasionally open early to accept donations so that people can donate before going to work.

Marietta Beck asked if this location would be a Goodwill Outlet or just a retail store. Jason responded that it will be a retail store. She also asked if it would generate any sales tax for the City, since it is Goodwill. The response was that there will be sales tax from retail.

Councilwoman Jones asked if the café, on the rendering was only for the internal client or for the residents as well. Jason said it is a large breakroom for the employees. He explained that each division will have a group of employees. They project the following employed per business entity: store (30), online (100-125), workshop (75-100).

There was no one speaking against the petition. The public hearing was closed at 7:21 p.m.

## **B. REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor Austin called for a 24 second moment of silence for the loss of Kobe and Gianna Bryant who died in the helicopter crash killing the NBA star, his daughter and seven others. She acknowledged him as a role model to our Country.

1. **Call to Order-** The meeting was called to order at 7:23 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance -** The public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance
3. **Roll Call**

**Council members present:** Allan Stichnote, Aja Owens, Francine Dugger, Gary Johnson, Miranda Jones, Phyllis Anderson, Terry Wilson.

**Council member(s) absent:** Rodney Epps; Gary Johnson left the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

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

## **4. Approval of the Agenda**

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the Council approved the agenda for the meeting.

## **5. Approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 25, 2019**

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the Council approved the minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 25, 2019.

Mayor Austin introduced the public to Captain Jason Law, St. Louis County Police Department. He replaced Captain Juan Cox, who was appointed to be the Commander over the Diversity and Inclusion Unit of the St. Louis County Police Department.

Captain Law addressed the public. He stated that he was born and raised in St. Louis County and is happy to have been promoted and transferred to service in this area. He reported that he has been with St. Louis County for approximately 22 years. Captain Law said he ran the Drug Enforcement Unit for the last five years. Prior to that he was in the North County Precinct and also served as a detective. He expressed a passion for community engagement, which is something that St. Louis County Police Department prides itself on. He will continue the engagement that was started with Captain Cox.

Captain Law said he now lives in the City of Lake St. Louis, where he also serves as an alderman. He said he believes in the community and participating in the community. He has served in that capacity for the past six years.

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

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

**Brenda Madison, 11807 Smoke Rise, Maryland Heights, MO** - property owner in Jennings. She complained about the inspection process. She said she has had lots of inspections before, but recently the inspection process has been more difficult. Ms. Madison said the inspectors come to inspect and don't tell you what is going on when they inspect the property. She said she is used to the inspectors pointing out certain things as they go along, so that she knows what she needs to do. She said she has had problems with one property that has a sunporch with windows. She was told that the windows on the sunporch need to be operable. The windows haven't been operable for years and she has had the property for about 12 years. Ms. Madison said it would be costly to replace the windows. She said she understands that each municipality has their own codes, but she talked to St. Louis County. They informed her that they do not require operable windows on a sunporch. She said Jennings couldn't find the code, but they wanted her to have windows that opened.

Ms. Madison said she replaced one section of the windows because that's what she thought the inspectors wanted her to do. But they want all of the windows replaced. She said she asked if the windows could be boxed in. The inspectors said yes but when she asked for a letter of permission to verify the approval in writing, she was informed that she needed a plan. Ms. Madison got the plans, submitted them and has not heard back from the City. She asked the City Council for assistance with arbitrating the matter. Ms. Madison admitted that she has allowed people to move into the property due to a hardship. The tenants have children that need to be in school, but she can't get the property to pass the inspection. Ms. Madison said the property is safe. She is having a problem with the window situation.

Mayor Austin introduced Jim as the Interim Director who would address the issues.

Councilwoman Jones asked what Ward the property is in. Ms. Madison gave the address of 8713 Emily.

**Paula Hughes, (no address given)**, stated that Brenda Madison is her cousin. Ms. Hughes said she encouraged Brenda to start buying properties in Jennings. Ms. Hughes also said that when Ms. Madison started having complaints about inspections, she told her to talk to the Council. Ms. Hughes said people like to come and complain at the barber shop where she cuts hair. She stated that some people may be scared to come forward, but she is not. She expressed her disappointment about having to come forth with the issues. She said she has known the members of the Council for years and she has had property in Jennings for years. She will stop inspectors in the middle of the street with questions and would always get help. Ms. Hughes said she was sitting next to another landlord who had a complaint. She also advised him to inform the Council. She said she doesn't want to be in a City where the people are afraid to speak with the Council because they are afraid of the backlash. She said she was sitting next to a man who said he had an inspection next month, so he didn't want to go to the mic to complain. She said she also had an inspection next month, but she was speaking at the mic. She turned to the inspector present (Corey Reed) and asked if he wrote them up for something that they didn't think was fair, should they not come to the Council meeting to voice their opinion because there are afraid of the backlash that comes

from him telling people that he is the new sheriff in town and what is not going to happen under his administration because of what was going on prior under the previous administration. She said they have nothing to do with what happened under the prior administration. Ms. Hughes told Corey that if he was a part of the prior administration and said things were faulty, he is just as much at fault for not reporting it. That should not be the landlords' problem. They are bringing revenue to the City. They expect the Council to do their job because they are paid to sit in the seats and help when there is a problem. She asked the Council who are they (residents) supposed to go to if there is a problem with a Council person or inspector.

Ms. Hughes went on to talk about the punch list. She said the inspection cost is \$50. Most of the time, the first inspection doesn't pass. The inspector gives a list of everything that is wrong with the property so that the issues are corrected by the reinspection. She said she doesn't want an inspector coming to her house saying they are not giving a punch list. She said that is what the first inspection is about. Even though she has owned property for years, sometimes you just don't know, you forget, or you miss something. If they have the list of the things they are supposed to do as a landlord to make the corrections, when the inspector comes back, they should only inspect what they said needed correcting in the first inspection.

Ms. Hughes talked about a property she had on Emily, where the tenant only lived there less than a year because she did not like living there. She didn't like the traffic on Emily and Hord, her window was broken, and the air conditioner was stolen. She asked who she calls with the problem. Ms. Hughes said there was only so much that the police could do. She said the Neighborhood Watch doesn't exist anymore because most people are afraid of their neighbors. She asked how the problems get corrected. What happens when an inspector comes out and the house doesn't pass, and the landlord gets a list from the first round of inspections. She asked when they come back out, were they supposed to go over the first list that was given so the person can get an occupancy permit. She asked for clarity that would be a punch list, that would tell the landlord what to correct.

Councilwoman Dugger asked who was the "Sheriff". Paula pointed to a member in the public audience and said that "he said" that Corey told him he was the new Sheriff in town. Ms. Hughes said she didn't know about Mike being fired or Henry nor what they were doing prior, except coming out to inspect. She said she has stop them both, to ask Corey for clarity on what was written in an inspection report.

Councilwoman Jones said she didn't get a call or emails regarding what Ms. Hughes was commenting about. Ms. Hughes said she never calls Councilwoman Jones, she calls the people who were going to give her answers and that is Councilwoman Dugger and Councilman Stichnote. Councilwoman Jones asked her if she got her answers. Ms. Hughes responded that she is at the meeting tonight to get answers.

***Yolonda Fountain Henderson, 8822 Sunter***, asked where the City is with graffiti on the vacant building in the 4th Ward. She said she has been asking about this for over two years. She also asked why the yellow pole is up at Lion's Park and why is the park locked. She reported trash on Shannonaire, which has been there for 3 weeks. She asked why the trash can't get cleaned up. She said there were people going in and out of a house with no light, but she didn't have the address. There is trash, derelict cars, and overgrown vegetation at 2930 Solway, which is reported to have been there for over five months. She asked why Alexandra Place gets plowed by the City of Jennings. Beet juice was put down before she gets beet juice put down and she is a taxpayer, whereas they pay into an association.

Ms. Henderson said she is disappointed that there was a big event for people who needed help on electric/gas and winterization. She said the Mayor nor other Council member, besides Councilwoman Anderson attended. She said it didn't matter who gave the event. It was about who could be helped. She said it was sad. There was a resident that came to the event that was told by the Civic Center that the event ended at 3 p.m. but it really ended at 1:00 p.m. She said that was very disturbing. She said the Council should work together no matter who gives the event. She said Councilwoman Owens will give the thunder about the event. Ms. Henderson said Councilwoman Owens is a Warrior and Jennings graduate. The Warriors fight for what is right. She told everyone and specifically Councilwoman Owens that she will be there to assist her. She said we all need to work together as one.



*Jane Brown, 2328 Ada Wortley*, said it was inspiring and enlightening to have seen the City offices decorated for the Holidays. The sight was uplifting, including the Civic Center. She said she was impressed with the creativity. Ms. Brown also expressed excitement about the renovations at Sievers Park. She looks forward to things continuing to move forward. Ms. Brown told Jim Maixner that the tree trimming looks good. She thanked Sgt Perez and Off. McCrary for the updates at the Neighborhood Watch meetings. She said there was a full room that was engaging. She is happy about the forward movement of the City.

*Marietta Beck, (no address given)*, thanked the street department for being proactive with street treating. She reported a complaint about cars being parked at two different places at Hodiament. The addresses are 5426 and 5430 Hodiament. There about 10 cars parked in the back yard. 5458 or 5462 Hodiament also has a lot of cars parked at the location. She reminded everyone that the City Council are not social workers. They are here to conduct City business. She said they are not here to help everyone because of financial things. That is what social workers are for. Everyone has 24 hours in a day, including the Mayor. She knows there is an election coming up and she hopes all of the Council members really live in Jennings and that their vehicles are all licensed in the State of Missouri, not in Illinois. She also asked if the Council could refrain from using their smartphones while conducting City business.

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

*Councilwoman Aja Owens* began her report with greetings. She spoke to Ms. Beck's remarks by stating she is not a social worker but is a proud public servant. She stated that she will always be available and accessible to people's needs. Councilwoman Owens gave a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King. She thanked everyone who played a part in the energy assistance program that occurred on the past Saturday where over 250 people were serviced. She said as much as she is proud of the people who were served, she is also disheartened to know she is amongst a Council, Mayor, and City employees that would be more concerned about sabotaging a process of helping the community because their name isn't on a flyer or they weren't the ones who came up with the idea. Councilwoman Owens said she is being personal because she has been a resident of Jennings for over 30 years. She said she grew up in Jennings and graduated from Jennings. This is her village. This is where she learned how to become a young woman. Everything that she knows to be right in the world, she learned from the City of Jennings. Councilwoman Owens said she is not naïve to think that things don't change over time. She said the reason she ran for Council is because, as a little kid, she remembered how beautiful Jennings looked; how the neighbors knew each other, liked each other and looked out for each other. Somewhere along the lines, that stopped. Councilwoman Owens said she is not about blaming anybody. She is about looking for ways to help. So, she ran for City Council and ran a clean campaign. She said she doesn't owe anybody on the Council anything. She said she didn't smear anybody's name. She said she did it with integrity, passion and heart. With that same integrity, passion and heart; she said she serves on the Council.

Councilwoman Owens said she has been getting harassed. She said things have been happening to her, even when she was running her campaign, by Councilman Johnson and Mayor Austin. She said it stops today. She said she will no longer be a victim of the harassment, ridicule and sabotage that has been happening to her even while she was campaigning. She said Mayor Austin came for her job, on at least two occasions. Councilwoman Owens said it is beyond ridiculous. She doesn't have the support. She said she doesn't know what the Council's issues are with each other, but she is not a part of that. She said she ran an honest campaign and doesn't owe anybody on the Council anything. She said she owes the 4th Ward. Everything she does is for the 4th Ward. She uses her own money and network. Everything she does is poured back into the community; the community that poured into her. She said everything she tries to do is sabotaged and they try to stop it. Councilwoman Owens said it is Councilman Johnson and Mayor Austin. She told Willie Brandon, Recreation Department Director, that she has lost all respect for him because she feels that every time, she tries to bring something, he runs back to the Mayor and they try to stop it. She told Councilman Johnson that he doesn't know what is going on, but he tries to sabotage anything that has her name on it but doesn't have his name on it. She said again that everything she does is for the community. She said it is not about her. It's about the community that she still lives in. She said she hears the same gun shots that they hear. She said her house was broken into the same night that she did the Thanksgiving Dinner. She said she gives everything of herself. Even when people take from her, she doesn't look at it like throwing it back at them. She looks at it like what kind of resources do they need that would make them so desperate that they would take from her;

someone who would give to you. She said you can walk through her front door and take whatever you want. She will give it to you. Councilwoman Owens said she has endured so much in the City, as a kid, young adult, and grown woman. But she will not continue to tolerate the disrespect, the harassment, and the sabotage because everything that she does is with heart and passion.

Councilwoman Owens said she is a spiritual woman who believes in God. She said she respects people, leadership, her elders, her community-- everybody. But she has been getting nothing but ridicule and harassment at the hands of Councilman Johnson and Mayor Austin, and anybody else who supports the regime. She said she doesn't care about the funny business everybody is doing behind closed doors. All of the crookedness that is happening within the walls of City Hall. She said she doesn't care about any of that. All she said she cares about is what she stood up and said she would do on behalf of the 4th Ward. She said she would like for them to leave her alone. Councilwoman Owens said that if they are not going to work together to improve the conditions of the City of Jennings, particularly the 4th Ward, she would like for them to leave her alone. She said she would like for them to work together. She said she doesn't have support. She said she would use the Mayor's word by quoting her in saying that the Mayor said that she has at least five people on the Council who support her. Councilwoman Owens said her response was that she is about what is right. So, if she is not among the five, what does that say about the Mayor. She said so if she is not among the five, she gets treated like this, when all she is doing is working for the City and the constituents. She said she doesn't like hearing the gun shots and seeing the derelict properties. She said she has been in the City for over 30 years.

Councilwoman Owens apologized to the people who came to the mic complaining about the inspections. She said she has been also hearing the stories about the faulty inspections. Councilwoman Owens then asked where were the inspectors doing the inspections when all of the slumlords for the house next door to her that has moved in 20,000 families with no occupancy permits for over the last 10-15 years. She said the people who are trying to genuinely invest in the City get all of the backlash. She said she has been hearing the stories. She said again, if you are not a part of the regime or whatever is going on up in here, you get treated like this. She said she is tired of it. She said that if she needs to go to the next level to get some type of support and protection, she is willing to do that. She said she is an elected official who gets treated worse than those coming to the mic complaining. She said she is working her butt off every single day, in and out of town. It doesn't matter where she is. Her residents call her phone all day long. Anything they ask of her, she does it. She said even you, to Marietta Beck. Marietta Beck said she was sassy to her. Councilwoman Owens said to Ms. Beck that she was sassy because she didn't understand how she was coming to her like that, when all she does is work on behalf of the 4th Ward. Councilwoman Owens said that if she knew about her issue, she would have helped her. She said Ms. Beck was so busy wondering why Councilwoman Owens' car was parked the wrong way in front of her house. Ms. Beck made a comment that was inaudible. Councilwoman Owens responded to Ms. Beck that she respects the community that she lives in. She told Ms. Beck that if she got to know her, she would know that. She said Ms. Beck is so resistant. She has never attended anything that she has put on the for the 4th Ward. Councilwoman Owens said she has been in her position since April and has done a whole lot but hasn't seen Ms. Beck once. Councilwoman Owens said the only time she heard Ms. Beck's voice was when she called complaining. She said she still looked up her situation and tried to help. Ms. Beck made another comment. Councilwoman Owens said again, she is for the 4th Ward. She is for the City of Jennings. As long as she is an elected official, she will continue to serve in that capacity. She said she had to say this because she is tired of the harassment and it stops now. They have tried to have interventions. So, if anyone has some solutions on some positive ways to reconcile. She doesn't know what these people's issues are with her but all she is about is the 4th Ward and representing the City of Jennings.

**Councilman Gary Johnson** greeted the public. He started his report saying that he does a lot for the community. He said his track record speaks for itself. Councilwoman Owens started speaking and he responded by stating to her that he didn't interrupt her when she was speaking, and he also said it to the public that he didn't interrupt her. He then said that he was not speaking on anybody, he would speak on himself. He said when you speak on him, please come with proof. He said instead of slandering him; come with proof. The proof is that there is a process to everything that we do. There is a process to everything in the City. He said when he held the stabilization event, the health and wealth event, he completed the permits for the events. If you have events and don't follow the rules, they cannot happen. He said there is a tone trying to be set in the City.

Councilman Johnson said he doesn't know about the inspections. But he would look into it. If they are trying to set a tone and it is clashing, there is going to be clashing when there is change. He said he was not agreeing with it, he said he is just saying. But there is a process and he follows the process. No matter what anybody says, he puts his heart and soul into everything. He said the \$600 doesn't do anything for him. Everybody in his Ward will tell you. He said he wrote a grant. He was awarded the grant to put trash cans in front of houses so people in the Ward could dump their trash. He asked who else has done that. He said he went around and boarded up 13 houses by himself, with volunteers. He said he is not talking. He is going out and working. He said again it is a process to everything we do in the City and it is going to be a process to everything we do in the City. He said if you can't get with the process, then you will come up with some resistance. If you go to the police and you run a stop sign, you will get some resistance; you will get a ticket. He said he follows the processes.

Councilman Johnson pointed out the billboards on Jennings Station Road and the one on Hord (Lucas & Hunt) and encouraged people to pay attention. He said go on the website to pay attention. He pays attention to his City. He said he bought a house in the City with his name on it. He said he has about four houses and he pays the taxes on them. You can look it up. He said his work is facts. There is no talking. Ever since he has been here since April, he has been putting in work. He said he doesn't care about the Council. He said he doesn't have to like any of them. But he put in his work. He read the definition of a Councilman/Councilwoman which read, "works together with the Mayor, adopts all ordinances and resolutions, determines the general goals and policies of the City." He said that is what he does. He has introduced four bills and they all passed. There will be two more coming tonight. That is ordinances, policies, resolutions. He brought support for the Gun Act. He said he has been interviewed twice, which received some of the highest view of the radio station. He said he has been asked back to the station. Councilman Johnson said he has been putting on for our City. He said he wasn't born in Jennings. He said his auntie lived on College by Velvet Freeze and still lives there now. So, he came back and wants to change it. That's why he is working. He invited the people to come into the 3rd Ward and ask his neighbors. He pointed out a resident in the audience from the 3rd Ward. He said he knocked on every door in the 3rd Ward. He said he puts in work because that's what he does.

Councilman Johnson thanked Sgt. Perez and Officer McCrary for responding to his calls about abandoned cars. He said every time he calls them, they come swiftly. He said they are cleaning up the 3rd Ward. He said to the public, if you leave a car in the streets, he is coming to get it. He said as for the Stabilization event, he used his truck and got a U-Haul trailer and picked up dumps in six different areas. He thanked Jim, PW Director, for assisting.

Councilman Johnson said there are eight Ward dumpsters, but they have only used about two or three of them. He said he read the Comprehensive Plan from front to back. He told the public to ask any of the Councilmembers who else did it. He said he read the Parks Plan from front to back. He said he got a certification for Planning and Zoning and read the ordinance front to back. He said he puts in work for this City. He also said there was a 3rd Ward Meeting held on the past Saturday which was nice.

**Councilwoman Phyllis Anderson** greeted the public and asked Jim about the dogs at 2600 Kinamore, that were terrorizing everyone. She asked him if they got the guy or talked to him about it. Jim said summons have been issued to the property owner. They are working with the Judge about what they can do and bringing people to court. They have resolved what needs to be done with the cars in the yards. Jim pointed out the situation on Emma by the Police Station. They went there, tagged, served and explained the process. He said the gentleman took it upon himself to remove all of the cars from the property. Jim said as long as the people know that they are serious about this and that they can do something about it, the City will move forward. He said they went after the property owner about the pit bull and the fences. They need to come to court so they can move forward. They are looking at different ways to change things here to be more effective. The problem is getting people to come to court. Councilwoman Anderson asked about the mail carrier. She asked if the residents could get mail in the area because they were threatening to stop mail service in the area. Jim said he hasn't heard anything after the threats.

Councilwoman Anderson thanked Jim for cleaning the streets when we get inclement weather. She gave a shout out to Lt. Geasley and thanked him for creating the report that she requested and getting the CPR training done. She asked when the next CPR class would occur and if it was open

to all City staff. City Clerk, Deletra Hudson, responded that the next class was on the upcoming Friday. It is being taught by the same instructor who taught our previous classes. She did advise the Council that she needed to know if they were interested right away because space is limited.

Councilwoman Anderson thanked Sgt. Perez and his team for the patrols. She acknowledged the new cards being sent from the police dept. She thanked Captain Law for the information. She also acknowledged Steve Pokorny for his work in the community.

Councilwoman Anderson said she also attended the Energy assistance event and it was great to see people's lives being touched and the stress lifted. She said she talked to one of the sponsors. They will come up with a session in North County called Empowering You. This event with help residents finds out how to help themselves in their home regarding energy saving and getting future assistance. She closed her report with a quote.

***Councilwoman Francine Dugger*** welcomed Captain Law to the City. She asked Sgt. Perez and Jim was there a report on the work they were going to do on the streets that had been identified as having issues with speeding. She said that issue was originally discussed months ago. She said she talked to Officer McCrary on some complaints. She said she didn't want to have to call for individual complaints. She thought they had put together some idea of how the situation could be attacked. Sgt. Perez said they didn't compile an official report. He said they beefed up traffic enforcement in the area. Officer McCrary wrote a ton of citations. He said McLaran was one of the hot spots. Sgt. Perez said Officer McCrary reported that he didn't see a lot of speeding. He did see a lot of stop sign violations. Councilwoman Dugger said, some months ago, all of the councilmembers turned in streets that they thought were problems. Sgt. Perez said he didn't see that list. Councilwoman Dugger said Jim may have the list. The request was to give them some idea of where they are with the list. Sgt. Perez asked if someone could email him the list. Councilwoman Dugger said Jim had the list. Sgt. Perez said they could provide a formal report. Councilwoman Dugger asked if he could provide it to the full Council.

Councilwoman Dugger thanked Jim for cleaning up the dumping at Ada Worley and River Roads. Jim said will move the cameras to try to catch who is dumping. Councilwoman Dugger ask is there a way to get together on a plan as to how the issue can be resolved. She said some people seem to think that it is ok to dump. They have found that Jennings residents are doing some of the dumping. Councilwoman Dugger said it may go back to the issue of who has trash service. That may be something that we can look at with the trash company. She said before, the City was getting a list of the people who do not have trash service, not the ones who are a month or so behind. Those without service are usually the culprits. She asked if the staff could work on that. She said the last experience was that it was a resident who dumped on Ada Worley before. Jim responded that they have had quite a few of those issues. People are getting more slick by not putting their mail in the trash that is dumped. He said there is more dumping in the 4th Ward and the 3rd Ward behind the railroad tracks at Xograph. This is turning into a weekly ordeal. Councilwoman Dugger said that it is residents without trash service. They are not coming from Ladue or North County or Pine Lawn. Jim said they do get some from Country Club Hills and the City. So, they try to move the camera to at least get the license plate information. He said it would be great to have more community engagement. Someone has to see something.

Councilwoman Dugger asked Captain Law to help her with a situation. She described times when she has been on her front porch and see officers as they drive by. She waves at them, but they are not looking, and they are not in pursuit of anything. She asked Captain Law to ask them to look around when they are in the cars. Especially those who aren't here in Jennings all the time. She mentioned that Perez and McCrary are here all the time but there are probably some officers who aren't always in Jennings. She asked Captain Law was that how that works. Captain Law responded but it was audible. Councilwoman Dugger asked the residents to also be aware and look around to see what's going on. She encouraged then to call it in when they see it. We will have to work together to stop the dumping.

Councilwoman Dugger inquired with Captain Law about the cards that they were getting. She asked were they just for the Council or for the residents. Capt. Law said the cards are for all the council people to let them know that they are in the area. Councilwoman Dugger she was up one night and heard the mailbox. She said she was alarmed. Then she looked out and saw the officer do a quick U-turn and head to Cozens. She was thinking: did he patrol, were her neighbors safe, did he just put this thing (card) in her box. She said she has a stack of them, but she was concerned and wants to how is it working. Councilwoman Dugger said the residents should also



feel safe. She was also wondering what they are doing when they drop the cards in the box. Captain Law's response was inaudible because he was not at the mic. Councilwoman Anderson asked Captain Law how many officers are in the contract. He responded that there are 43 officers in the contract, but other different resource officers that are not in the contract. There are three shifts.

Councilwoman Dugger said she is saddened that Council members are upset with each other and the way things are going. She said to the Council if you have a concern or question, misunderstanding or you are confused, whatever your issue is about what another Council member may be doing, what is wrong with a phone call for clarity. She said that will cut down the issues and hearing that there is an email going out stating that you have been accused of doing something. Let's just make the phone call. She said the Council are all adults. So, when you come for one, be careful about that. That goes for the residents as well. When you are confused or don't like something, call her. She said she will call you back.

**Councilman Terry Wilson** began his report stating that it is a pleasure and honor to see another day, see his family off and see them when he returned home. He reported that last week was the Jennings School Board Meeting. He announced at the meeting that he was not seeking reelection for the Jennings School Board. He stated that he wanted to focus 100% of his attention on what he is doing in the City because there is a lot of work to do. He said it is time for others in the community to step up and serve in the positions. Councilman Wilson said there are a lot of opportunities for residents to serve on boards, not only in the City of Jennings, but in St. Louis County. He said it is over 80 boards that are vacant. Councilman Wilson said he has been in conversations with people in St. Louis County Executive Office and they express that they are looking for residents and candidates, not the usual suspects all the time, to serve on the boards. He said forthcoming in the upcoming weeks, he will have a list of the boards and the qualifications for the boards. He will share the information. If you are interested, please contact him. He will direct you to the appropriate person. He encouraged everyone to get involved. He said when we don't understand things, we have confusion. Councilman Wilson asked the public to continue to enlighten one another and not take life for granted. He referenced the moment of silence that the City had at the start of the meeting. He said it rocked him, not just because it was Kobe Bryant, but we live our days, every day, not thinking about the next minute. But every once in a while, we should pause to appreciate the things in life. Also be willing to forgive. At the end of the day, there is one person who you are responsible for and that's yourself.

Councilman Wilson reminded the public that there are other meetings posted for the people. He encouraged people to attend. He said someone stated that the Neighborhood Watch is dying, but if you believe that, he said we should encourage people to get involved because they are working hard. It is the same people every week. He knows they want more people to come and help. We have tools and resource available. We have to encourage people to use them. He announced the St. Louis County council has a meeting every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Some things that can't get done on the City level; the complaints can be taken to the County council. The City of Jennings is in the 1st St. Louis County District. The representative is Rita Days. On Tuesday, there is a Fire Board Meeting. He explained that the City doesn't have a fire department; we are serviced by a fire district. That is a separate government entity. They handle tax dollars in the same way as the City and School District. He encouraged the public to attend the meetings. He said he has attended several times and there is really no participation from our area. They come to ask for things, and we need to make sure we understand what is going on with the money.

Councilman Wilson encouraged the department heads to keep doing their jobs. He wished the public happy holidays and wishes that 2020 will be great.

**Councilwoman Miranda Jones** welcomed MERS Goodwill to Ward 1. She said when the Target store left, it left a hole in the community. The retail was gone. Trucks were starting to park on the lot. It was bringing the value down in the whole area because we didn't have that anchor store. She said the first time they had the conversation; she was not that excited about MERS Goodwill because she wanted new retail. But retail is dying all over the country. When you look down on Lindbergh Blvd, you see Kmart is gone and the other stores. The reality is that retail stores are not the next wave. The next wave will be online shopping. Councilwoman Jones said MERS Goodwill said they are moving their online hub and shelter workshop to Jennings, bringing over 200 jobs to the community. She was extremely excited about that. She and Councilman Stichnote have visited other MERS Goodwill to make sure they are getting a quality

MERS in our community. She thanked them for coming to Jennings. She hopes it will be a great fit.

Councilwoman Jones spoke on Chase Bank coming to Buzz Westfall Plaza. She said she is glad the area is not a place with the empty store fronts that are rampant in the community. She encouraged the public to do what we can to keep the area vibrant. It is important to the health of the community.

Councilwoman Jones responded to the resident's comment regarding the use of the smartphones. She explained that she uses her smartphone for the calendar and to look up City codes. She said she doesn't want the public to think when they are using their phones sometimes, that they are being rude. She said the plug is further away from her and she didn't have the cords to get plugged in. Councilwoman Jones said it is not meant to be any disrespect to the public if you see them using the smart phones. The phones are used for a lot of things.

Councilwoman Jones said she is excited about the new officers and new cards the department is delivering. She and her husband recognized the efforts made by Officer Shelton. However, she expressed concern because of the community that we are in, when we hear noise—we react. In response to Officer Shelton coming by, when she hears noise now she does not react. She went on to urge the community to come up with a system, and if we are hearing [police vehicles] the community will react because they are prone to it. The community of Jennings is on heightened alert because there is so much going on. Councilwoman Jones said she is a little nervous because she often calls the police non-emergency line because gunshots can be heard a lot. She went on to say that when we hear them, we text each other to find out what is happening. She said that someone definitely has a semi-automatic weapon that is very close to us, and they like to shoot it at about twelve o'clock in the morning. She said that when she has contacted the police non-emergency line and asked for a call back they sometimes forget to call back. She does not want to be a nuisance caller but, often in cases where gunshots could be heard, she wants to see what could be done to make a record of the occurrence and be able to zero in on where they might be coming from. Those high-powered weapons are the kind that are making her the most nervous. She said that she and her husband counted twenty shots just three or four days ago and the Police department confirmed it was in fact twenty shots from that particular gun. She urged Capt. Law to help the City of Jennings to figure that out because it is very concerning to its residents.

Councilwoman Jones urged the officers to do cultural sensitivity training, since they are all from different walks of life and to understand what is happening in the Jennings community. As we have new officers coming into our community that don't look like our community, they should learn about the Jennings community, and not just patrol the community. She mentioned that she noticed some potential red flags with new officers coming into patrol that she would address at a later time. Capt. Law said the officers do cultural diversity training which is conducted every year.

Councilwoman Jones yielded thirty seconds of her reporting time to Councilwoman Dugger.

Councilwoman Dugger addressed the earlier issue of Councilmembers use of cellular devices during council meetings. Sam Alton, City Attorney, said he was looking over the Decorum Ordinance which states: "The phones should remain on silent, not talked into..." but it does leave open how current officials use them in the meetings now. He went on to say that Councilwoman Jones did say that a lot of times cellphones are used by officials for research purposes, looking something up in the Code, but the ordinance is really geared towards the prevention of disruption of council meetings. Councilwoman Jones said that the previous ordinance disallowed the use of electronic devices, but that ordinance was amended due to the use of technology. Sam referenced the Muni-Code of the ordinance; Section 230, subsection C. Councilwoman Dugger asked for clarification on that, the ordinance does not say councilpersons cannot have their phones or electronic devices, but rather professionally not interrupt the meeting by being on the phone during a meeting; yet nothing says that they cannot have their phones or use them. Sam said that was correct, specifically all phones should be turned off or on vibrate during the meetings, the council or any committee meeting.

Councilwoman Jones invited all to the School Board Gala, on March 27, 2020 at Norwood Hills Country Club. Board members are a part of a program called the Red Coat Honors, which Mr. Joseph Turner, who was present at the council meeting, and Jackie Simmons, who was the first

African American female on the School District Board are being honored this year. She is very excited to honor them.

Councilwoman Jones thanked Jim Maixner for always taking calls and text messages, and he is so pleasant to work with. She thanked him for quickly responding to the homes and buildings called in.

Councilwoman Jones addressed Councilwoman Owens, way to speak truth to power and that she knows it can be hard to express yourself when you feel like you're being marginalized on this Council. She thanked her for putting it out there and speaking truth to power. She recognized both Councilwoman Owens and Councilman Johnson for their work with passion and hard work. She believes that the City Council needs to learn how to work as a 'We', not as a 'Me' or 'I'. To elevate yourself, it does not mean having to keep putting everybody else down. Some criticism and "finger-pointing" are behaviors that don't allow us to work together. Everybody is doing their part; everyone has their own strengths. My strength is reading policy, reading stuff that others don't want to read; Aja's strength is in her community; Terry's strength is being up-to-date about things outside of the Jennings community... we all have our strengths, and we need to learn how to appreciate those things and work together. She thanked the rest of the Council and STS Car Care for the desk calendars for the councilmembers.

**Councilman Allan Stichnote** wished everyone a good evening and a happy new year. He addressed Mayor Austin regarding a house concerning some issues. He reassured her saying, the Building Department and Police department have stayed on top of the issue.

Councilman Stichnote reported that December 21, 2019 was the Breakfast With Santa event was a success and there was on of the largest turn out for a Breakfast With Santa event. He reported January 18, 2020 was the first Chili Cook-off. It was a lot of fun and they intend on doing it again next year.

Councilman Stichnote thanked Jim Maixner, Director of Public Works, for taking care of the ice and snow on the roads during inclement weather. He reported no calls regarding issues on the streets during those times. Councilman Stichnote also invited everyone to the Business Watch meeting on February 14, 2020 and the Park meeting on February 12, 2020 at 6 pm but due to scheduling issues, the Park meeting will be rescheduled. The Senior Commission is hosting a Bingo event on February 20, 2020 at 12 pm which will be a lot of fun. He hoped a lot of seniors will show up.

Councilwoman Jones asked if she could use his time to inquire about crime level details, and she wanted to see a report listed by Ward. Captain Law explained that in 2020 there is a new Federal Crime Reporting system that has been implemented and explains why reports are a little different. He said he will go back to his people and see if they may revert to the old system for a few reports. Councilwoman Jones said if the council knew what reports corresponded to which Ward, that would be helpful.

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

Mayor Austin thanked all department heads for their great work, a special thanks to Jim Maixner, Director of Public Works and Interim Director of Housing and Economic Development, who is holding down the two departments. During the holidays, the City Hall door decorating contest was an uplift to the residents who came in to the City buildings and people working within the buildings. One department, that is fairly quiet, was the first-place winner. That was the Corrections department. Mayor Austin acknowledged their efforts and gave them a hand for their effort. Second place winner was the City Clerk's department and third place was the Civic Center. There was a winner in each one of the buildings.

Mayor Austin said the Neighborhood Watch is still functioning and she encouraged people to come out and to bring others along. Even with bad weather, she recognized people in attendance. She commended the Economic Development Consultant who has been assisting with the development across the City, especially working hard with Chase Bank and MERS Goodwill.

Mayor Austin said that the City of Jennings also has a new Judge, Felicia Ezell-Gillespie, who is bringing new processes to the Courts department. The Municipal Judge has implemented monthly meetings with Courts, Public Works and the Building departments to look at issues

coming into court and not being addressed the way they should be; these meetings are a change to how things have been done previously and may present a change.

Mayor Austin said the city owned property auction bids will end on Friday, January 24th and bid opening will be January 30th at 10 am in the City Hall Council Room. She also reminded everyone that Census 2020 is upon us and she stressed the importance of capturing everyone April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 within the City.

Mayor Austin invited Jim Maixner to address some of the changes in the Building department.

Jim said that the Building Department has been struggling to be up to date with ISO standards. With City Council approval, the Building can go from using the 2012 building code to the 2018 code. It will make things rough on new occupants and landlords but this to assure the safety of our residents. What was done before or passed through previously, changes have been made regarding that. Of all the communities around Jennings, the City will be adopting the standards and codes that they have already implemented with ICC coding. Buildings must be ready for inspection; the Building department will not provide a punch list on an apparent fail. If a resident is in need of something to guide them, the Building department has a list that may be picked up. Then once the property is inspected, the property owner will be provided a punch list. Jim stressed that the property must be ready for inspection. The City should know what to expect and he said without addressing anyone by name, at a property he visited, he would have immediately failed the building on inspection due to its condition. Buildings must be ready for inspection before the inspector arrives. The City is following all other municipalities around Jennings and around Saint Louis County, everyone will be held to that same standard with no exceptions. He said this is the way it has got to be. He did report that the department is a bit behind on the plan review and he apologized for that, but he explained that addressing pressing issues were have taken priority, like making a few movements within the department. Jim said the Building department only has one and a half Code Enforcement Inspectors and one part-time Code Enforcement Inspector. Interviews have been conducted, and he hopes that with the help of two more Code Enforcement Inspectors and an Administrative Assistant, that the Building department may move forward on the City's need.

Mayor Austin thanked Jim for the report on the Building department. She then called for the approval of the monthly departmental reports.

#### **D. MONTHLY DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

On the motion made by Councilman Terry Wilson, seconded by Miranda Jones, the Council approved the monthly department reports.

#### **E. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

##### ***1. Ways and Means & Public Safety Committee***

Councilman Wilson said the committee met on January 13, 2020 at 6 pm to discuss the approval of a line item transfer for the Courts Department. Brenda Williams, Finance Director, informed the Committee that the line the item transfer did not require committee approval since the amount was within the current budget and it was for informational purposes only. No action required.

Councilman Wilson said the committee also discussed the approval of the Public Works repair cost for the streetsweeper for the amount of \$24, 558. On a motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Epps, committee voted in favor of the recommended cost of repairs to the streetsweeper. On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the council approved the repairs to the Public Works streetsweeper.

Approval of the extension of the Economic Development Consultant contract. Due to the number of pending projects, until the Director of Housing and Economic Development is hired and allow him/her to be cross trained by the consultant. This was moved to closed session discussion due to an adjustment; no action required.

Approval of Courts, Recreation, Prosecutor and Legal budgets will be on February 24, 2020 at 6 pm. No action required. Anyone is welcome to attend those sessions.

**2. Public Works & Building Committee** - Councilman Johnson said the committee met on January 13, 2020 at 5:30 pm. The committee discussed the approval of Solid Waste RFP. On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Johnson, the committee voted in favor of the staff proceeding with the publication of the RFP.

The committee also discussed the approval of the bill to authorize individuals to inspect, secure, clean and maintain abandoned properties to go to Council. Adjustment to the definition of “nuisance”, in which the City Attorney adjusted the definition within the bill. On the motion made by Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the committee voted in favor to recommend the vacant property and nuisance property ordinances to the Council for approval.

The committee discussed the Community Garden Agreement from outside entities and individuals. The committee discussed the existing gardens and how they could be “grandfathered” into the program. On the motion made by Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the committee voted in favor to recommend the ordinance to the Council for approval.

### **3. Parks & Recreation Committee** - No Meeting.

**4. Policy and Ordinance Committee** - Chairwoman Jones said the committee met January 13, 2020 at 6:30 pm. The committee discussed the approval of the Financial Policies and bond proposed for the Recreational Center to go to Council. The committee is working on a debt policy and a revenue policy, that the committee will be discussing in the next meeting. Making sure to have proper policies in place before audits. On the motion made by Councilman Epps, seconded by Councilman Wilson, to recommend the updated financial policies to the Council for approval.

The committee discussed the approval of the ICC policies and codes. The City’s current ICC codes are outdated, and questions were raised about how homes would be affected and how residents can have an opportunity to be told. Also discussed was how some of the City’s structures are just not up to current code, which the committee argues that we should not penalize residents, rather looked at on a case-by-case basis. The proposed changed code would be the 2018 international codes: residential for one- and two-family dwellings code, fuel & gas code, plumbing code, electrical code, mechanical code, existing building code, property maintenance code, international energy conservation code and the 2017 national electric code. On the motion made by Councilman Epps, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the committee approved the revision to the City’s ICC code policy to be presented before Council.

**5. Municipal League** - Councilman Wilson said session just started in Jefferson City. The Annual Municipal League Conference will be held on February 11-12, 2020. Councilman Terry Wilson and Councilwoman Aja Owens will be attending. This will provide the City with information on pending legislation concerning the state and municipalities, as well as visit the City’s representative.

The local Municipal League meeting is February 27, 2020 at the Glendale City Hall at 6:30 pm. The Annual Conference is on September 13-16, 2020 in Kansas City, MO. Registration is now open. Elected Officials Training will be held in Columbia, MO on June 4-5, 2020. Two elections are approaching: The Presidential Primaries on March 10, 2020 and the Municipal elections are on April 7, 2020.

**6. Planning Commission** - On December 11, 2020, both the Planning Commission and the Architectural Review Board met. The architectural and development plans for Chase Bank were reviewed. The plans were voted upon and approved to be presented to City Council.

**7. Youth Commission** - Reports provided.

**8. Senior Commission** - Reports provided.



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

### **1. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AND GRANTING SAME TO MERS GOODWILL INDUSTRIES TO OPERATE A USED MERCHANDISE STORE AS A RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT AT 8007 FLORISSANT AVENUE, IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI.**

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Wilson for Bill #2590. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Dugger asked where their locations are, what type of traffic do they see there and what happens to that strip mall once MERS comes in. MERS representative, Jason Rybak, stated as far as traffic patterns, their average store sees approximately 400 shoppers and donors on an average day. MERS usually works well with other businesses because of the traffic they incur and can be beneficial to a shopping area. Councilwoman Dugger said she asked the question because she wanted to make sure that businesses will not be negatively affected by their presence. Dave said that they take care as to how they are presented so they spend a great deal of time, money and effort into their image and customer service. Councilwoman Dugger asked when this bill came through the Planning Commission. Councilman Johnson said it did and was approved on December 11, 2019. Councilwoman Dugger asked when the application was approved by the Planning Commission because everyone is held to standard of how business is conducted in the City of Jennings. Dave checked with Jason, another representative of MERS Goodwill, that they did in fact come before the Planning Commission on January 7, 2020.

Bill #2590 became Ordinance #2529 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Terry Wilson, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Aja Owens, Miranda Jones and Francine Dugger; Rodney Epps was absent, none opposing nor abstaining.

### **2. AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE.**

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Wilson for Bill #2591. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Jones asked when adopting this code if there is any necessary verbage about “grandfathering” structures in or how does that work. Sam said the way the code would be applied is if only people are moving out and new inspections take place, but this code is really geared towards new construction.

Bill #2591 became Ordinance #2530 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, and Aja Owens. Rodney Epps was absent, none opposing nor abstaining.

### **3. AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL FUEL AND GAS CODE**

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for Bill #2592. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2592 became Ordinance #2531 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent, none opposing nor abstaining.

**4. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, REPEALING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF ARTICLE II SECTION 28-16 AND 28-17 OF THE JENNINGS PLUMBING CODE.**

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Wilson for Bill #2593. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2593 became Ordinance #2532 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent, none opposing nor abstaining.

**5. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, REPEALING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE II SECTIONS 12-16 AND 12-17 OF THE JENNINGS ELECTRICAL CODE.**

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson for Bill #2594. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2594 became Ordinance #2533 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent, none opposing nor abstaining.

**6. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, REPEALING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF ARTICLE III SECTION 7-31 AND SECTION 7-32 OF THE JENNINGS MECHANICAL CODE.**

There was a motion for the first reading by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for Bill #2595. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2595 became Ordinance #2534 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent, none opposing nor abstaining.

**7. AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL EXISTING BUILDING CODE**

There was a motion for the first reading by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson for Bill #2596. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2596 became Ordinance #2535 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent, none opposing nor abstaining.

**8. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, REPEALING AND AMENDING CERTAIN PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 17 ARTICLE I PM 100.1 OF THE JENNINGS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE AND ADOPTING THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE.**

There was a motion for the first reading by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for Bill #2597. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion

made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Dugger asked what Chapter 17 Article I PM 100.1 of the Jennings Property Maintenance Code meant. Sam clarified that it just a subsection of the property maintenance code.

Bill #2597 became Ordinance #2536 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent, none opposing nor abstaining.

#### **9. AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE.**

There was a motion for the first reading by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for Bill #2598. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Anderson noted that this was the last bill of the series to be presented before Council. The reason for the series of code changes was to be sure to update them all at the same time; they have not been updated since 2016.

Bill #2598 became Ordinance #2537 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent, none opposing nor abstaining.

#### **10. AN ORDINANCE ENACTING SECTION 23-11 OF CHAPTER 23 OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS MUNICIPAL CODE AUTHORIZING INDIVIDUALS TO INSPECT, ENTER, SECURE, CLEAN AND MAINTAIN ABANDONED REAL PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, WITHOUT FEAR OF LEGAL RETRIBUTION.**

There was a motion for the first reading by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for Bill #2599. Councilwoman posed a question before Sam gave the first reading of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Dugger noted that this was pushed forward by the Public Works department. She asked for clarification on what this bill would allow residents to do. Councilman Johnson said that this is the second time Councilwoman Dugger has asked for clarification, Sam drew up a mock ordinance in response. Councilwoman Dugger said she asked because they are in a public meeting and this needs to be explained in the public record and she wants to clarify “authorizing individuals”. Councilwoman Jones responded to her saying this is something that the state of Missouri has already passed, and it is for abandoned properties. The City is only mocking a state-passed law which helps the City more readily get to these properties for maintenance. She quoted the question raised about trespassers, could they potentially sue the City. Again, she stressed that this is only adopting something that Missouri state has passed. She then asked Sam to update them further on this bill. He did clarify that the pending ordinance lays out what qualifies as an abandoned property and what a person in good faith can do. It is geared towards the cleanup of properties and making them more secure; protecting the individuals who come on the property for cleanup from property owners. Councilwoman Anderson asked for clarification on individuals, who are they specifically. Sam said that it allows any individual who makes that good faith determination to enter that structure or property; it defines it as a person not organization or business. Councilwoman Dugger asked for an explanation about whether or not the individual must notify the City before entering the property, will there be documentation. Sam said it does not require people to come to City Hall and does not require any special permit. In terms of the abandoned property it allows you to secure the property, take care of trash and debris, landscape, maintain or mow, removal of paint or graffiti on the property but it does not mandate that the individual must come to the City Council or the Planning Commission for a permit to do it. Councilman Johnson asked how does this process work with the state, and who do you go to and apply for a cleanup of a property. Sam said that state law does not mandate that

you go to anyone. He went on to point out that there is inherent risk involved in accessing properties that are not yours, but this “good faith” determination is supposed to address that. It can be a problem in a case where the property could potentially be a drug house, and in that instance, you call the police and let them know what’s going on. Councilwoman Jones asked if it would be fair to add that the City is not liable if an individual does that, can that be added. Sam said this state law alone would not protect the City, and he recommended an application process for adding a provision like that. Councilwoman Jones asked if this could be tabled to executive session to discuss in legal.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to table this discussion to closed session, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson. By the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent; Gary Johnson opposing.

## **11. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, AMENDING CHAPTER 23, SECTION 23-1 “NUISANCE DEFINED” OF THE JENNINGS CITY CODE.**

There was a motion for the first reading by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for Bill #2599. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2599 became Ordinance #2538 by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent, Gary Johnson left the meeting and was absent.

## **12. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, ENACTING SECTION 37-11 OF CHAPTER 37 OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI MUNICIPAL CODE ESTABLISHING AND AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY GARDENS WITHIN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, STATE OF MISSOURI.**

There was a motion for the first reading by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for Bill #2600. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Dugger asked Mayor Austin for clarification on the bill because she was under the impression that these gardens already do exist in Jennings. Mayor Austin clarified that this bill does not include the gardens already in the City. Councilwoman Jones said it was introduced so that City properties that are just lots could be used to create community gardens. Mayor Austin clarified for the record that these ordinances do not allow the growth of marijuana in Jennings, these gardens refer to vegetable gardens. Councilwoman Jones noted that if you look at the ordinance itself, it specifies fresh vegetation, fruits and vegetables for sustainable gardens and sustainable food sources in Jennings. She said that the City would not have the fiduciary responsibility or supply the water or anything of that nature. This permits the use of the lot to grow vegetation. Councilwoman Dugger reiterated herself asking if this also means marijuana could be grown on those lots. Councilwoman Jones stated that the ordinance does not specify no growth of marijuana but does specify vegetables and fruits. Councilwoman Dugger asked who will police the illegal herbs. Sam stated that the question is valid, although it is not defined in the ordinance, it is still an illegal substance and should only be grown in legally permitted facilities. As such, police would handle a situation of illegal growth of marijuana appropriately. Councilman Wilson said that in the state of Missouri, if someone is approved for a medical card, they are allowed to grow up to a certain number of plants but does that specify growth in your house. Sam replied that yes, it must be grown in the house of someone who legally is in possession of a medical marijuana card, it does not allow for any type of garden or community garden. Councilman Wilson said he is concerned about use of the gardens by those in legal possession of a medical marijuana card to gather to grow their marijuana plants. Sam said that by law no one can do that yet. Councilwoman Owens asked if this ordinance should be tabled. Councilwoman Dugger asked if it could be noted now in the ordinance that illegal growth of marijuana in these gardens are not permitted; could this be tabled until closed session. Sam said

that you grow marijuana under two conditions: as a caregiver, up to 18 plants or as a single cardholder, you can grow up to six plants for yourself, but it must be hidden from outside. The law does not allow for visible growth in a garden or outside, which is enforced by the Health Department. Councilwoman Dugger said that officers are not going to be riding around keeping up on this. Sam said she was correct, and it would take the support of the community to be on top of this situation. Councilwoman Jones said that it can be added to the application and know the locations of the gardens, and the ordinance currently specifies growth of food for consumption.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Dugger, seconded by Councilwoman Owens, the Bill #2600 was tabled by the following roll call vote of the council members voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps was absent, Gary Johnson left the meeting and was absent.

#### **G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none**

#### **H. NEW BUSINESS**

##### ***1. Approval of the application for a site development plan for the construction of a Chase Bank Building and lot to be constructed at 8425 Lucas and Hunt Road, Jennings, Missouri 63136.***

On the motion made by Councilman Stichnote, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson the application for the site development plan for construction of Chase Bank Building and lot was approved. All in favor, none opposed.

##### ***2. Approval of KAI Architecture Contract for the new municipal building.***

Sam asked that someone make a motion to move this discussion to closed session.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Owens the discussion for the KAI Architectural Contract for the new municipal building was moved to closed session. All in favor, none opposed.

##### ***3. Approval of Special Event Permit - PGA Golf Tournament***

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Owens, the Special Event Permit - PGA Golf Tournament was approved. All in favor, none opposed.

##### ***4. Approval of Letter of Support***

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the Letter of Support was approved. All in favor, none opposed.

##### ***5. Approval of the Financial Management Policies***

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the Financial Management Policies were approved. All in favor, none opposed.

##### ***6. Approval of the monthly bills for payment***

On the motion made by Councilman Stichnote, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the monthly bills were approved for payment. All in favor, none opposed.

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

No remarks.

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

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the Council voted by the following roll call vote for a closed session for Legal and Personnel (RSMO 610:021-1,3). Councilmembers voting in favor of the session were the following: Allan



Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Francine Dugger, Phyllis Anderson, and Aja Owens; Rodney Epps and Gary Johnson were absent; none opposing.

After a brief recess, the closed session actions were as follows:

#### LEGAL

##### *Vacant and Abandoned Property Legal Liabilities*

In open session, the Council tabled the discussion regarding the legal liabilities of the proposed vacant and abandoned property ordinance. Some members expressed the desire to have a liability clause added to the ordinance to protect the City legally.

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Johnson, the City Council approved the following ordinance with the instructions that the City Attorney, Sam Alton, would add a liability statement to the proposed ordinance. The ordinance was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING SECTION 23-11 OF CHAPTER 23 OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS MUNICIPAL CODE AUTHORIZING INDIVIDUALS TO INSPECT, ENTER, SECURE, CLEAN AND MAINTAIN ABANDONED REAL PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, WITHOUT FEAR OF LEGAL RETRIBUTION.

#### PERSONNEL

The following actions were taken:

##### Increase for James Maixner as Interim Director of Housing and Economic Development

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council approved the recommendation from Mayor Austin to increase the rate of pay for James Maixner and pay him at the same rate of pay as the previous Director while he is in the role of Interim Director. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council voted to rescind the previous vote to ensure that James Maixner is paid for the period of time that he originally assumed the position on October 29, 2019.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council approved the recommendation from Mayor Austin to pay James Maixner at the same rate of pay as the previous Director while he is in the role of Interim Director. The pay will be retroactive from October 29, 2019-March 31, 2020. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

##### Hire Deputy City Clerk

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the City Council approved the recommendation from Deletra Hudson, City Clerk, to hire Khianna Ward as the Deputy City Clerk, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. If the first approved candidate doesn't meet the hiring requirements, Phillis Owens was approved as the alternate hire. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

##### Hire Part Time Recreation Department Site Monitor

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council approved the recommendation from Willie Brandon, Recreation Department Director, to hire Imani Easley as a part time Site Monitor, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council

members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Hire Part Time Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Johnson, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to hire Deon Walker as a part time Public Works Laborer, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Hire Part Time Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Johnson, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to hire Rodney King as a part time Public Works Laborer, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Hire Part Time Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Johnson, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to hire Alonzo Tolden as a part time Public Works Laborer, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Hire Court Clerk

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council approved the recommendation from Lorietta Souter, Chief Court Clerk, to hire Joyce Hodges as the Court Clerk, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Hire Part Time Recreation Department Bus Driver

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Johnson, the City Council approved the recommendation from Willie Brandon, Recreation Center Director, to hire Ronald Thomas as the part time Bus Driver, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Hire Director of Housing and Economic Development

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the City Council approved the recommendation from Mayor Austin to hire Schona McClellon as the Director of Housing and Economic Development, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Hire Code Enforcement Officer

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Interim Director of Housing and Economic Development, to hire Myra Turner as a full time Code Enforcement Officer, pending

all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Interim Director of Housing and Economic Development, to hire Portia Barsh as a full time Code Enforcement Officer, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Voting in favor: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson; Voting against: Dugger, Anderson, Owens; Johnson abstained; Mayor Austin voting in favor to break the tied votes. R. Epps was absent.

#### Hire Building Department Administrative Assistant

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Interim Director of Housing and Economic Development, to hire Joyce Reed as the Building Department's Administrative Assistant, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Hire Corrections Officers

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council approved the recommendation from John Geasley, Lt Corrections Department, to hire Jimmie Westfield as a Corrections Officer, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council approved the recommendation from John Geasley, Lt Corrections Department, to hire Demond Hunt as a Corrections Officer, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council approved the recommendation from John Geasley, Lt Corrections Department, to hire Darryonna Franklin as a Corrections Officer pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Terminate Full Time Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council voted in favor to approve the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to terminate Jerry Graise, Full Time Public Works Laborer, due to job abandonment. The motion was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

#### Internal Transfer - Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City Council voted in favor to approve the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to transfer James Pilcher from part time to full time Public Works Laborer, pending all background and pre-employment screenings. The motion was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

Internal Transfer - Part Time Recreation Staff

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the City Council voted in favor to approve the recommendation from Willie Brandon, Recreation Department Director, to transfer Darius Crawford from part time umpire to part time Site Monitor. The motion was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

Internal Transfer - Public Works Lead

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the City Council voted in favor to approve the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to transfer Sam Jackson to the Public Works Laborer Lead position. The motion was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

Other Personnel Discussion/Action(s) -

Extension of the Economic Development Consultant Contract

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council voted in favor to approve the recommendation from Mayor Austin to extend the Economic Development Consultant contract with Irvetta Williams with an increased hourly rate from \$50 to \$75. The motion was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Johnson, voting against: Dugger, Anderson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

After discussions about the rate increase and whether it was presented to the Ways and Means Committee, Councilwoman Jones rescinded her motion and it was seconded by Councilman Wilson.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the Council voted in favor to approve the recommendation from Mayor Austin to extend the Economic Development Consultant contract with Irvetta Williams to March 31, 2020. However, the rate increase will not take effect until after the Ways & Means Committee meets and approves the increased of the hourly rate from \$50 to \$75. Upon approval from the Ways and Means Committee, the rate increase from \$50 - \$75 will be retroactive to the date of Council's approval. The motion was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voted against nor abstained.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion made by Councilman Stichnote, seconded by Councilman Johnson, the Council voted in favor by the roll call votes of the following council members to adjourn the meeting at 11:54 p.m.: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Dugger, Anderson, Johnson, Owens; R. Epps was absent; none voting against nor abstaining.

Approved:

  
Yolanda Austin, Mayor

Attest:

  
Deletra Hudson, City Clerk