

**December 5, 2023
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, December 5, 2023 with the meeting called to order by Mayor Marcus Polz. On the roll call, the following persons were present in-person, Mayor Marcus Polz, Alderwoman Sara Mix and Aldermen Mark Titus, Chris Naumann, Brandon Finck and Joe Pell. Also attending in-person were City Administrator Matt Skaret, City Attorney Brad Anderson, Public Works Director Tony Oxborough, Jackson Fire Chief Dave Bond, Engineer Troy Nemmers of Bolton and Menk, John Weland of the Jackson County Animal Protection Society, City Clerk/Council Secretary Dave Maschoff and Justin Lessman of the Jackson County Pilot. Attending the meeting via Zoom and Teleconference were Alderman Nathan Peterson, Engineer Maria McCarty of SEH, Mathew Grisham of KKOJ/KUXX Radio and Shelley Pohlman of Community and Economic Development Associates (CEDA). (All Councilmembers were present.) (A quorum of the City Council was present.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Polz called the regular meeting of the Jackson City Council to order. He said the roll call showed all Councilmembers present except Alderman Nathan Peterson who was joining the meeting remotely via Zoom.

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

Unscheduled Guests:

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

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

Mayor Polz asked for a third time if there were any unscheduled guests in the audience.

Seeing and hearing no unscheduled guests, Mayor Polz said the Council would move onto the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Alderman Joe Pell said he would abstain in voting on Consent Agenda Item 7(E) regarding the Personnel Committee's recommendation to appoint Gloria Pell Office Accountant on Grade 8, Step 12 of the Employee Wage and Step Schedule effective October 31, 2023.

MIX/TITUS moved and it was carried on a roll call vote to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

On the roll call, Voting in favor of the motion was Alderman Mark Titus, Alderman Chris Naumann, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderwoman Sara Mix and Alderman Nathan Peterson. Alderman Joe Pell also voted in favor of the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the exception of Consent Agenda Item 7(E) in which he abstained.

Council Discussion Items

WATER PLANT MEDIA FILTER REPLACEMENT PROJECT PAY APPLICATION NO. 2

Skaret said the Water Plant Media Filter Replacement Project is moving along. He noted Engineer Maria McCarty of SEH was joining the City Council meeting via Zoom to discuss the pay application, give a project status update and answer any questions.

McCarty said work on the media filter rehab of the project is finishing up. She reported the new media has been installed and they're finalizing work to get the new water filter back on line.

McCarty said Pay Application No. 2 is for the media and the installation. She said it's also including costs for mobilization by the contractor. McCarty said Pay Application No. 2 is in the amount of \$112,993.30 payable to Rubin Construction.

Skaret asked when it's anticipated the media filter will be back in service so the water quality improves?

Public Works Director Tony Oxborough said water samples were taken on the morning of December 5th. He explained it's a 24-hour sample so results will be known on December 6th whether the disinfecting process worked or not. Oxborough said best case scenario, the media filter could put back on line on December 6th. He said if not, disinfecting will be done again and the results will be known in 24 hours.

Oxborough said the media filter will be put back in service as soon as possible, but not until it's 100 percent positive that it's going to be a clean filter that's brought on line.

Mayor Polz entertained a motion to approve Water Plant Media Filter Replacement Project Pay Application No. 2.

(Alderman Nathan Peterson's Zoom connection is temporarily lost)

FINCK/NAUMANN moved and it was unanimously carried on a voice vote to approve Water Plant Media Filter Replacement Project Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$112,993.30 payable to Rubin Construction.

Skaret thanked McCarty for joining the Council meeting via Zoom.

BOLTON AND MENK GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT 2024-2025

Engineer Troy Nemmers of Bolton and Menk was attending the Council meeting regarding Bolton and Menk's General Engineering Services Agreement for 2024-2025 with the City. He noted the City currently has Bolton and Menk under contract through the end of the year. Nemmers said Bolton and Menk is looking to extend the General Engineering Services Agreement with the City for the next two years.

Nemmers said this agreement is fairly similar to the agreement that was in place previously. He said the agreement covers the general engineering services, City Council meetings, meetings with City staff, some of the smaller projects that Bolton and Menk would work on for the City. Nemmers said the agreement would also include the “task orders” that Bolton and Menk would set up for bigger projects like street construction and other larger projects which they can track a little better through the “task order” process.

Nemmers said the General Engineering Services Agreement is proposed for 2024 and 2025. He said it also has a reduced rate that’s proposed at \$95 an hour. Nemmers explained the reduced rate is just the first 16 hours of the month to cover some of those general discussions and meetings that Bolten and Menk has with City staff or the City Council in order to try and offer some extra services through that reduced rate.

Nemmers said the General Engineering Services Agreement for 2024 and 2025 is fairly similar to the agreement that’s in place now as far as all the extra language.

Nemmers asked if there were any questions.

Hearing no questions, Mayor Polz asked for a motion to approve the Bolton and Menk General Engineering Services Agreement for 2024 and 2025 with the City.

PELL/FINCK moved and it was carried on a roll call vote to approve the Bolton and Menk General Engineering Services Agreement for 2024 and 2025.

On the roll call, voting in favor of the motion were Alderman Joe Pell, Alderwoman Sara Mix, Alderman Nathan Peterson, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderman Chris Naumann and Alderman Mark Titus.

Voting against the motion: None

Nemmers thanked Mayor Polz and Councilmembers.

Mayor Polz and Skaret thanked Nemmers.

UNION CONTRACT 2024-2025

Skaret said Union negotiations recently wrapped up between the Personnel Committee and Union representatives. He said the Union has formerly voted on the tentative agreement and accepted it.

Skaret outlined the highlights of the Union Contract for 2024 through 2025. He said under Section 7.9, employees will be paid at two (2) times the employees' regular rate for work performed on Holidays because of inclement weather or other emergency.

Skaret said Article 8 adds Juneteenth, June 19th to the schedule of paid holidays and changes Columbus Day to "Indigenous People's Day" per State Statute. He said the new contract also eliminates the employee's birthday and the Friday after Thanksgiving as paid holidays and adds a floating holiday that employees may use anytime throughout the year.

Skaret said Article 14 regarding Health and Welfare includes discontinuing offering the Advantage High Value and Value Plans to employees and only offering the HSA Compatible Plan through PEIP. He said the employee's monthly share will be \$12.72 for single and \$275.05 for family coverage. Skaret said the City will continue to contribute \$1,000 per year for single and \$2,000 per year for family coverage to the employee's HSA account. Skaret noted for 2025, the City will absorb 100 percent of the premium increase up to 5 percent. He said anything after 5 percent above and beyond that, the premium increase will be split 50/50 between the employee and employer.

Skaret said in Article 22 of the contract regarding wages, there will be a general wage increase of 8 percent for 2024 and 4 percent for 2025 with step increases for eligible employees.

Skaret said those are the highlights of the contract between the City and Union for 2024 and 2025 that have been tentatively agreed to.

Mayor Polz asked for a motion to approve the Union Contract 2024-2025.

MIX/PELL moved and it was carried on a roll call vote to approve the Union Contract for 2024-2025 between the City and the Union.

On the roll call, voting in favor of the motion were Alderman Joe Pell, Alderwoman Sara Mix, Alderman Nathan Peterson, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderman Chris Naumann and Alderman Mark Titus.

Voting against the motion: None

MARY MUIR – WEST RIDGE DRIVE LOT

Skaret noted the issue of Mary Muir purchasing the empty lot east of her property on Westridge Drive was discussed by the City Council at their November 7th meeting. He said Muir is still interested in purchasing the lot.

Skaret said there's been a desire for the City to hold onto the property in order to have it available to run a water line to "loop" the water system in the future and possibly use the property to add another road or access point. He said right now the number one priority in maintaining that lot as City property would be to allow the City to "loop" the water main. Skaret asked Public Works Director Tony Oxborough if that was correct.

Oxborough said that was correct.

Skaret said the City Council needs to decide one way or another whether they want to sell the lot to Muir or keep it under City ownership.

FINCK/TITUS moved that the City maintain ownership of the lot.

Oxborough said Alderman Naumann asked him whether it would be possible to sell the property to Muir and still have a 30-foot easement through the property. He noted that way the property would get back on the tax rolls and the City would still have the ability to put a road in and loop the water main in the future. Oxborough said the City could still sell the lot for a \$1,000 to Muir. He said Muir would be responsible to pay the legal fees to show the property would have a City easement through it but still get the property back on the tax rolls. Oxborough said it would be long-term planning on the City's part to know that there's an easement on the property. He said that way both sides win if Muir wants to purchase the property.

Pell said he would be more in favor of Oxborough's proposal.

Naumann said he agreed. He said it would be a both sides win situation where Muir could purchase the property and the City would still have an easement for looping the water line as long as it would fit in the 30-foot easement.

Finck asked what's are the City's right-of-way for streets. He said there's no opportunity to install a road with a 30-foot easement. Finck said the City would have to maintain ownership of the property in order to install a road through the property.

Engineer Troy Nemmers of Bolton and Menk said usually a street right-of-way is 66 feet.

After looking at a map of the lot, it showed the lot was at its widest point 67 feet wide, so barely enough to install a street with a 66-foot right-of-way.

Skaret said the other option would be for the City to maintain a 15-foot or whatever easement through the property for a future water main. He said the lot is going to be very, very tight to install a possible street.

Mix said the City doesn't know what they'll need as it's still growing.

Mix said if the City has the ability to maintain the lot, she doesn't think it's prudent to sell the lot right now because the City may need it.

Finck explained what was done in Sunset View is if the lot sat for five years without being sold, it would be sold off as an individual lot. He pointed out that was done with the wedge-shaped lots on the corners of Sunset View when there had been no interest shown in the lots and there were no City issues with those unbuildable lots.

Nauman noted the lots on Westridge Drive have been for sale longer than five years.

Finck said this has been the first discussion regarding the lots along Westridge Drive. He said the EDA should make a recommendation. Finck said he would prefer the EDA make a recommendation to the City Council verses the City Council making a decision for the EDA.

Following further discussion, Naumann asked if the matter should be sent back to the EDA to get what their final suggestion would be.

Finck noted there was a motion and a second on the table and a vote needed to be called on the motion in order to clear the table.

Skaret noted the motion could also be withdrawn.

Peterson called the question.

Mayor Polz said Peterson called the question so the Council would vote on the motion which was **FINCK/TITUS moved that the City maintains ownership of the lot on Westridge Drive located east of Mary Muir's property.**

On the roll call, voting in favor of the motion was Alderwoman Sara Mix, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderman Mark Titus and Alderman Nathan Peterson.

Voting against the motion was Alderman Joe Pell and Alderman Chris Naumann.

Mayor Polz said the motion by Alderman Finck and Seconded by Alderman Titus to have the City maintain ownership of the lot on Westridge Drive located east of Mary Muir's property was approved on a four (4) to two (2) vote.

Finck suggested the matter to be sent to the EDA for a recommendation.

PELL/NAUMANN moved to have the EDA make a recommendation regarding whether the adjacent vacant lot east of Mary Muir's property on Wedgewood Drive be sold to Mary Muir.

Finck suggested Public Works Director Tony Oxborough attend the EDA meeting to offer input.

Skaret said the EDA meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12th at noon in City Hall.

On the roll call, voting in favor of the motion was Alderman Joe Pell, Alderwoman Sara Mix, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderman Chris Naumann, Alderman Mark Titus and Alderman Nathan Peterson.

Voting against the motion: None

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTING SERVICES PROPOSAL

Skaret said the City's contract with CEDA expires on December 31st, 2023. He said the City is not renewing the contract with CEDA.

Skaret said Councilmember Finck has reached out to Wendy Anderson who is an Economic Development Consultant. He said Anderson works for NEXT Development and also does consulting for other economic development entities. Skaret said Anderson is willing to come to Jackson for two days a week totaling 10 hours at a rate of \$135 an hour. He said there is a 30-day out clause for both parties.

Skaret said Anderson has a pretty extensive resume helping with economic development and working in that field.

Finck noted Anderson would also make herself available as needed by Zoom or telephone. He said there is also a 30-day notice out clause if the City gets a permanent Economic Coordinator hired.

Mayor Polz asked for a motion.

MIX/PELL moved to approve the Economic Development Consulting Services Proposal from Wendy Anderson.

On the roll call, voting in favor of the motion was Alderman Joe Pell, Alderwoman Sara Mix, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderman Chris Naumann, Alderman Mark Titus and Alderman Nathan Peterson.

Voting against the motion: None

JACKSON AMBULANCE AND ALPHA FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTRACT FOR SERVICES AGREEMENT 2024

Skaret said the City has an agreement with the Alpha Fire Department for assistance regarding the ambulance. He said the City has utilized the Alpha Ambulance at times in the past.

Skaret said the agreement the City of Jackson has with the Alpha Fire Department calls for the contract to be renewed every calendar year. He said 2023 was actually the first year of the agreement. Skaret said the Jackson Ambulance Department would like to continue having the Alpha Fire Department available. He said the recommendation is to approve the agreement for another year.

PETERSON/FINCK moved to approve the Jackson Ambulance and Alpha Fire Department Contract for Services Agreement for 2024.

On the roll call, voting in favor of the motion was Alderman Joe Pell, Alderwoman Sara Mix, Alderman Nathan Peterson, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderman Chris Naumann and Alderman Mark Titus.

Voting against the motion: None

FIRST CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 140 ESTABLISHING RATES AND FEES FOR 2024

Skaret said it's that time of year for the City to set their rates and fees for the next year. He said basically the only changes recommended this time are relating to the City's water and sewer rates taking into account the new debt the City has taken on. He noted the City will start paying the interest payments next year on the Belmont Heights project.

Skaret said the recommendation is to increase the base charge for water from \$10.95 a month to \$12.95 a month and also doing a slight ten cent increase on the usage charge from \$8.11 per thousand gallons to \$8.21 per thousand gallons.

Skaret noted the City actually hasn't raised their sewer rates since 2020. He said the Sewer Fund has been a little bit healthier than the Water Fund but the City is taking on more debt with sewer.

Skaret said to keep up with that sewer debt, the recommendation is to increase the sewer rate from \$10.25 per month to \$12.25 per month for the base fee and increasing the usage fee by ten cents from \$6.61 per thousand gallons to \$6.71 per thousand gallons.

Regarding garbage fees, Skaret explained according to the City's contract with Waste Management, garbage fees will be increasing by 3 percent. He said the 3 percent increase is stated in the contract between the City and Waste Management. Skaret said the City's contract with Waste Management goes through 2025.

Mix asked about the City's current charges for mowing a property owner's yard. She said she thinks the City Council needs to look at what the City currently charges for mowing.

Skaret noted the City currently charges \$145 dollars per time to mow a property owner's yard.

Finck said he agrees the City should not be charging for mowing below what contractors are charging. He noted the City had to mow the grass at the former Accent building this past summer. Finck said he thinks the City was charging less to mow that property than what a contractor would have charged. He agrees what the City charges for mowing that type of property should be more than what a contractor would charge.

Mix said the other item she questions in Ordinance No. 140 is the fee charged for renting the Senior Citizens building for events. She pointed out the fee is more than it is to rent the shelter house at Ashley Park. Mix said she would like to encourage the City's senior citizens to be able to afford to use the Senior Building. She said she would like to see that reduced from the current fee of \$40 per day. Mix suggested reducing the rental fee for the Senior Building down to \$25 per day.

Skaret noted the \$40 per day rental fee is for the general public to rent the Senior Building for an event such as a birthday party. He said the fee is for outside rentals and not a charge specifically to senior citizens. Skaret said people do rent the Senior Building on weekends particularly for graduation parties.

Mix asked what if a senior citizen wants to rent the Senior Building.

Skaret said the daily rental fee would be the same price of \$40 per day.

Finck suggested adding a senior rate for senior citizens who want to rent the Senior Building.

Mix suggested a fee of \$25 per day which would be similar to renting the shelter house at Ashley Park.

Pell asked if the senior rate for the Senior Building would be \$25 per day plus the \$20 deposit.

Mix said that was correct. She said the senior rate would apply to those age 55 and over who want to rent the Senior Building.

Mix said glancing at the Fee Schedule, she said the Council really needs to look at what the City is spending their time on especially if the City is enforcing ordinances. She said now is the time to look at those fees.

Finck said the City needs to charge enough from the City employee's standpoint to encourage property owners to hire contractors to do such things as mowing and not have the City do it.

Mix noted charging enough for the City to also cover their administrative fees because it's not free for the City to go and mow someone's grass. She said in those cases the City has to mow it and then has to bill the property owner.

Finck asked Skaret if Public Works Director Tony Oxborough could research the mowing fees and bring that information back to the City Council. He asked if the Council to had approve Ordinance No. 140 at the December 5th meeting.

Skaret said this was just First Consideration of Ordinance No. 140. He said Second Consideration of Ordinance No. 140 will be held at the Council's December 19th meeting.

Skaret asked Oxborough how much time it took to mow the former Accent building.

Oxborough said the first time he mowed it he used the City's big blue tractor in which the charge is \$150 per hour. He said it took two hours to mow. Oxborough pointed out that the charge for residential property is \$145 per hour which the City will make money on. He said this year was the first time mowing a commercial account and suggested having a separate rate for commercial property if the City needs to mow it.

Skaret said he would recommend having a \$145 minimum charge which is up to one hour and then anything after that is an extra \$145 an hour.

Finck noted he doesn't want the City competing with the local service providers that do that kind of work. He said right now he's guessing the City is a lot cheaper in mowing the former Accent building property than what a private service provider would charge. Finck said he would like to know what a private contractor would bid to mow the former Accent property and the City should be a \$100 above that. He said he doesn't want the mowing at the former Accent location to be the City's problem.

Mix said the City's charge should also be higher than what the local contractors would charge to mow residential properties. She said she doesn't want the City to be in the mowing business but wants to make sure the City is compensated for their time if they have to mow a property owner's yard. Mix said maybe there needs a repeat offender fee for mowing.

Oxborough said he would collect information regarding charges for the City to mow and provide that information to the City Council for their next meeting.

Titus asked about the animal impoundment fee. He noted the City doesn't have a pound.

Skaret said right now the charge is not being imposed because the City currently doesn't have a place to store the animals.

Mix noted when the City does have a place to take animals, \$12 is not going to cut it.

MIX/NAUMANN moved to approve First Consideration of Ordinance No. 140 with modifications to be made regarding having a senior citizen rate for those 55 and over who want to rent the Senior Building for an event and getting more information regarding City charges for mowing private residential and commercial properties.

On the roll call, voting in favor of the motion was Alderman Joe Pell, Alderwoman Sara Mix, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderman Chris Naumann, Alderman Mark Titus and Alderman Nathan Peterson.

Voting against the motion: None

GRANT EIGHT (8) HOURS OF PAID TIME OFF FOR ALL FULL-TIME CITY EMPLOYEES ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023 IN AN EFFORT TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE CITY IN 2023

Mayor Polz said since 2011, the City Council has granted eight hours of paid time off for all full-time City employees in an effort to express appreciation to employees for their service to the City for the past year.

Mayor Polz noted normally that eight hours has fallen on Christmas Eve Day, but this year December 24th falls on a Sunday. He asked Councilmembers if this is something they would like to do moving forward or how would the Council want to address it.

Peterson suggested granting eight hours of paid time off for all full-time City employees on Tuesday, December 26th. He noted that way people have time to travel the day after Christmas.

Skaret said either Friday, December 22nd or Tuesday, December 26th can be used if the Council wishes to grant the eight hours. He explained the last time the calendar fell like it does this year was back in 2017 and the eight hours of paid time off was observed on December 22nd. Skaret said he doesn't think there would be any objection to observe it on December 26th.

Mix said this matter needs to go back to the Personnel Committee. She said the City set their holidays and negotiated with the Union. Mix said we tell our employees in advance what our holidays are. She said if this is going to be a holiday, it needs to be on the calendar. Mix said the Personnel Committee needs to look at it. She said the City is in the business of being a business. Mix said the City needs to be open for our citizens. She said she thinks the City's employees do a great job. Mix said it's not that she doesn't want to do an appreciation to them but December 22nd is a business day and the City needs to be open for our residents. She said she thinks the Personnel Committee needs to look at this.

Pell said he respectfully disagreed with Mix. He said the eight hours of paid time off for all full-time City employees should be on December 26th. Pell noted people who may travel out of town. He said people get up Christmas morning, and depending on the distance they have to travel on Christmas Day, they could instead spend that time with family and use December 26th as a travel day.

Mayor Polz said going forward, maybe this is something that's approved in the beginning of the year so the calendar is set a year in advance or becomes a permanent holiday on the calendar that the Union would negotiate or something of that nature.

Finck said it's been made clear in the past that this is not a holiday. He noted when the eight hours of paid time off for all full-time City employees was implemented it was not for a travel day but so employees could take Christmas Eve Day off because of church services that afternoon and those kinds of things. He said that was the thought process. Finck said it wasn't probably the most thought-out when the Christmas holiday falls on the weekend. He said he thinks that's the challenge because now a four-day weekend is being created when Christmas Eve is on a Sunday, the day the eight hours of paid time off was intended for to reward the employees. Finck said now a four-day weekend is being created on what should really be a three-day weekend. He said he thinks the City Council wants to be clear that this is determined annually. Finck said this isn't a holiday. He said the City Council has negotiated the Union Contract that they approved. Finck said the City Council every year needs to look at this and decide whether it makes sense or not. Finck said he agrees with Mix that the City is a business. He asked if the City Liquor Store would be open or not open. Finck said if the Liquor Store was closed for four days, that would be a challenge to him.

Skaret said the Liquor Store will be open.

Finck said he wanted to be clear that the City values its employees. He said the City's employees to a great job.

Mix noted as she said earlier, she thinks the City's employees do a great job and that's not the point, but the City needs to set a calendar and stick to it and not do add-ons.

Mayor Polz asked Councilmembers what they would like to do for this year and what they would like to do going forward.

PELL/NAUMANN moved to grant eight (8) hours of paid time off for all full-time City employees on Tuesday, December 26, 2023 in an effort to express appreciation to employees for their service to the City in 2023 and in January 2024, take a look at the calendar and see what the City Council would like to do regarding paid time off surrounding the Christmas holiday.

On the roll call, voting in favor of the motion was Alderman Joe Pell, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderman Chris Naumann, Alderman Mark Titus and Alderman Nathan Peterson.

Voting against the motion was Alderwoman Sara Mix.

Finck said the Personnel Committee would be reviewing the 2024 calendar in January regarding paid time off surrounding the Christmas holiday and making a recommendation to the City Council.

Other:

Alderwoman Sara Mix

Mix asked if there was any update regarding the former Coast to Coast building.

City Attorney Brad Anderson said he received a phone call from building owner Mitch Jasper's attorney and it sounds like there's more than one issue Jasper has with the City right now. Attorney Anderson said he spoke with Mayor Polz about the issues and they're going to see if they can get the issues worked out with Jasper's attorney. He said Jasper has an issue with alley on how it was constructed and the fireworks that were shot off the dike for Holiday Fest because Jasper said he owns the dike.

Finck suggested the City ask Jasper for the \$500 back because Jasper did not honor the option of the contract.

Mix said she would like the City to rescind their option to purchase the former Coast to Coast building from Jasper. She said six months waiting for Jasper to sign papers for the sale of the building to the City is ridiculous. Mix said Jasper then needs to fix his own building. She said the City has offered Jasper a viable option for six months and the City needs to rescind their offer.

Naumann also asked about charging interest on the City's money during that six months plus the amount of money that was spent to get an environmental and structural assessment of the building on the faith that Jasper would sign the papers to sell the building to the City.

Skaret said the City spent a lot of money to get an assessment done of the building.

Attorney Anderson said if the City has to enforce the City's ordinances considering it's a hazardous building, the cost to remove the building would be a lien upon the property.

Mayor Polz suggested allowing the attorneys to talk to each other and see what happens. He said depending on how those talks go, the City Council could take action after those talks.

Mix said in January the City Council needs to make a decision.

Finck said Attorney Anderson has direction from the City Council.

Titus said there needs to be some resolution sooner rather than later.

Alderman Nathan Peterson

Alderman Peterson just reminded Mayor Polz and Councilmembers about the Fire Departments chili and oyster feed coming up on January 8th.

Alderman Chris Naumann

Alderman Chris Naumann asked if there's another Pool Task Force meeting coming up to continue the process of where things are heading regarding the pool.

Skaret said a Pool Task Force meeting will be held on Thursday, December 21st.

Alderman Mark Titus

Alderman Mark Titus asked if there was any update regarding the former Prairie Winds Motel building.

City Attorney Brad Anderson said he received an email regarding an updated order from the Court of Appeals based upon the letter that the City previously submitted. He said dates were scheduled. Attorney Anderson said by December 28th, the appellate, which is the owner of the Prairie Winds property, has to get their brief into the Court and also proof of service of everything. He explained the City has the 30 days following the actual service of that brief. Attorney Anderson said it's anticipated if the owner of the Prairie Winds property doesn't get the brief submitted in a timely fashion, it's likely the Court will dismiss the Prairie Winds owner's appeal. Attorney Anderson said to his knowledge, the owner of the Prairie Winds property has not filed the \$25,000 bond in the Jackson civil case. He noted that 30-day period is not up yet.

Pell asked if the Prairie Winds owner doesn't get a brief submitted to the Court of Appeals by December 28th, will the Court dismiss the case and can the City then proceed with abating the building?

Attorney Anderson said that would be correct.

City Administrator Matt Skaret

City Administrator Matt Skaret reminded everyone that a Strategic Planning Session would be held Wednesday evening, December 6th at 5:30 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mayor Polz entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

TITUS/PELL moved to adjourn the Jackson City Council meeting at 7:23 p.m.

On the roll call, voting in favor of the motion was Alderman Joe Pell, Alderwoman Sara Mix, Alderman Brandon Finck, Alderman Chris Naumann, Alderman Mark Titus and Alderman Nathan Peterson.

Voting against the motion: None

David A. Maschoff, Council Secretary

Marcus Polz, Mayor

