

July 11, 2023
Special Joint Jackson City Council and EDA meeting
Jackson, Minnesota

The Jackson City Council met in Special Session with the Jackson Economic Development Authority (EDA) on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 12 noon at the Jackson City Hall with the meeting called to order by Mayor Marcus Polz. On the roll call of Councilmembers, 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 was EDA Chairman Rocky Sieler, Vice-Chairman Tim Olson, EDA Secretary/Treasurer Arlene Vee and EDA members Kent Bargfrede, Mike Brinkman, Mayor Marcus Polz and Brandon Finck. (Mayor Marcus Polz and Alderman Brandon Finck are also members of the Jackson EDA). Also present were City Administrator Matt Skaret, City Attorney Brad Anderson, Community and Business Development Specialist Dave Schmidt of Community and Economic Development Associates (CEDA) and City Clerk/Council Secretary Dave Maschoff. (Alderman Nathan Peterson was absent.) (A quorum of the City Council was present.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Polz announced the Pledge of Allegiance would be recited before the Special Joint City Council and Jackson Economic Development Authority meeting was called to order. All those attending the meeting recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Polz called the Special Joint Meeting of the Jackson City Council and Jackson Economic Development Authority (EDA) to order. He said the roll call showed all Councilmembers were present except for Alderman Nathan Peterson.

Council Discussion Items

MEET WITH EDA MEMBERS AND VIEW AND DISCUSS LOTS IN SUNSET VIEW AND NORTHRIDGE AND WESTRIDGE ADDITIONS FOR PROPOSED FUTURE HOUSING PROJECTS BY UCAP (UNITED COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP)

City Administrator Matt Skaret noted the UCAP bus had arrived to take City Council and EDA members to view the lots in Sunset View and also the Northridge/Westridge Addition.

Mayor Polz, Councilmembers, EDA members and those present at the meeting boarded the UCAP bus at City Hall.

Mayor Polz informed UCAP bus driver Mike Boyer that the group would first be travelling to Pond Drive in the Sunset View Addition.

At Pond Drive those attending the meeting viewed the two UCAP houses that are just starting to be built. Economic Coordinator Dave Schmidt pointed out and described the proposed lots set aside on Pond Drive to be used for UCAP houses.

Councilmembers and EDA members viewed and discussed the size of the lots that could be used for the UCAP Housing Program.

Following viewing and discussing the lots on Pond Drive in the Sunset View Addition, everyone attending the meeting then travelled by the UCAP bus or private vehicle to the Northridge/Westridge Addition.

Before the group left the Sunset View Addition, City Clerk Maschoff said he had received a call from contractor Jon Thaemlitz requesting permission to store trusses on a nearby empty lot until cement work can be completed on the UCAP house he is building. Maschoff noted Thaemlitz said the trusses would be stored on the empty lot for about a week.

FINCK/PELL moved and it was unanimously carried to allow contractors Jon Thaemlitz and Andy Welp to temporarily store trusses on a nearby empty lot to accommodate construction of the UCAP houses on Pond Drive.

Those attending the meeting then boarded the UCAP bus to travel to the Northridge/Westridge Addition.

At the Northridge/Westridge Addition, Councilmembers and EDA members viewed the three lots still available for sale.

Schmidt noted UCAP has indicated they are fine with using the lots either at the Northridge/Westridge Addition or the lots on Pond Drive.

Those attending discussed the size of the lots still available at the Northridge/Westridge Addition and how the size of the available lots would accommodate the construction of new homes. It was also suggested that two of the three empty lots could be offered for sale to the current adjacent property owners. It was pointed out two of the lots could be split and offered to be sold to the current adjacent property owners. If one property owner was not interested, the other property owner could purchase the entire lot adjacent to their home for \$1,000. It was noted that increasing the lot sizes would enhance the value of the homes of the adjacent homeowners and get the property on the tax roles which would benefit the City.

Those attending agreed two other lots that are side by side on Westridge Drive together would be a nice size lot that would accommodate a larger home.

Regarding two of the lots, Schmidt suggested contacting adjacent property owners to see if they would have any interest in buying half or the entire lot that's adjacent to their property. He said then there would be one lot available for the construction of a house on Westridge Drive and the other UCAP houses scheduled for 2024 could be built in the Sunset View Addition. Schmidt said the Economic Development Office can contact the adjacent property owners to see if they're interested in purchasing the lot adjacent to them. He said that information could then be brought to the City Council at their regular meeting on July 18th and a decision could be made on which lots will be used in 2024 for the UCAP Housing Project.

Regarding two of the three lots on Westridge Drive, Pell suggested reaching out to the adjacent property owners to see if they would be interested in purchasing part or all of the lot next to their home. He said he would also like the EDA members to attend the July 18th Council meeting so the Councilmembers and EDA members can discuss further what they want to do. Pell said he doesn't want to have another situation where the City Council makes a decision and the EDA members are not present.

Mayor Polz asked for a motion pertaining to asking the adjacent property owners on Westridge Drive if they would be interested in purchasing half or the entire lot next to them.

PELL/TITUS moved and it was unanimously carried for the Economic Development Office to contact all four property owners adjacent to two empty lots on Westridge Drive to determine if the adjacent property owners would be interested in purchasing half or the entire lot next to them for \$1,000 and that the City Council don't make a decision at this time on where the UCAP housing for next year will be located.

Finck said if the adjacent property owners on each side of a lot wanted to split the lot, the cost to each of them would be \$500.

Schmidt said he will reach out to all four adjacent property owners to the two lots and have information available at the next City Council meeting.

Mayor Polz said once the information is gathered, there will be a deeper conversation at the July 18th Council meeting.

Skaret informed the EDA members that the City Council's next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, July 18th at 6:30 p.m.

Pell told the EDA members he appreciates everything they do for the City Council and the City.

ADJOURNMENT

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

PELL/NAUMANN moved and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the Special Joint meeting of the Jackson City Council and Jackson Economic Development Authority (EDA) at 1:10 p.m.

Mayor Polz thanked everyone.

Skaret thanked everyone for attending.

David A. Maschoff, Council Secretary

Marcus Polz, Mayor

