

**August 16, 2022
Jackson, Minnesota**

The Jackson City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers of City Hall and also by Teleconference and Zoom at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 with the meeting called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Marcus Polz. On the roll call, the following persons were present in-person, Mayor Pro Tem Marcus Polz and Aldermen Jerome Palmer, Brandon Finck, Nathan Peterson and Dave Cushman. Also attending in-person were City Administrator Matt Skaret, City Attorney Brad Anderson, Street Superintendent Phil Markman, Jackson Fire Chief Dave Bond, Lee Porter, Joe Pell, City Clerk/Council Secretary Dave Maschoff, Pastor John Schuetz of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Jackson, Joshua Schuetz of the Jackson County Pilot and Mathew Grisham of KKOJ/KUXX Radio. (Mayor Wayne Walter and Alderman Michael More were absent.) (A quorum of the City Council was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Polz announced the Pledge of Allegiance would be recited before the City Council meeting was called to order. All those attending the meeting in-person and via Zoom recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Polz called the regular meeting of the Jackson City Council to order at 6:32 p.m. He said the roll call showed all Councilmembers were present except for Alderman Michael More and Mayor Wayne Walter.

There were no Public Hearings, Bid Lettings or Open Forum.

Unscheduled Guests:

Mayor Pro Tem Polz asked if there were any unscheduled guests in the Council Chambers.

Seeing no unscheduled guests, Mayor Pro Tem Polz said the meeting would proceed with the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Polz asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

CUSHMAN/FINCK moved and it was unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Council Discussion Items

RESOLUTION NO. 46-0822 – AUTHORIZATION FOR STATE GRANT AGREEMENT FOR THE AIRPORT RUNWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

City Administrator Matt Skaret noted at the City Council's July 19th meeting, the Council approved the grant agreement with the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) pertaining to the Airport Runway Reconstruction Project which the FAA is paying for about 90 percent of the project. He said the grant agreement with the FAA had to be approved before any work could begin on the runway reconstruction. Skaret said the FAA agreement was approved.

Skaret said the State Grant Agreement was not ready at the July 19th Council meeting. He said that grant agreement is now ready to be approved by the City Council. He explained the State reimbursement amounts to about 5 percent of the project or \$248,889.43.

Skaret said a motion is needed to authorize the Mayor Pro Tem and City Administrator to execute the State Grant Agreement so the City can start submitting reimbursements for the reconstruction part of the Airport Project.

PETERSON/FINCK moved and it was unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. 46-0822 authorizing the State Grant Agreement for the Airport Runway Reconstruction Project.

AIRPORT TREE MITIGATION REPLANTING QUOTES

Skaret explained as part of the Airport Runway Reconstruction Project, there were over 200 trees that had to be cut down on a property north of the airport in order to provide the proper clearance for FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) and MnDOT (Minnesota Department of Transportation) regulations. He noted the Tree Mitigation Replanting is eligible for reimbursement.

Skaret said during the past winter, Thate's Tree Service did the actual removal of the trees which has been completed. He said now the replanting of trees will be taking place. Skaret explained the City's engineer for the Airport Project, HDR, have landscape architects that have been working with the Meneely's and also a forester on proper tree replanting. He said the Meneely's have agreed to the replanting plan.

Skaret said two quotes were sought for the tree replanting. He said VIP Floral of Slayton, Minnesota submitted the low quote at \$34,800. Skaret said the other quote was submitted by Hoffman and McNamara of Hastings, Minnesota at \$41,910.

Skaret said Engineer Eric Hanson of HDR recommends the City Council approve the low quote from VIP Floral of Slayton. He said VIP Floral is an experienced tree contractor and there's no reason the City can't expect them to do a good job.

Polz asked if the tree replanting would be covered by FAA funding.

Skaret said it would.

FINCK/PALMER moved and it was unanimously carried to approve the low bid of \$34,800 from VIP Floral of Slayton, Minnesota for the Airport Tree Mitigation Replanting.

DOWNTOWN UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC CONVERSION FINAL PAY APPLICATION – RELEASE OF RETAINAGE

Skaret reported all the punch list items have been completed on last summer's Downtown Underground Electric Conversion Project by the contractor MP Nexlevel, LLC of Maple Lake, Minnesota. He said the project came in under budget and under the bid amount that was submitted. Skaret said the total contract price was \$429,468.78. He said the actual price ended up being \$349,873.48 so the project came in about \$80,000 under budget.

Skaret said the final pay application for the Downtown Underground Electric Conversion Project is for \$17,493.67.

Mayor Pro Tem Polz asked for a motion to approve the final pay application.

PETERSON/FINCK moved and it was unanimously carried to approve the Final Pay Application to MP Nexlevel in the amount of \$17,493.67 and authorize the execution of the documents accepting the contract construction.

ORDINANCE NO. 126 ADOPTING A MORATORIUM ON THE SALE OF HEMP DERIVED THC FOOD AND BEVERAGES IN THE CITY OF JACKSON, MINNESOTA

Skaret said on July 1st, a new law went into effect in Minnesota that allowed for the sale of beverages, food and gummies containing THC derived from hemp.

Skaret pointed out there is much uncertainty and ambiguity with the current law and cities and counties have not had a chance to fully study and interpret the law and adopt regulations pertaining to the sale of such products. He said there's more questions than answers on how cities and counties can regulate products containing THC if they decide to regulate it. Skaret said if cities and counties decide to regulate, there's questions on what kind of stipulations can be put in place. He said there's also questions if the State Legislature is going to modify the law during the next Legislative Session. Skaret noted there's elections this year and there could be a shift in partisan control of the Governor's Office along with the Minnesota House and Senate. He said there's a lot of unknowns.

Skaret explained the City is permitted to approve a moratorium to not allow the sale of hemp derived THC food and beverages in the City of Jackson. He said the moratorium is good for up to one year. Skaret said that would give the City time to see if the State Legislature is going to modify the current law or decide on what regulations or stipulations the City will have regarding the sale of hemp derived THC food and beverages in the City of Jackson. Skaret said a moratorium would give the City time to decide what areas of the City edible cannabinoids may be sold, manufactured or distributed or what businesses should be allowed to sell edible cannabinoids. He said there are a lot different aspects to be considered.

Skaret said he would recommend approving a moratorium on the sale of hemp derived THC food and beverages in the City of Jackson until the City can sort out the aspects of the new State Law.

Finck asked if the moratorium stops sales, not possession.

Skaret said the moratorium just relates to sales. He said the moratorium doesn't prevent people from going outside of the community to purchase hemp derived THC food and beverages and bringing it back into the community.

City Attorney Brad Anderson noted the moratorium prevents the sale within the City, but not the possession.

Peterson asked if the matter can be revisited anytime during the 12-month moratorium.

Skaret said the City Council can adopt regulations anytime during the 12 months of the moratorium.

Cushman said the moratorium will allow time to see how other communities across the State handle the sale of hemp derived THC food and beverages and adapt to the changes as needed.

Finck asked if the City would be opening themselves up to any discriminatory type lawsuits if the 12-month moratorium is approved.

City Attorney Anderson said he didn't think so. He pointed out many other communities are approving moratoriums from the information he's seen. Attorney Anderson noted the City is not saying that they're going down a different path than the State law allows, but just saying the City isn't doing anything yet until they can figure out what's appropriate.

FINCK/PETERSON moved and it was unanimously carried to approve Ordinance No. 126 adopting a moratorium on the sale of hemp derived THC Food and Beverages in the City of Jackson, Minnesota.

LIBRARY HVAC MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSON CONTROLS 2022

Skaret said the HVAC system is not working at the library. He noted a couple of City Council meetings ago, the Council approved installing a new air conditioner compressor. Skaret said the new compressor is installed and it's working, which is good. However, he said now there is the opposite problem of the temperature in the library being freezing cold.

Skaret said there's been a constant battle over the past four or five years at the library where the temperature is either steamy hot or freezing cold. He said the HVAC system just doesn't work correctly.

In providing a little bit of history regarding the library's HVAC system, Skaret said the City used to have a maintenance agreement with Johnson Controls for the library's HVAC system through about 2015 or 2016. He said when the remodeling of the library took place in 2016, there was some new HVAC equipment installed at the library. Skaret said it wasn't the entire HVAC system that was replaced, but some new equipment was installed. He a new boiler and some new HVAC units were installed to accommodate the new addition to the library. Skaret explained at that time, one of the employees for Johnson Controls, who happened to be a local person, broke off from Johnson Controls and started his own business in Jackson. He said the City then decided to have the local person take care of the maintenance of the Library's HVAC system. Skaret said prior to that, no one locally had expressed an interest in doing maintenance on the Library's HVAC system.

Skaret explained the local person was the main maintenance person for the Library's HVAC system ever since. But Skaret said really there hasn't been any maintenance done on that system. He said if something breaks, it's fixed. Skaret said the contractor that recently replaced the condenser recommended the City needs to have someone doing maintenance on the HVAC system. Skaret said maintenance on the Library's HVAC system has not been done for at least four or five years.

Skaret said there's a systemwide failure of the Library's HVAC, it's not just one thing. He said one thing is fixed, but it doesn't solve the other problems. Skaret said if one thing is fixed, there are other problems discovered.

Skaret said he reached out to Johnson Controls. He noted it's all Johnson Controls HVAC equipment at the Library. Skaret said Johnson Controls gave the City access to the control system on the computer in the Library Director's office so they could actually see what was going on with the HVAC system. He said Johnson Controls also provides maintenance services. Skaret said Johnson Controls came to Jackson and looked at the Library's HVAC system. He said Johnson Controls has certainly put a lot of time into it.

Skaret said there are some things on the Library HVAC system that need to be repaired pretty urgently. He said there might be less expensive HVAC companies to contract with for maintenance services, but it's a Johnson Control's HVAC system. Skaret said he would recommend having Johnson Controls do the maintenance. He pointed out it's a Johnson Controls system and they're probably suited the best to get the system working correctly.

Skaret said if the City enters into a maintenance agreement with Johnson Controls, the City Council can certainly review it after a year after everything is working optimally again. He said the City Council can always look at having another company come in to do maintenance on the Library's HVAC system.

Skaret said the proposed contract with Johnson Controls is for a year at a price of \$9,000. He noted the City was paying Johnson Controls \$6,000 a year for a maintenance contract back in around 2015 before the City ended contracting for maintenance services with them. Skaret noted that was also before new HVAC equipment was installed for the new addition on the Library.

Peterson said it makes sense to have a maintenance contract with Johnson Controls if the current HVAC system consists of Johnson Controls equipment.

Cushman noted the \$9,000 for the maintenance agreement with Johnson Controls is basically for labor to oversee the HVAC system. He said any parts that are needed, as seen fit, will be billed separately as a standard service contract.

Skaret said that was correct.

PETERSON/PALMER moved and it was unanimously carried for the City to enter into a maintenance agreement with Johnson Controls to oversee the Library's HVAC System for one year at a cost of \$9,000.

JEDC/EDA LAND TRANSFER CORRECTIVE DEED

City Attorney Brad Anderson explained last May the JEDC conveyed to the City around 30 acres of the former Torgerson farm for a housing development project. He said there was discussion as to where the boundary lines would be drawn and such. Attorney Anderson said on the east side of the property, there's a ravine that comes out from the south section line and juts out probably 300 to 400 feet out into the field.

Attorney Anderson explained there's a little sliver of land that was probably developable but it was irregular in shape. He said, as he remembers, the discussion kind of went one party or the other should control that ravine because it's hard to split it in half and have each party do any kind of decent care and maintenance of that ravine.

Attorney Anderson said the discussion went to the next step that the ravine would make a good green fence between residential on one side and industrial on the other side so it would be a sound barrier, noise barrier and it would just separate the two. He said it ended up with the sliver of property going to the City.

Attorney Anderson said since then, an opportunity arose where maybe that little sliver of land could be used for a development project, so maybe it didn't make sense to give the whole ravine on both sides to the City. He said the JEDC came forward and said they would like to correct that legal description and move the east boundary line for about the length of that ravine further to the west. Attorney Anderson explained the City would be giving back to the JEDC roughly 2.77 acres. He explained that way the property can possibly be used for some industrial development but the principal part of that ravine will stay as part of the housing development so it can extend that green fence if the City wishes to do so.

Attorney Anderson explained what the City Council had in front of them was a corrective deed to adjust the boundary location on the east side of that property. He said the JEDC got a credit which was applied against their loan for the land that was conveyed to the City. Attorney Anderson said the JEDC would pay back that credit for that portion of the land in cash that would go right along with this hand in hand. He said that would enable the JEDC to develop that land for a potential industrial opportunity.

Attorney Anderson said the Land Transfer Corrective Deed is not going to cost the City anything. He said he doesn't think the piece of property could ever really be developed for housing because the strip of property is like a triangle in shape and narrow. Attorney Anderson said a house couldn't be built on the strip of property because there's no room. He said there's 2.77 acres which is less than three acres stretched out over roughly 300 feet. Attorney Anderson said it's a pretty narrow strip of ground.

Attorney Anderson said the City won't lose a dime and it's believed it should not affect the housing project. He said what the JEDC is asking the City Council to do is approve correcting the boundary. Attorney Anderson said the JEDC will payback the credit in cash to the City so the City doesn't lose any money so they stay whole. If that's approved in principle, Attorney Anderson said he told City Administrator Skaret that he would suggest keeping the deed in the file because then the JEDC can move forward and probably get it surveyed to make sure all the legals and everything lines up correctly. He said it's believed it's not going to change the amount very much, but they just only want to do this just once, not twice.

Cushman asked if the availability for a buffer strip between housing and industrial will still exist with the Land Transfer Corrective Deed.

Attorney Anderson said the availability for a buffer strip will still exist. He said some of the ravine will be going with the land transfer but it won't be much.

Cushman asked if the transfer will take any of the housing project land out of the scenario for a buffer zone to separate industrial and housing with sound barrier and green space to keep industrial on one side and housing on the other. Cushman asked if anything is being given up for the housing.

Attorney Anderson said he doesn't believe so. He said the City will still have the lion's share of the ravine. Attorney Anderson said the City will also still own the end of that ravine.

Finck pointed out the potential industrial project would not cause noise or pollution issues for a housing project. He said it would be a quiet type of development.

Attorney Anderson added the potential industrial project needed a little extra amount of ground in order to make it viable for the company to try and apply to move forward with their project. He said the potential industry is kind of a green business as well so there shouldn't be any air quality or noise issues. Attorney Anderson said low growing trees will block the view of it.

Cushman asked if there are utilities that will need to be stubbed in or road work necessary in the area where this new industrial company wants to locate.

Attorney Anderson said utilities should not be an issue. He said that has been discussed with the potential company. Attorney Anderson said the road that's being contemplated to be installed when the access road is moved to the substation is absolutely adequate for their needs.

Attorney Anderson said he thinks it will be a positive thing for the community if the plans for the potential industrial company work out. He said it will be a better use of that little strip of ground that the company can develop by placing some of their equipment on and make their project possible. Attorney Anderson said the potential new company is not a quick project. He explained the project needs to get different approvals from different Federal agencies to move forward. He said the company is pretty optimistic but it's probably going to be two, three or maybe a four-year project before it comes to fruition.

Attorney Anderson said the City will be made whole and won't be out anything. He said instead of trying to change the books, the JEDC is just going to write a check to the City for the property.

Finck noted it's a positive for debt service back to the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Polz asked for a motion regarding the JEDC/EDA Land Transfer Corrective Deed.

CUSHMAN/PETERSON moved and it was carried with 3 in favor and one abstention to approve the JEDC/EDA Land Transfer Corrective Deed.

Voting in favor of the motion were Aldermen Jerome Palmer, Nathan Peterson and Dave Cushman.

Alderman Brandon Finck said he was abstaining from the vote because he's a member of the JEDC Board.

SPECIAL DEER HUNT

Skaret said he wanted to clarify about the Special Archery Deer Hunt within the City Limits of Jackson this year. He said there may be some misinformation about the special hunt.

Skaret said the City has been approved for a Special Archery Deer Hunt. He said people can purchase the two extra tags online through the DNR (Department of Natural Resources).

Skaret pointed out the City did not specifically open up additional land for hunting within the City limits with this special archery deer hunt. He said the same rules apply as always. Skaret said hunters need to have permission from the landowner to hunt. He said there had been some talk about opening up some City land for hunting, but that hasn't been formerly done yet. Skaret said the City was kind of in a race a few months ago to get something done so the Special Archery Deer Hunt in Jackson could be included in the DNR's hunting guide for this upcoming archery season. He noted the Minnesota Archery Deer Season goes from September 17th through December 31st.

Skaret said if the City Council wanted to, the Council could open up certain City land. He said there's probably some City land that might be suitable for hunting.

Finck asked why wouldn't the City open up City property for hunting.

City Attorney Anderson said the City needs to be a little bit careful about how many people would be allowed to hunt on City property at any one time. He said one of the suggestions for the future, when the City Council has more time to think about it, would be to look at areas that the City could open up for hunting. Attorney Anderson said the City could then have a lottery where people could come and sign up for a 10-day window to hunt for \$50 or something like that. He said those people would then be the only hunters allowed to hunt on that particular City owned property.

Finck agreed with Attorney Anderson but said he would like to see something determined for this year's archery deer season. He asked if a committee could be formed to work on a recommendation to bring back to the full City Council.

Skaret said that would need to be done before the City Council's next meeting on September 6th.

Finck said he agreed and thinks something could be very easily determined. As a hunter, Finck said he thinks the City can work out a plan.

Skaret said in his mind, there's probably two potential areas of City owned property that could be opened up for archery deer hunting.

Finck agreed.

Skaret said the City is hopefully not going to allow archery deer hunting near trails, parks or housing areas.

Finck asked if a small group of Councilmembers could be formed to determine what areas of City owned property could be opened up for archery deer hunting this season and a recommendation brought back to the City Council at their next meeting.

Skaret asked who would like to serve on the committee.

Aldermen Peterson, Finck and Polz said they would serve on the committee.

Skaret said he would also meet with the committee and see if Sheriff Shawn Haken or someone from the Sheriff's Department would also like to meet with the committee as well.

Cushman noted a plan could be fine-tuned years down the road.

Attorney Anderson said hunters could sign a simple waiver and provide contact information.

Finck asked Skaret to reach out to the City's insurance carrier to make sure the City has liability insurance in case a hunter would get injured on City owned property.

Attorney Anderson said some general ground rules for hunters would also be good.

Mayor Pro Tem Polz asked if any City Council action was needed at this time.

Skaret said no Council action was required regarding the Special Deer Hunt at this Council meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 45-0822 APPROVING SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Skaret said Resolution No. 45-0822 pertains to the City's Facebook pages. He said there are several Facebook pages that are affiliated with the City and considered as official pages. Skaret said the Departments that have City affiliated Facebook pages include City Hall-General Government, the Liquor Store, Fire Department and Ambulance Department.

Skaret said the City really hasn't had a lot of problems with anything on these Facebook pages, however, there is always the potential for misuse either internally by staff or by the outside public. He said that can create a liability for the City.

Skaret said having good guidelines, good rules in place can certainly go a long ways in prevention. He said the City's insurance carrier also recommends the City have a Social Media Policy.

Skaret said what's before the City Council is a policy that's based off a League of Minnesota Cities model policy. He noted there isn't anything in the proposed Social Media Policy that's really far out or anything that's really not part of the current practice right now. Skaret said the Policy just outlines who's responsible for administrating the Facebook pages and talks about what kind of postings are put on the pages such as City sponsored events, specials or promotions pertaining to the liquor store, community events, community updates such as emergency water shut-offs, detours, City project updates, general City announcements, updates, information that benefits the public as a whole and postings that are approved for the community message board and are also posted on the City's Facebook page.

Skaret said things that are not eligible to be posted on the City's Facebook page include commercial sales or events, garage sales or items for profit, things that promote an individual business, political commentary and non-community events.

Skaret said the Social Media Policy also states generally that City business is not to be conducted by City Facebook Page. He said the City's Facebook pages cannot be used by someone who needs to give the City their water meter readings or wants to pay a bill. In those instances, Skaret said people need to contact City Hall directly.

Polz asked if there's any benefits to closing out, moderating or limiting some of the comments on the City's Facebook pages.

Skaret said he personally thinks there's pros and cons to limiting comments. He explained when it comes to censoring comments, you either have to allow them or don't allow them. Skaret said you can't flag individual comments that are inappropriate or the City don't agree with or don't like. He said the City either has to allow all comments or don't allow them.

Finck asked if the City has the ability to not allow comments if the comments include cursing or things like that. He said opinions are opinions and he agrees you have to allow them all, that's part of the government, but if there's vulgar language.

Skaret said there is actually a setting on the City's Facebook page that filters out vulgar language. He said that has happened in the past.

Finck said the vulgar language was his only concern. He said the City has to hear all opinions, we don't have to agree and so forth, but it's still good to hear the opinions. However, Finck said he doesn't want a person to go the City's Facebook page and see a bunch of cuss words or profanity.

Mayor Pro Tem Polz asked for a motion to approve the City's Social Media Policy.

CUSHMAN/FINCK moved and it was unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. 45-0822 approving the City's Social Media Policy.

RESOLUTION NO. 44-0822 CALLING FOR A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Skaret explained the 2022 Minnesota Legislature left a ton of unfinished business before they adjourned. He noted it's an election year and everything is all politics all of the time. Skaret said both political parties think they have an advantage going into the mid-term elections in November. He said there could very easily be a flip of control of the Governor's office and there could be flips of control for the House and Senate. Skaret said both parties think they're in a position to get control of all three branches of State Government.

Skaret said there's an 8 to 9 billion dollar surplus in St. Paul. He said nothing got done as far as addressing the surplus and spending it during the Legislative Session.

Skaret said the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities and other groups are calling for the Governor to call a Special Legislative Session to address bonding bills and a tax bill that contains adjustments for Local Government Aid which would affect and benefit the City of Jackson directly along with other legislative action.

Skaret said the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities is asking member cities to approve resolutions of support calling for the Governor to call a Special Legislative Session. He said whether it has a good chance of happening is hard to say. Skaret said it's all politics right now.

Cushman said the City is certainly not out anything by approving Resolution No. 44-0822.

Skaret agreed with Cushman. He said the City is not out anything by approving the Resolution.

CUSHMAN/PETERSON moved and it was unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. 44-0822 calling for Governor Tim Walz to call for a Special Minnesota Legislative Session.

**SECOND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 125 – FEE ORDINANCE 2022
DRAFT UPDATES REVISED AUGUST 2022**

Skaret explained Ordinance No. 125 adds the Ambulance charge of \$150 to the City's fee schedule for non-transport ambulance calls in cases where there's no treatment and a charge of \$500 if there's treatment but no transport.

FINCK/PALMER moved and it was unanimously carried to approve Second Consideration of Ordinance No. 125 – Fee Ordinance 2022 Draft updates revised August 2022.

**APPROVE JACKSON NATIONALS AS A SPECIAL DESIGNATED EVENT AUGUST 17TH
TO AUGUST 22ND IN THE CITY OF JACKSON**

Skaret explained in 2019, he and former Economic Development Director Tom Nelson and former Chamber Director Sharon Henning travelled to Knoxville, Iowa and met with Knoxville officials about how they promote the Knoxville Nationals, get their town involved and anything special the City does.

Skaret said the City of Knoxville really caters to the campers and vendors. He said one of the things Knoxville does is they designate the Nationals as a special event where the City relaxes their rules on camping and vending for a designated amount of time.

Skaret said after the visit to Knoxville, the Jackson City Council approved a Special Events Ordinance, also known as the Jackson Nationals Ordinance.

Skaret noted the situation in Jackson is quite a bit different than Knoxville's as far as where the race track is located. He said the race track in Knoxville is basically located in the center of town and they're limited in parking, limited in space for vendors so just naturally more of their things spill out into the rest of the community. Skaret said in Jackson, the race track is located at the fairgrounds and there's lots of room. He said there's plenty of space for vendors along with a big campground.

Skaret said as part of Jackson's Special Events Ordinance, there is a provision for special events in case there are people who want to rent their yard out for camping or parking. He said the City relaxes the rules for a short amount of time by designating a special event. Skaret said the motion before the City Council would designate the Jackson Nationals as a special event so the rules are relaxed for the vendors and for parking and camping in people's yards.

PETERSON/PALMER moved and it was unanimously carried to approve the Jackson Nationals as a Special Designated Event August 17th to August 22nd, 2022 in the City of Jackson.

MRES STRATEGIC PLANNING BROCHURE – STRATEGIC PLANNING PREPARATION LIST FOR FACILITATION

Regardless of how the election goes and who's elected, Skaret said there's going to be new people joining the City Council next year. He said one of the things that hasn't taken place in recent years is a Strategic Planning Session to outline what is the vision for the community and what are the goals of the City Council. Skaret said a Strategic Planning Session would be beneficial for newly elected Councilmembers after they are seated and also for those that have been appointed to the Council. He said the Strategic Planning Session could be held after the first of the year. Skaret said setting goals makes things easier for the City Council and City Staff as they move forward.

Skaret said Missouri River Energy Services has a Strategic Planning Program. He said MRES has a consultant that conducts the program and has conducted the Planning Program in a lot of communities. Skaret said the fee is reasonable at \$1,000.

Skaret explained the MRES Strategic Planning Session is typically done in two 3-hour sessions or one 5-hour session. He said the sessions can be conducted any evening or weekend, whatever the City Councilmembers would like.

Skaret said the City Council did not have to make any decisions at the August 16th Council meeting of whether they want to participate in the MRES Strategic Planning Program. He said he just wanted to make the City Councilmembers aware of the Program and to think about participating in it. Skaret noted the consultant's schedule books up quickly.

Mayor Pro Tem Polz said it's a Program he would be interested in.

Finck said he thinks a good Strategic Planning Session can definitely set the table for new and old Councilmembers on what direction they would like to go, their objectives and what they are trying to accomplish. He said, in his opinion, there's nothing wrong with having a Strategic Planning Session. Finck said it would be very beneficial.

Finck asked if the City's Department Heads would also be a part of the Strategic Planning Session or if it would be just for Councilmembers.

Skaret said he would have to look into that further.

Finck suggested looking at the end of January as a possible time for scheduling a Planning Session.

Mayor Pro Tem Polz asked if any Council action was needed regarding the Strategic Planning Session at this time.

Skaret said no action was needed at this time by the Council. He said he had direction from the Council.

NORTH HIGHWAY/SAYLES DRIVE SIDEWALK EXTENSION RIBBON CUTTING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 25TH AT 5:30 P.M. NEAR THE PINES

Skaret said with the City's Street Project in 2020 and 2021 up on North Highway, a new sidewalk was installed that extends past the hospital and goes behind the Jackson Pines and connects with Sayles Drive. He said the new sidewalk provides a nice connection for a safe route to school for families and children that live in the newer subdivision on the west side of town.

Skaret said the Trails Committee is planning to have a ribbon cutting ceremony to promote the trail on Thursday, August 25th at 5:30 p.m. He said it would be great if some City Councilmembers could be present for the ribbon cutting. Skaret said Mayor Walter plans to attend.

Finck said as a resident of the west side neighborhood, the new sidewalk benefits those walking by keeping them off North Highway. He commended the Street Department and the group that planned the reconstruction of the street and sidewalk. Finck said the new sidewalk definitely makes it a lot safer by not having people walking or bicycling around the curve on North Highway and instead using the new sidewalk. He the new sidewalk is a big improvement to the area as a safety factor.

Other:

Alderman Nathan Peterson

Alderman Peterson asked if there was any new information regarding changing the two-hour limit parking signs on Ashley Street in the block near the new laundromat.

Street Superintendent Phil Markman said the two-hour limit parking signs can be taken down.

Alderman Jerome Palmer

Alderman Palmer said a long time ago there was money put aside for the Emerald Ash Borer tree removal. He said City Administrator Skaret noted there was approximately \$30,000 in that fund.

Palmer said he would like to see the Finance Committee allocate more money to that fund. He said at one time the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) said if the Emerald Ash Borer comes to Jackson, it's going to cost a million dollars to down the Ash trees. Palmer said it's probably 10 years ago that the City received a letter from the DNR regarding the Emerald Ash Borer. He said he would really like to see more money put into the Emerald Ash Borer tree fund so the City has something to go to once the Emerald Ash Borer gets to Jackson. Palmer said it will get here.

Mayor Pro Tem and Alderman Marcus Polz

Mayor Pro Tem and Alderman Polz said he's been asked if there's an opportunity for the food trucks in Jackson to park and operate in the City parking lots or maybe inviting them to park in the Liquor Store parking lot perhaps on a weekly basis. He said it would be a win-win for the City and for the Liquor Store.

Finck said whether to allow food trucks to park in the Liquor Store parking lot would be up to Liquor Store Manager Michelle Bratrud's discretion.

Skaret said typically the City hasn't allowed food trucks on City property.

Finck asked why?

Skaret said because of for profit venture reasons. He said if the City Council wants to allow food trucks on City property, he's not opposed to it.

Finck said he doesn't have an issue with the food trucks parking at the Liquor Store. He said he would let Liquor Store Manager Bratrud make the decision.

Cushman said if allowing food trucks to park at the Liquor Store gets out of hand, it can then be addressed on a weekly basis. He noted there's been a food truck at his work place most of the summer and it hasn't been a problem.

Finck noted other businesses in town have allowed food trucks to park in their parking lots. He said he would have the food truck operators contact the Liquor Store Manager about parking in the Liquor Store's parking lot.

CLOSED SESSION REGARDING THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MN CHAPTER 13D.05, SUBD. 3(C)

Mayor Pro Tem Polz asked for a motion for the City Council to go into Closed Session regarding the purchase or sale of property pursuant to Minnesota Chapter 13D.05, Subd. 3(C).

PETERSON/CUSHMAN moved and it was unanimously carried for the City Council to go into Closed Session at 7:25 p.m. regarding the purchase or sale of property pursuant to Minnesota Chapter 13D.05, Subd. 3(C).

Mayor Pro Tem Polz said the City Council was now in Closed Session.

COMING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Pro Tem Polz entertained a motion for the City Council to go out of Closed Session.

FINCK/PETERSON moved and it was unanimously carried for the City Council to go out of Closed Session at 8:01 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Polz announced the City Council was out of Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Polz entertained a motion to adjourn.

FINCK/CUSHMAN moved and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the Jackson City Council meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Polz thanked Councilmembers.

David A. Maschoff, Council Secretary

Marcus Polz, Mayor Pro Tem

