



**Minutes of the City Council Regular Meeting
Telemeeting Via Zoom Video
September 28, 2020
Regular Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

The two thousand four hundred and eighth meeting of the Jennings City Council was held on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Video.

A. PUBLIC HEARING

1. PETITION FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR FAMILY DOLLAR AT 6440 W. FLORISSANT AVENUE. PETITIONER: LONNIE MCCAFFETY.

Mayor Austin opened the floor for Chris Basler, District Manager, to speak for the Conditional Use Permit. He said that they wanted to sell beer and wine in this Jennings location. Mr. Basler said that goal was to have the opportunity to expand their selection, drive their sales and connect with the community.

Mayor Austin opened the floor for those speaking against the Conditional Use Permit. There were no speakers against the Conditional Use Permit.

2. PETITION FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR AN ADULT DAYCARE AT 6719 W. FLORISSANT UNITS 2-3. PETITIONER: LORI WILLIAMS.

Mayor Austin opened the floor for the business owner, Lori Williams, to speak on behalf of the Conditional Use Permit. Ms. Williams said Lighthouse Adult Daycare Center, was returning to petition the Conditional Use Permit to operate their adult day care center at Units 2-3 at 6719 W. Florissant. She said that they plan their hours of operation from 7:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. She said that they will provide transportation, meals, daily enrichment activities, outings, field trips and dance activities.

Mayor Austin asked for the physical address. Ms. Williams said it was 6719 and 6721 W. Florissant.

Mayor Austin opened the floor for anyone speaking against the Conditional Use Permit. There were no speakers against the Conditional Use Permit.

3. PETITION FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR CONTEMPO CONSTRUCTION AT 5745, 5747, & 5749 HELEN AVE. PEITIONER: NICHOLAS JOHNSON.

Mayor Austin opened the floor for Contempo Construction to speak on behalf of the Conditional Use Permit. There was no one present to speak for the Conditional Use Permit. Schona said that Nicholas Johnson, Owner of Contempo Construction, was sent an email with the details of the hearing.

Mayor Austin asked if anyone would like to speak against the Conditional Use Permit. There were no speakers against the Conditional Use Permit.

4. PRESENTATION OF THE 2020 TAX RATES

Mayor Austin asked Michael Williams, Hochschild, Bloom & Company LLP, to speak. Mr. Williams said their function is to assist the City of Jennings with developing the amounts of property taxes required by St. Louis County for approval, and then it is reviewed at this public hearing. Mr. Williams reviewed the 2020 City of Jennings tax rates.

Mayor Austin thanked Mr. Williams for reviewing the 2020 City of Jennings tax rates.

5. PRESENTATION OF THE 2019-2020 AUDIT BY MICHAEL WILLIAMS, HOCHSCHILD, BLOOM & CO. LLP

Mayor Austin asked Michael Williams, Hochschild, Bloom & Company LLP, to present the 2019-2020 City of Jennings Audit. He shared his screen to review the financial statements, and he said there were no comments or recommendations ready for the City Council that evening. He began with the auditor's report, management's responsibilities and auditor's responsibilities.

He exhibited the management discussion and analysis. He discussed the summary of balance items: assets and liability. Mike reviewed the capital assets, total assets increased, and liabilities decreased, which means improvement for the net financials for the City. Summary of the revenues and expenses, which the total was \$13,113,000 versus \$12,323,000 in 2019. Largest improvement was the reimbursement of Koeneman Park and the sale of assets in 2020. Mike said that revenues were up and expenses down.

Mike reviewed individual funds for the City. Major funds: General Fund, Northland TIF, Capital Improvement, and Sewer Lateral. Total assets: General Cash Fund \$3,163,000, Investments \$2,291,000, and the total General Fund balance of \$5,544,000. Mike explained the General Fund serves as the main operating fund for the City. He moved on to discuss the General Revenue for the City, which the total revenue for the City was \$8,279,000, and total expenditures are \$7,389,000. Revenues are greater than expenditures and the City revenue improved for the year.

Mike went on to discuss some of the notes on the report. He said that Note B referenced cash and investments, this specifically addresses deposits. He said that on March 31, 2019, the City's cash deposits were secured, and in compliance and investments are current with no issues. Mike said that Note C referenced capital assets. He said that when an asset is placed in service, that asset begins to depreciate, which was reflected in the schedule of the City's land or construction in the amount of \$11,000,000 at the end of the year. Mike said that accumulated depreciation covers 10 years.

Mike continued to the retirement plan disclosures, providing background and actuarial information. He said that it shows the City is slightly overfunded in net assets to pay for the LAGERS retirement plan.

Mike said regarding the City's long-term debt, bonds, and notes, they had been paid down for the year. He said the section regarding supplemental information referred to budget-to-actual, final revenue, and over-under. Total revenues are under budget by \$85,000. He said that the last page of the financial statement discusses the internal controls and compliance, which the last comment that was noted is that the auditors prepare the financial statements. Mike said there were no instances of non-compliance to be reported.

Mayor Austin opened the Zoom chat for comments. Yolanda Fountain of Ward 4 commented on the waste of water and suggested that funds from the budget be allocated towards the placement of greenery that doesn't need to be maintained much from Interstate 70 entering the City of Jennings. Mayor Austin said that Jim would follow up with her.

B. REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

Mayor Austin asked for a moment of silence for Bob Sidwell, former Director of Streets and Parks, from 1997 to 2012, who had recently passed. She said the funeral would be held on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at Chapel Hill Mortuary, 10301 Big Bend Road.

2. Roll Call

Council members present: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Jane Brown, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Lorraine Clower, and Aja Owens.

Council member(s) absent: none.

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

3. Approval of the Agenda

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

4. Approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 24, 2020.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Clower, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the Council approved the minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 24, 2020. All in favor; none opposed.

5. Approval of the minutes from the Special City Council Meeting of September 4, 2020.

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the Council approved the minutes from the Special City Council Meeting of September 4, 2020. All in favor; none opposed.

C. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONERS, REMONSTRATIONS, COMPLAINTS AND REQUESTS

1. Presentation by the Corrections Department

Mayor Austin opened the floor for A/Lt. Terrell Shumpert to present. A/Lt. Shumpert thanked the City Council for allowing him to recognize Co. Jimmie Westerfield for the keen awareness and detailed reporting that she demonstrated, led to a discovery of information that could have saved someone's life. He also thanked A/Cpl. Kim Bader for investigating a fellow Corrections Officer that was distributing marijuana to inmates. He said she discovered drugs in the jail cell and confiscated them. A/Lt. Shumpert thanked and recognized Sgt. Todd Forti for his dedicated 14 years with the City of Jennings. He said that Sgt. Forti had never been recognized in the past.

Mayor Austin said each Corrections staff member would receive their certificates.

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

Yolanda Henderson, 8822 Sumter Drive, talked about the Silence for Violence demonstration planned for the City of Jennings. She said it was not a parade. The radio station host announced the cancellation of the parade through the City of Jennings area. Ms. Henderson said a guard approached her to move at the Jennings concert at Koeneman Park and being harassed by Councilman Stichnote. She said that there was a dimly lit streetlight at 2506 Shannonaire Drive. She provided the pole number which was pole J-476. Ms. Henderson asked why the yellow tape had not been taken down at the playground at Koeneman Park. She reported the median, which is near White Castle, is not being maintained. She recognized Councilwoman Owens for all her hard work in Ward 4, Ms. Henderson said she will be giving a Warrior Award to her.

Ms. Henderson commented that City Hall needed to be cleaned up and be more mindful of its image. She commented that it was sad that a councilperson was not invited to the Mayor's monument unveiling ceremony. She said there was a vacant house with high grass near her home, and it was unfortunate that she had to pay \$25 for a tree branch to be collected near her property. She then asked what the hours were of Lions Park.

Jim Maixner, Public Works Director, said the mulch at all park playgrounds will be filled soon, and the parks should be open next week. He said Lions Park had been open that week. He said the island on Jennings Station Road, is maintained by St. Louis County and it was difficult with no traffic control, for cleanup to happen. Jim will follow up on the streetlight as soon as possible. Jim said that mulch was not filled, that's why the playground had been roped off, to prevent a liability issue for the City. He said it was difficult to get it filled in the past, due to COVID-19.

David Green, 8630 Clifton Avenue, contacted Councilwoman Owens and Officer McCrary. He said there were two white trucks on McLaran Avenue parking at corner of the street, which was unsafe. He said there was an accident, a stolen vehicle driving fast, then hit one of the parked trucks when turning onto McLaran Avenue.

Mr. Green said that a neighbor alerted him to some black material at the softball field and kickball field on both dugouts. He said it does not look presentable. When he visited the baseball field, he noticed a similar material, not as much there but he did notice that the top blocks of the baseball field dugouts are missing and some deterioration showing.

Mayor Austin asked Jim to take note of Mr. Green's observations.

Leonardo Price, no address provided, said he had a zoning question about Zone 1. Mr. Price said he was a business owner on Lillian Avenue, between Goodfellow and Jennings Station Road, which was considered Zone 2. He asked if the City intended on any development of Zone 2, like the West Florissant Corridor District in Zone 1. Mayor Austin asked if he would send his contact telephone number to Deletra Hudson, City Clerk, for her to follow up with him.

Marietta Beck, 5476 Hodiamont Avenue, thanked Jim for following up on the potholes at the 5300 Hodiamont Avenue block. She asked that the 5400 Hodiamont Avenue block be visited by Officer Bakula to check the storage facility on Hodiamont Avenue. She noticed cars being parked at 5458 Hodiamont Avenue which is not occupied, and they could be stolen. She really appreciated the filling of the potholes. Mayor Austin thanked her. Ms. Beck asked Capt. Law, if shot spotter does not pick up her area and she should report any gunshots directly to the precinct. Capt. Law said Jim and Officer Bakula are dealing with vehicles on the property she reported.

Jim said the vehicle was licensed legally, but this may require another visit to the property.

Twanda Tinsley, no address provided, thanked the City Council for their time, and her questions had already been answered in other comments may by the public.

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

Councilwoman Owens quoted Horace Mane. She thanked Public Works for their continued hard work. She also thanked Capt. Law, Sgt. Perez and Officer McCrary for meeting with herself and her nephew. Councilwoman Owens also thanked Mayor Austin, who sat with her nephew at Sievers' Park to give him an understanding of what her job entails. She said that they also met with the Mayors of Moline Acres and Dellwood. She said she appreciated everyone for taking the time to chat with her nephew.

Councilwoman Owens thanked Deletra for arranging the attendance to the 86th Annual MML Conference. Councilwoman Owens said a resident of Ward 4; Patricia Walls, would be hosting a yard sale on October 3, 2020 and she encouraged the public to stop by. She said she along with Councilwoman Clower, hosted two Ward meetings. They were joined by Sgt. Perez and Officer McCrary. Together they helped to create ideas to help Ward 4 and brainstormed for friendly competition for an aesthetic update of the Ward. Councilwoman Owens said there are residents' concerns about trash dumping, derelict cars, speeding, and shootings.

Councilwoman Clower thanked everyone for joining the virtual City Council meeting. She shared about the brainstorming and excitement at the meetings in Ward 4. She thanked Public Works for all their help with the trash dumping. Councilwoman Clower asked Jim for a status on the MSD lots, which need cleaning up. Jim said he would follow up with Casionia Peebles-Miller, Code Enforcement Inspector, and he may send out Public Workers laborers to maybe help with the debris on the property. She said there is more work to do on Minnie Avenue. Councilwoman Clower asked about doing a street study on streets like Hodiamont, then make those streets one-way. Jim suggested a No Parking on a One-Way street sign, could be posted to take care of public safety.

Councilwoman Clower said that the island on Jennings Station Road is very dimly lit. She asked if streetlights were possible, Jim said that that stretch of road was owned by St. Louis County. He said he would find out if the City could make that request. She thanked Sgt. Perez and Officer McCrary for getting involved in the Ward 4 meetings. She said she could see the change coming about in Ward 4.

Councilwoman Anderson thanked Jim for always being available to answer her calls or complaints. She also thanked Capt. Law for attending the Ward 3 meeting, and recognized Councilman Johnson for all his hard work.

Councilman Johnson greeted everyone. He reported that there was a Ward 3 meeting on September 19, 2020. He recognized Capt. Law for attending, and he apologized to Mayor Austin for overlooking sending the invite to her. Councilman Johnson said Capt. Law was there to answer issues and concerns of Ward 3 residents. He said that they also discussed speeding issues, and trash at the Family Dollar on Jennings Station Road, which was piled up in the trash receptacle and is overflowing. He said that at the meeting, they mentioned to Ward 3 residents the future deterrents towards speeding. Councilman Johnson said Ward 3 residents will volunteer to clean up the area near the median on Jennings Station Road across the street from Family Dollar. They plan to clean up going into the fall to keep Jennings presentable.

Councilman Johnson said that Saturday, October 2, 2020 through October 4, 2020, was the Ward clean-up which is approved for the National Night Out, which is an extension of resource distribution, voter registration, census info and produce boxes. He said he helped the Southeast Ferguson Community clean up and posted about it on Facebook. He was glad to see a cleanup around North County and witness people taking an interest and initiative in their neighborhoods.

Councilman Johnson said he attended the MML conference via WHOVA and Zoom. He said it was very informational and great for networking. He said it was good to see leadership and cohesiveness. He commented on the exciting time and thanked everyone for being great council people.

Councilman Wilson said to the issue of the median, he spoke with Dr. Sam Page about the trash dumping on the median on Jennings Station Road that is maintained by St. Louis County, and Dr. Sam Page said would follow up with Jim. Councilman Wilson said he knew it was not in his Ward, yet the issue is a concern with City maintenance. He said he would investigate funding for the Public Works Department.

Councilman Wilson said that the City of Jennings was visited by Senator Brown, and Senator Williams at Jennings Place, along with developers and investors. Councilwoman Brown and Mayor Austin joined in the tour of Jennings Place, and Senator Brown signed off on property. He said he showed them Koeneman Park and other parks that the City may be interested in developing in the future. Councilman Wilson said on September 14-16, he attended the MML conference and said it was good to network with other councilpersons, and development classes, like the class he sat in on which covered the topic of design and the construction process. He said that the conference materials would be available online for six (6) months to view. Councilman Wilson said next year's conference at will be hosted in St. Louis at the Union Station Hotel. He said that attendance will be in person, and he looked forward to that.

Councilman Wilson said that Census 2020 numbers are reported weekly, and numbers seem to be going up. He urged residents to participate in the census, as the census has been extended. He said that UMSL was hosting a Planning and Zoning Conference for interested parties to participate in, along with Councilman Johnson. He said that the City was looking for more candidates. He said the program is free and a stipend is given at the end of the program. The program provides information about community building, and he said he would forward the information to the City Clerk.

Councilman Wilson reminded the public that the November General Election was approaching, and absentee voting had begun. He said that you could obtain your absentee ballot from the St. Louis County Board of Elections, at 725 Northwest Plaza Drive, St. Ann, MO 63074. He reminded the public that October 7th was the deadline to register to vote and November 3rd was election day. He encouraged the public to share and attend the event hosted by the Metro St. Louis Bar Association on October 9, 2020 at JETS, (Jennings Educational Training School) to promote the vote, they will be handing out absentee ballot registration forms and voter registration forms. He said he would like to defer the last minutes of his report time to a Ward 3 resident, Latasha Gray, who had an issue they would like to relay to the Police Department.

Latasha Gray, no address provided, reported that on September 28, 2020 at 7:45 a.m., a gray and white Pit-bull dog, that was on Cozens Avenue and Halls Ferry Road, displayed aggressive behavior towards a black male who was walking on the sidewalk. She said that she dialed 911 and the responding officer informed her he could do nothing to help with the aggressive dog. She asked if the officer could call the Humane Society or Animal Control and he said, no. She noted that he seemed disengaged with the Jennings community. She wondered what could have happened if she had not made her emergency call when someone was trying to find safety, and this dog is still on the loose.

Councilman Wilson said he gave Officer McCrary information about this situation, but he did not get that officer's badge number and the time the call was dispatched. He asked if Capt. Law could follow up on the situation, and he was interested in the policy of law enforcement in situations like that. Capt. Law said he would follow up and check the officer's camera footage. Sam Alton, City Attorney, said that Pit-bull dogs are in Article II, of the City of Jennings code, which allows for the owner to be ticketed when the animal causes trouble or St. Louis County Animal Control could be called to collect the animal. Councilman Wilson said the officer told Latasha that he would not call St. Louis County Animal Control regarding the Pit-bull. He asked Capt. Law to please follow up on the situation. Councilman Wilson told Sam that the dog was loose, and he does not know the owner of the dog. Capt. Law confirmed the time of the emergency call. Councilman Wilson thanked the City Council for allowing the issue to be discussed.

Councilwoman Brown told Jim there were two tires on Ada Wortley Lane and Jennings Station Road, past the stop sign on Berkay Avenue. She was told that River Roads was the responsible party to remove the debris. Jim confirmed that the property was owned by Jim Bender and Kroger. He said the owners are, in fact, responsible. Mayor Austin said that the issue should be addressed through the Building Department.

Councilwoman Brown reported that on Ada Wortley Lane off Jennings Station Road, there was a bag of trash on the side of the road. Jim said that with the trash dumping issue, he is thinking that he may designate one Public Works Laborer to just drive through the City, 5 days a week, and pick up trash. Jim said that one person needs to be committed to picking up trash, working on one Ward per day.

Councilwoman Brown asked if Councilman Wilson would be willing to sit down with Schona McClellon, Director of Housing and Economic Development, and the Code Enforcement Inspectors, to address some issues. She asked Capt. Law, if crimes against property on the monthly report that Councilmembers receive, was it unusual that the report counts should be repeated. Capt. Law said he would consult with the Jennings Precinct analyst. Capt. Law made it known that there are groups that are fighting in the area and in St. Louis City. He said he will be bringing in resources for help.

Councilwoman Brown said that there was a great celebration at the Mayor's dedication. She reported that she also attended the MML conference September 14-16. She said the speakers were outstanding and that she gained a lot of helpful information. Councilwoman Brown said she joined the Welcoming Committee for Stairway Management earlier that month. She said that Schona gave a tour of the upcoming Jennings Place III with the Project Manager, who was very cordial. Councilwoman Brown said the construction is still in progress, and is beautiful, and commented on how much care and thought was given to Senior residents and residents with special needs.

Councilwoman Brown reminded the public to vote during the general election on November 3rd, and to volunteer to drive Senior residents to the polls.

Councilwoman Jones confirmed the Census 2020 was extended to October 5, 2020. She said that the City of Jennings percentage was too low and encouraged the community to participate in the census.

Councilwoman Jones said there have been landlord issues with property upkeep, specifically landlords not residing in the St. Louis area. She thanked Jim for always being there to help and being cordial.

Councilwoman Jones said the City's most reported issues have been speeding and streetlights out. She reported that there were gunshots fired around 5 p.m. on the evening of September 27, 2020 on Center Avenue, she spoke with residents nearby, and those residents present were quite shaken up. She also reported that she did not hear any sirens afterward, and apparently there were shell casings, she said that a resident saw a police vehicle drive by but the vehicle never stopped or investigated the situation. Councilwoman Jones said that as a community, residents are often desensitized to the sound of gunshots and have not been reporting them. She said that she met with Capt. Law, and he was very accommodating with data and patrol shifts, she appreciated sitting down with him and entertained candid conversation.

Councilwoman Jones thanked the Public Works Department and the Recreation Department, for the Summer Concert Series at Koeneman Park. She felt it was so good to offer free, safe entertainment and she said that is what she loved about Jennings. Councilwoman Jones said that Councilman Johnson already touched on the issue of trash at business lots, but there is also a similar issue at Buzz Westfall Plaza, she has noticed trash in the parking lots. She asked what can be done to encourage business owners to clean their lots and suggested that letters from the City could be sent. She thanked Public Works for their continued hard work.

Councilman Stichnote wanted to address Ms. Henderson's claim that he harassed her at the concert at Koeneman Park. He could not harass her, as he was not present and was in the Ozark Mountains during the event. He reminded the public to not feed the geese at Koeneman Park, as that encourages aggressive behavior when they are not fed. He mentioned that a young girl from the Jennings area was bit by one of the geese.

Councilman Stichnote commented on the issue of dim streetlights and reminded the public to call Ameren Electric with the pole number, and they will take care of the issue or he will. He mentioned to Capt. Law that there have been issues with dispatching and will discuss it with him later. He also said that American Legion Post 184 will be issuing checks in the amount of \$1,000 to the North County Mustangs little league football team.

3. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Austin thanked all the City Departments for meeting the City's needs. She encouraged the public to call her, because she does her best to meet the needs of residents. She said she was available for calls, texts or emails. She said she was aware that the City's main issues are trash dumping, vacancy and speeding. She is doing her best with the help of City Department Heads and Councilmembers.

Mayor Austin announced that Chase Bank will be opening on November 4, 2020. She reported that the Census numbers have gone up to 51.8%, not included are the counts from door to door visits, that information will be added. She said she had been continuing to meet with the City's Bond Consultant, and KAI Architects regarding the City Center project. The City is waiting on an appraisal for the property in the River Roads area. She said the appraisal will then be submitted to the St. Louis Partnership, for funding for businesses. Mayor Austin said that a cleanup of those areas has begun. She said that Schona will be sending letters out to businesses and buildings in that area to appear at court.

Mayor Austin said that the Planning Commission named Dr. Kimberly Morton, Jacqueline Savage, and Xanthia DeBerry to the West Florissant Corridor District Advisory Panel. She said the City of Jennings received 12,000 masks from the St. Louis County Health Department and distributed them to all the Senior Residences. She thanked Affinia Healthcare and CareSTL for their help with employee COVID-19 testing, and their prompt two (2) to three (3) day rapid result time.

Mayor Austin announced that the City will be applying that week for the St. Louis CARES Municipal Relief Grant, which is due on Friday, October 5, 2020. The City would receive \$1,011,759 and eligible expenditures must be COVID-19 related. She said eligible expenses would be obtained from COVID-related receipt costs, personnel hours, Park security costs, and other similar expenses, which would be looked at closely and must be used by December 30, 2020. She said the funds would also help obtain additional masks for the community and City offices. Mayor Austin thanked Dianna Drake, Special Services Coordinator, and team for the City newsletters, which are available at City Hall and on the City of Jennings website, www.cityofjennings.org.

Mayor Austin said that the bus stop trash cans overflowing in Ward 4 has gotten out of control, and there would be a meeting to discuss the Adopt-A-Stop program. She said she is looking to the community for leaders. She said that adoption of bus stops is free. She said that applicants must go through the municipality, if anyone was interested in adopting a stop to be a part of the solution. She said that St. Louis Metro bus stops will be changing in North County. Mayor Austin said there will be a Zoom session held on October 17th for the public to speak, and it will be posted on the website.

D. MONTHLY DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the Council approved the monthly department reports. All in favor; none opposed.

E. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Ways and Means & Public Safety Committee – Councilman Wilson said a joint meeting will be reported by Councilwoman Jones.

Councilwoman Jones said that the joint committee discussed the speeding issue and a strategy was decided upon. She said that Capt. Law joined in the meeting to provide guidance on the issue of speeding. The committee discussed more police presence, help from the St. Louis County Highway Safety Unit, increased patrol, and placement of planters and speed bumps to slow traffic. She said the committee also discussed the strategic placement of barriers to regulate traffic in the Jennings area. Councilwoman Jones said the costs were provided by Jim and they discussed concrete blocks as a temporary deterrent. She said that the concrete blocks were affordable, and they confirmed with Councilwoman Owens to make sure the placement of the blocks would work for Ward 4. Councilwoman Jones said that all Wards were represented at the joint committee meeting, so the issue could be addressed. Councilwoman Jones reported that there would not be any speed bumps on Lillian and West Florissant. She said the committee discussed placing speed bumps around school zones in Wards 1, 2 and 3, which would be basic bumps and a mobile speed trailer, that could be moved around to different areas of the City. Councilwoman Jones said that Mayor Austin inquired about the CARES Act and if there could be a possibility to apply for extra public safety funds for a more holistic approach.

Councilwoman Jones said that Dianna Drake informed the committee about the update to the City server and the upcoming second City asset auction. She said that Mayor Austin talked about the City Center project and the Mayor said the City is ready for community engagement. She said the City is looking at the end of October and November to discuss the design. Councilwoman Jones said the joint committee also discussed the St. Louis CARES Municipal Relief Grant, which will help with COVID-19 related expenditures.

Councilwoman Jones said that the committee discussed the drafted Capital Improvement Plan, which was presented by the City Clerk, Deletra Hudson. The plan could be used to obtain approval for bond funds for the City. She said Deletra, Jim, and Dianna will have the Capital Improvement Plan ready for review at the Ways and Means & Public Safety meeting in October.

Councilwoman Jones said that committee also discussed the ordinance regarding fowl and urban farming. She said that they investigated current policies in neighboring communities. She said Councilman Wilson was instrumental in the forming of the ordinance. She said that such we are in the middle of a pandemic; residents are at home and are interested in raising their own food. She said the committee discussed a permit for \$50 for the first fowl, and \$10 per additional fowl. She said the meeting was adjourned at 6:26pm.

Councilwoman Jones said that everyone is working together to move the City forward.

2. Public Works & Building Committee – Joint Committee Meeting reported.

3. Parks & Recreation Committee –

Councilman Stichnote reported there was no meeting. He said that he anticipates a meeting to be held in October.

4. Policy and Ordinance Committee – Joint Committee Meeting reported.

5. Municipal League –

Councilman Wilson said there was no report, just the 86th Annual MML conference. He said there were eight (8) proposed amendments and he will send the information to the City Clerk to share with the City Council.

6. Planning Commission –

Councilman Johnson said there was a meeting. The commission discussed the petition for a Conditional Use Permit for the Family Dollar at 6440 West Florissant. He said that the petition failed, and they voted no on the Conditional Use Permit allowing the sale of alcohol for the Family Dollar at 6440 West Florissant.

Councilman Johnson said the commission also discussed a project on Jennings' south end, the Speedway gas station that was presented and introduced by Tom Bergman. He said the commission discussed a petition to amend the zoning ordinance in the C-2S Special Shopping and Services District, as a one-time Conditional Use Permit to allow a construction company, Contempo Construction, to operate at 5745 and 5747 Helen Avenue. He said that the commission also discussed a petition to operate an adult day care at 6721 West Florissant in the special shopping district.

7. Youth Commission – Report provided.

8. Senior Commission – No report provided.

F. LEGAL BUSINESS (Proposed Ordinances)

1. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, ORDERING THE LEVYING AND ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF THE MUNICIPAL TAXES FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES AND WEST FLORISSANT BUSINESS DISTRICT TO BE COLLECTED FOR THE YEAR OF 2020.

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson for Bill #2617. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2617 became Ordinance #2556 by the following roll call vote of the councilmembers, voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Jane Brown, Terry Wilson, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Lorraine Clower and Aja Owens; none opposing.

2. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, ENACTING SECTION 6-10 OF CHAPTER 6 ARTICLE I OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS MUNICIPAL CODE MAKING IT LAWFUL TO KEEP CERTAIN DOMESTIC FOWL AS PETS.

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson for Bill #2618. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2618 became Ordinance #2557 by the following roll call vote of the councilmembers, voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Jane Brown, Terry Wilson, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Lorraine Clower and Aja Owens; none opposing.

3. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, APPROVING/DENYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO FAMILY DOLLAR STORES OF MISSOURI, LLC TO ADD RETAIL ALCOHOL SALES TO EXISTING BUSINESS AT 6440 WEST FLORISSANT, IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI.

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilwoman Clower, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for Bill #2619. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance.

Councilwoman Jones asked if they had to vote on the petition. Sam said that it takes six (6) votes to override the petition. Councilman Johnson asked if the motion could approve or deny. Sam said if no one made a motion, the petition could die.

No motion made for the second reading; motion failed for the second reading. The decision from the Planning Commission was upheld.

4. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AND GRANTING THE SAME TO NICHOLAS JOHNSON D/B/A CONTEMPO CONSTRUCTION TO OPERATE A CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AT 5745 AND 5747 HELEN AVENUE, IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI.

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Johnson for Bill #2620. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Johnson for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2620 became Ordinance #2558 by the following roll call vote of the councilmembers, voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Jane Brown, Terry Wilson, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Lorraine Clower and Aja Owens; none opposing.

5. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AND GRANTING THE SAME TO LIGHTHOUSE ADULT DAYCARE TO OPERATE AN ADULT DAY CARE CENTER AT 6719 WEST FLORISSANT AVENUE IN THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI.

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Johnson for Bill #2621. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones for the second reading. Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2621 became Ordinance #2559 by the following roll call vote of the councilmembers, voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Jane Brown, Terry Wilson, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Lorraine Clower and Aja Owens; none opposing.

Councilman Johnson and Wilson congratulated Lighthouse Adult Daycare.

6. APPROVE PROPERTY PURCHASE.

There was a motion for the first reading made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Johnson for Bill #2622. Sam did the first reading of the ordinance. On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson for the second reading, Sam did the second reading of the ordinance.

Bill #2622 became Ordinance #2560 by the following roll call vote of the councilmembers, voting in favor: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Jane Brown, Terry Wilson, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Lorraine Clower and Aja Owens; none opposing.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Acceptance of the 2019-2020 Audit.

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the Council acceptance of the 2019-2020 City of Jennings audit. All in favor; none opposed.

2. Approval of barricades and radar signs for the public safety plan.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the Council approved the barricades, speed bumps and radar signs as part of a comprehensive public safety plan. All in favor; none opposed.

3. Approval of the Special Event Permit – 3rd Ward Clean Up & National Night Out.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Anderson, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the Council approved the Special Event Permit for the 3rd Ward Clean Up & National Night Out. All in favor; none opposed.

4. Approval of the appointment(s) to the Planning Commission.

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the Council appointment of Mea Hampton to the Planning Commission. All in favor; none opposed.

5. A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT ST. LOUIS COUNTY DISTRIBUTE \$47 MILLION OF CARES ACT FUNDS ON A PER CAPITA BASIS TO THE MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY TO BE USED FOR ELIGIBLE EXPENSES, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF JENNINGS, MISSOURI, TO ACCEPT CARES ACT FUNDING AND EXECUTE A MUNICIPALITY RELIEF PROGRAM FUNDING AGREEMENT, AND CONFIRMING AGREEMENT TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS ST. LOUIS COUNTY FROM SUCH DISTRIBUTION.

On the motion made by Councilwoman Brown, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the Council approved the resolution requesting the distribution of the CARES Act funds on a per capita basis, authorizing the Mayor of the City of Jennings to accept the CARES Act funding and execute Municipal Relief Program agreement . All in favor; none opposed.

6. Approval of the monthly bills for payment.

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

I. MAYOR'S CLOSING REMARKS

Mayor Austin thanked everyone for participating in the virtual City Council meeting, and the Department Heads, and Councilmembers for working together to move the City forward. Mayor Austin said that there had been more participation on the Zoom meetings. Mayor Austin reminded the public that City Hall will be closed for Columbus Day on October 12th.

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

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson, the City 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, Jane Brown, Terry Wilson, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Lorraine Clower, and Aja Owens; none opposing.

Closed Session – Legal, Personnel (RSMO 610:021-1, 3)

After a brief recess, the City Council members were all present and met in closed session. Also present were Mayor Yolanda Austin; Sam Alton, City Attorney; and City Clerk, Deletra Hudson.

PERSONNEL - The following actions were taken:

1. Hiring of the Correction Lieutenant

On the motion made by Councilwoman Jones, seconded by Councilman Wilson, the City Council approved the recommendation from Mayor Austin to hire Pervis Jones as the Lieutenant for the Corrections Department pending all background checks and preemployment screening tests. The recommendation was approved by the roll call vote of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Owens, Clower; Johnson opposed; none were absent nor abstained.

2. Hiring of a Full-time Correctional Officer

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Clower, the City Council approved the recommendation from Acting Lieutenant Terrell Shumpert to hire Venus Johnson as a fulltime Correctional Officer pending all background checks and preemployment screening tests. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Owens, Clower; none were absent; none opposed nor abstained.

3. Hiring of a Part Time Bus Driver

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council approved the recommendation from Willie Brandon, Recreation Director, to hire Brenda Childress-Morgan as a part time bus driver pending all background checks and preemployment screening tests. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Owens, Clower; none were absent; none opposed nor abstained.

4. Hiring of a Full-time Public Works Laborer

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilman Stichnote, the City Council approved the recommendation from James Maixner, Public Works Director, to hire Trenton McClellan as the fulltime public works laborer pending all background checks and preemployment screening tests. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Brown, Anderson, Johnson, Owens, Clower; none were absent; none opposed nor abstained.

5.

6. Hiring of a Full-time Code Enforcement Inspector

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the City Council approved the recommendation from Schona McClellon, Director of Housing and Economic Development, to hire Mark Polka as a fulltime Code Enforcement Inspector pending all background checks and preemployment screening tests. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Brown, Owens, Clower; Anderson and Johnson opposed; none were absent nor abstained.

7. Hiring of an Alternate Full-time Code Enforcement Inspector

On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the City Council approved the recommendation from Schona McClellon, Director of Housing and Economic Development, to hire Carnell Harris as an alternate fulltime Code Enforcement Inspector pending all background checks and preemployment screening tests if the original candidate cannot fulfil the position. The recommendation was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Brown, Owens, Clower; Anderson and Johnson opposed; none were absent nor abstained.

8. Hiring of a Part Time Code Enforcement Inspector


On the motion made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the City Council approved the recommendation from Schona McClellon, Director of Housing and Economic Development, to hire Carnell Harris as a part time Code Enforcement Inspector pending all background checks and preemployment screening tests. The recommendation

was approved by the roll call votes of the following council members: Stichnote, Jones, Wilson, Brown, Owens, Clower; Anderson and Johnson opposed; none were absent nor abstained.

K. ADJOURNMENT

The City Council voted in favor by the roll call votes of the following councilmembers to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 p.m.: Allan Stichnote, Miranda Jones, Terry Wilson, Jane Brown, Phyllis Anderson, Gary Johnson, Aja Owens and Lorraine Clower; none opposing.

Approved:


Yolanda Austin, Mayor

Attest:


Deletra Hudson, City Clerk