

**June 21, 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, June 21, 2022 with the meeting called to order by Mayor Wayne Walter. On the roll call, the following persons were present in-person, Mayor Wayne Walter and Aldermen Michael More, Jerome Palmer, Nathan Peterson, Marcus Polz and Dave Cushman. Also attending in-person were City Administrator Matt Skaret, City Attorney Brad Anderson, Street Superintendent Phil Markman, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Tony Oxborough, Jackson Fire Chief Dave Bond, Jackson First Assistant Fire Chief and Park Board Chairman Michael Haeffner, Engineer Greg Mitchell of Bolton and Menk, Bridget Kolander-Gilbert, Lee Porter, Joe Pell, City Clerk/Council Secretary Dave Maschoff, Pastor Eunice Woodberry of Salem Lutheran Church and Belmont Lutheran Church, Josh Schuetz of the Jackson County Pilot and Mathew Grisham of KKOJ/KUXX Radio. (Alderman Brandon Finck was absent.) (A quorum of the City Council was present.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Walter announced the Pledge of Allegiance would be recited before the City Council meeting was called to order. All those attending the meeting recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Walter called the regular meeting of the Jackson City Council to order. He said the roll call showed Aldermen Brandon Finck and Michael More were absent.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Walter entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

PETERSON/POLZ moved and it was unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Council Discussion Items

Unscheduled Guests:

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

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

Seeing none, Mayor Walter said the meeting would proceed with Council Discussion Items.

BRIDGET KOLANDER-GILBERT: APPROVE TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE RHYTHM OF THE RIVER ORGANIZATION FOR THE RHYTHM OF THE RIVER EVENT AT FORT BELMONT ON FRIDAY, JULY 8TH FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M. AND ON SATURDAY, JULY 9TH, 2022 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 12:00 A.M.

Bridget Kolander-Gilbert said she was seeking permission from the City Council for the Rhythm of the River Organization to serve alcohol on Friday, July 8th and Saturday, July 9th at Fort Belmont. She said the times of serving would be on Friday from 4 p.m. to 12 a.m. and on Saturday from 12 p.m. to 12 a.m.

Kolander-Gilbert said in the past it was a question of where at Fort Belmont the serving of alcohol would take place. She noted the serving of alcohol would be taking place on the property at Fort Belmont that lies within the City Limits. Kolander-Gilbert said that hasn't posed a problem in the past. She explained a barricade would be set up on the City side and the customers would actually be outside the City Limits on the County side at Fort Belmont.

CUSHMAN/PETERSON moved and it was unanimously carried to approve the Temporary Liquor License for the Rhythm of the River Organization for the Rhythm of the River Event at Fort Belmont on Friday, July 8th from 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. and on Saturday, July 9th, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Kolander-Gilbert thanked Mayor Walter and Councilmembers.

2022 STREET AND UTILITIES PROJECT BIDS

Engineer Greg Mitchell of Bolton and Menk said bids were opened on Friday, June 17th for the 2022 Street and Utilities Improvement Projects.

Mitchell said there were two bidders which were Duininck, Incorporated and R & R Excavating.

Mitchell said Duininck's bid for "Schedule A" was \$2,220,970.89. He said the engineer's estimate for that same portion was \$1,794,744.00. Mitchell said "Schedule A" includes Riverside Drive and Emily Street and "Schedule B" is work on River Street. He explained the work on River Street is just replacing utilities that will be done in conjunction with the County's project. Mitchell said "Schedule B" will be done in 2023. He said "Schedule A" would be constructed in 2022. Mitchell noted "Schedule A" also includes the pavement replacement on Westridge and Northridge Drives.

Mitchell said with "Schedule B", Duininck's bid was \$557,578.17. He said the engineer's estimate for "Schedule B" was \$451,590.00.

Mitchell said with everything combined, the bid is just under 24 percent over the engineer's estimate. He said he hasn't gone through the bid in detail regarding each of the items, but he knows a little bit more is being paid for bituminous prices, about \$130 a ton. Mitchell noted bituminous was \$100 a ton for the 2020 and 2021 Street Project, so bituminous has gone up. He said in speaking with Duininck's, other items have also gone up in price. Mitchell said he was told castings have gone up dramatically since the City's last project.

Mitchell explained his engineer's estimate was based on the most current information that they have. He said he didn't go back and update that for some of the more recent things that have been seen with inflation, the price of fuel and those types of things.

In looking at the 23.7 percent difference between the engineer's estimate and Duininck's bid, Mitchell said Duininck's might be a little on the high side, but his engineer's estimate might be a little on the low side. Mitchell said he could maybe update that to reflect some of the current conditions and narrow that up. But at the end of the day, Mitchell said the City has received two bids that are fairly close together. He noted there's only about \$46,000 difference on Schedule A between Duininck's and R & R Excavating. Mitchell said those two numbers are pretty tight. He said it's not that there's any kind of issues with any of the unit prices.

With that, Mitchell said it's a little bit more expensive than what we want it to be, but with the current bidding market, it doesn't surprise him either.

Polz said the amount of the bids is a little surprising, but not shocking. He noted the increase in interest rates and inflation. Polz said the options are to go with the current low bid, or kick it down the road and hope that the project will be cheaper next year which he can't envision that will be the case.

Mitchell said material prices probably aren't going to go down and unless fuel prices go down, there isn't going to be a big change seen there either.

Polz said he doesn't imagine the City's bond rates will go down.

Cushman noted for the past eight years plus, the City Council has talked about reconstructing Emily Street. He said every time they've talked about it, every year the price has gone up. Cushman said Emily Street has been on the City's radar for some time now. He said when you put it into perspective, 23 percent doesn't sound like much, but when you start talking a half-million dollars, that's a little different scenario.

Cushman asked Skaret how does the City go about with the financial package and how does that figure into the City's formula. He also asked what does it do to the City going forward after these 2022 Street and Utility projects are completed.

Skaret said he's been working with the City's Financial Advisor, Shannon Sweeney. Skaret referred to information from Sweeney that was distributed to Mayor Walter and Councilmembers. He pointed out the information regarding what a 20-year bond payment schedule would look like and the uses of those funds.

Skaret explained adding "Schedule A" and "Schedule B" together, plus the cost of engineering, other soft costs and contingencies, the total project cost would be just under \$3.5 million. He said adding in the cost of bonding brings the total up to \$3.629 million.

Skaret pointed out the sources of funds for the projects. He said for the River Street Project, the City is using their ARPA Funds which is part of the Covid Relief funding along with about \$300,000 that the City is going to bond for the rest of River Street. Skaret noted the ARPA Funds take care of over half. He said then the City is contributing an additional \$330,000 in cash out of the City's Capital Reserve Fund. Skaret explained the City has been doing a Street Reconstruction Levy the last several years which has generated \$100,000 a year that's gone into that fund. He said that will cover the cost of Northridge and Westridge Drives because those projects had not been determined when the City Council approved the City's Street Reconstruction Plan that had to be approved this past winter. Skaret explained the Street Reconstruction is the bonding authority that the City borrows under so the City has to have a Street Reconstruction Plan. He said the City has money in reserves to pay for those costs straight up for the paving of Northridge and Westridge Drives.

Skaret referred to the payment schedule and the pledged revenues in the information distributed to the Mayor and Councilmembers. He noted there would be a 20-year bond with payments that would start in 2023. Skaret said to keep in mind that the City had a TIF District that went off the books at the end of 2021 which is opening up about \$128,000 in tax capacity. He said the City's tax rate is about 66 percent. Skaret said in doing the math, the City can levy about \$85,000 without raising the overall tax rate because the pie just got bigger because that TIF District just came off the books at the end of 2021 and it was paid off.

Skaret explained doing this project is not going to change the tax levy all that much. He noted the City doesn't currently have a Storm Sewer Utility so the City would probably pay the storm sewer work out of sanitary sewer revenues or tax levy.

For water improvements, Skaret said there will be about \$50,000 in added bond payments to the Water Fund. He pointed out there's some debt coming off the Water Fund in about 2026 or so. Skaret said between now and then, it would cost a little over three dollars a month for the average household for this project. For Sanitary Sewer, Skaret said you would be looking at probably an extra five to six dollars a month.

Skaret said the City is doing a lot of underground utility work. He explained there's underground utility work with Emily Street, Riverside Drive and River Street. Skaret said the City has been able to keep the tax levy fairly consistent in terms of tax rate and the effect on the property owners with these projects.

Cushman noted the tax levy is fairly consistent with these projects, but any additional things the City chooses to do throughout the course of the year changes that levy.

Skaret concurred that additional projects can change the tax levy. He said plans are to also wrap the Water Plant Media Filtration Project into the street and utility project bonding as well. Skaret noted the Media Filtration Project is not shown in the cost figures in the information before the Mayor and Council at the June 21st meeting. He said the Media Filtration Project is currently in the design phase and will be bid this fall. Skaret said the estimated cost for the Media Filtration Project would be wrapped into the bond for the street and utility project and if there was any overage, money could be borrowed from another City fund.

Palmer said he understands what Polz and Cushman are saying regarding inflation. But he said he doesn't think the cost for the project will go up that much more. Palmer suggested the contractors' schedules may be kind of full for the season and may have thought if they were awarded the bid, they would put some extra cost into the bid. He said he would like to see this year's Street and Utility Project postponed until next year. Palmer asked Mitchell if he had any feelings about that. He noted Mitchell said the bids are a little over the engineer's estimate, but 23 percent is not a little, it's a lot.

Mitchell said he could go back and look at his estimate. Mitchell explained when he puts an estimate together, he uses the most current bidding information that Bolton and Menk has, which for the most part, is from last year. He said Bolton and Menk has some newer information from this year and they tend to adjust those numbers a little bit. Mitchell said his estimate number is more of a benchmark in what's been seen and coming into actual numbers is showing which way the market is going. He said at this time the market is going up.

Mitchell said next year material prices or costs probably aren't going to go down. He said he's not sure how much fuel costs play into this, but just inflation in general, interest and things like that, everything's higher. Mitchell said if the bids were 10 percent higher, he would say that's typically what they see. He said 15 percent would be getting a little up there, but he's thinking the 23 percent higher is because of the current bidding conditions, or the markets, or just that things are unstable. Mitchell said the City could wait and rebid the project next year, but you also stand the chance of getting a bid that's even higher than what it is right now. He said that's the uncertain part.

Polz said that's his position. He said he's concerned about a bid that's going to be higher along with the interest rates. He noted the interest rates went up three-quarters of a percent in one quarter. Polz said you extrapolate that out to a year and put it on an amortization schedule at an additional two percent over the course of 20 years and the City may see significantly more than that \$400,000 increase. He said he doesn't know what it would look like to amortize it out, but it could be significant, a couple interest points.

Skaret said it is significant the jump that's been seen since the last bond that the City did. He noted the City had a bond interest rate of under two percent for the North Highway and South Street projects. Skaret said the interest rate was about 1.5 percent. He said now the interest rate is almost at four percent and who knows what interest rates will be.

Mitchell asked if the Downtown Alley Project could be discussed.

Skaret said that would be fine.

Mitchell said on Monday, June 20th, bids were opened for the Downtown Alley Project. He said while the bids for the street project came in high, the low bid for the alley project came in below the engineer's estimate. Mitchell said that's part of his reasoning that you can't always guess at how the bids are going to come in.

Mitchell said bids were opened for the Downtown Alley Improvement Project. He said three bids were submitted. He noted Jensen Excavating and Trucking, LLC of Albert Lea, Minnesota submitted a base bid of \$692,633.25. He noted the engineer's estimate was \$743,700.00. Mitchell said Jensen Excavating and Trucking's bid came in under the estimate for the Downtown Alley Project. Mitchell said Jensen Excavating and Trucking's alternate bid, which is for the recreational concrete pad that is going to go in Memorial Park, was \$146,652.00. He said the engineer's estimate for the alternate bid was \$199,980.00. Mitchell pointed out the base bid is about seven percent under and the alternate bid is about 27 percent under the engineer's estimate. Mitchell said everything combined, it about 11 percent under the estimate.

Mitchell said he has never worked with Jensen Excavating and Trucking before. He said he talked with them on June 20th and asked them a few questions. Mitchell said Jensen Excavating and Trucking is a smaller contractor based out of Albert Lea and does a lot of work in the Albert Lea, Austin and Owatonna areas and has done some ditch work in Iowa. He said Jensen Excavating and Trucking has two crews with one crew doing the grading and the other crew doing underground work. However, Mitchell said both crews are set up to do grading or underground work if two crews are needed.

Mitchell said Jensen Excavating and Trucking has been involved as a subcontractor. He said Jensen's have worked on projects in the Wells, Minnesota area so people in the office at Bolton and Menk have worked with them before, but only as a subcontractor. Mitchell said Jensen Excavating and Trucking has been in business since the early 70's. He said the person he's been talking with at Jensen's has been involved with the company since 1999, so approximately 22 years.

Mitchell said maybe the key point is the subcontractor that Jensen Excavating and Trucking is using for the concrete for the Downtown Alley Improvement Project. He explained the prime contractor in this case would do the pavement removals, the sanitary sewer and the water main, grading and haul in the aggregate base. Mitchell said Jensen's are using Nielsen Blacktopping and Concrete from Mankato as their subcontractor. He said the actual work of the concrete and bituminous paving and patching is still going to be done by a company Bolton and Menk is familiar with. Mitchell noted Nielsen's was involved in the manhole rehab project in Jackson about 12 years ago.

Mitchell said contractor-wise, he's comfortable with Jensen Excavating and Trucking and subcontractor Nielsen Blacktopping and Concrete.

Mitchell said what he wanted to point out is the fact that here is a contractor that faces the same issues with inflation and fuel prices but his bid came in 11 percent under the engineer's estimate. Mitchell said the officials with Jensen's told him they are looking for work to fill out their schedule. He noted the official with Jensen's said he has two crews and at the end of the season he won't have anything for them to do. Mitchell said the official from Jensen's didn't mark up any of his subcontractor items and he kept everything as lean as possible.

Cushman said in looking at the bids for the street project, both the bids are relatively close. He said when looking at the three bids for the alley work, that's quite a separation. Cushman said that's what scares him about a low bid, did we miss something?

Mitchell said he asked the official at Jensen's about that specifically. Mitchell said he attributes Jensen's lower bid to the fact that he's a smaller contractor and they are looking for work to keep their employees busy. Mitchell said back in 2007 and 2008, bids for projects were coming in under the engineer's estimate because that was a time when contractors were bidding projects just to get work and keep their doors open.

Cushman said he was surprised that Duininck, as good as they are and, in such demand, that they would have time to even consider this project at the end of June.

Mitchell said he didn't talk with Duininck's about their schedule or how full they were. He noted the work in Jackson is not a huge job. Mitchell said Riverside Drive and Emily Street that's going to be done this year is a fairly small job. He said as far as the underground work, it's not going to take them too long to get that done.

(Alderman Michael More arrives)

Mitchell said he wanted to mention supply chain problems may affect both of the projects this year in Jackson. He said the biggest issue that contractors have been having is getting precast concrete structures, precast storm sewer pipe, manholes and catch basins. In fact, Mitchell noted a project in Sherburn that's not going to start until September because that's as soon as they can get their structures.

Mitchell said Duininck's would still be able to get the structures for the projects in Jackson on time if the City Council took action on moving forward with the street and utility projects relatively soon. He said both the Downtown and Street Projects in Jackson would probably happen in late August or September.

Mitchell noted Duininck's has worked in Jackson before.

Skaret said Duininck's was the contractor for the work on North Highway and South Street.

Mitchell said Duininck's underground crews work well with the City's residents.

Cushman said the one thing that was heard during the whole project of North Highway and South Street is Duininck's kept the entire neighborhood informed about when they were going to do something and then they did it. He said that was huge.

Cushman said he doesn't have a problem with Duininck's.

Cushman said he concerned about the price and he hears what Palmer is saying, but he's afraid the price just goes up the following year. He noted the work on Emily Street has been put off forever.

Palmer pointed out the bids for the Street and Utility Project are way over the engineer's estimate and the bid for the Downtown Alley Project is 11 percent under the engineer's estimate. He said something's going on here where the contractor's schedule is full and they don't need the business that bad and Jensen's is looking for business. Palmer said he still suggests waiting a year. He asked how bad does this project need to be done even if the City waited two years to do it. Palmer noted interest rates are going up, but he thinks everything else is going to come down in price. He said that's his feeling.

Polz said he's looked at some streets and driven them and there's large holes that need to be patched up. He said he looks at the cost of what it costs just to get by another year. Polz said he's sticking with his motion, but he sees where Palmer is coming from.

Cushman said the Street Department identified over \$20 million in street repairs two years ago. He said his fear is if the City waits a year or two, we're just that much farther behind in deterioration of the streets. Cushman said his fear is if the City doesn't do something, the City is going to be forced to do something real soon. He said he gets it, it's a tough deal. Cushman said he doesn't know what's right.

Palmer said it depends. He said if the City goes through with the Street and Utility Project, we'll know next year if we were right or wrong.

Mayor Walter asked if any of the Councilmembers wanted to make a motion.

POLZ/PETERSON moved and it was carried on a 4 to 1 vote to accept the low "Schedule A" bid of \$2,220,970.89 and the low "Schedule B" bid of \$557,578.17 from Duininck, Incorporated for the 2022 Street and Utility Improvement Project.

Voting in favor of the motion were Aldermen Michael More, Nathan Peterson, Marcus Polz and Dave Cushman.

Voting against the motion was Alderman Jerome Palmer.

DOWNTOWN ALLEY AND UTILITIES IMPROVEMENT BIDS

Mayor Walter noted the Downtown Alley and Utilities Improvements were discussed earlier in the meeting. He asked if any of the Councilmembers had any further questions for Engineer Greg Mitchell.

Cushman said he's concerned about Jensen Excavating and Trucking. He noted the big discrepancy between Jensen's bid the other two bids that were submitted. Cushman said what he's seen over his years of doing this is when there's that big of a difference there's a problem looming and that scares him. He said he's had a really long time to think about this project and he's not so sure that it's even the best way to go about it. Cushman said he doesn't know what the right answer is. He said when a contractor's bid is not quite over half of what the other bids are, he doesn't care how hard you want or need work, there shouldn't be that big of a difference, in his opinion, for something that seems pretty serious. Cushman said once that concrete is down, the City is stuck with it with a lot of utilities in a small area. He said it's got to be done right and if it's not done right, the City has a mess for as long as that concrete's there. Cushman noted he doesn't like the other bids either. He said he's being fair all across the board.

Mitchell noted in this case, Jensen Excavating would be doing the pavement removals, grading, aggregate base, and the placement of aggregate base and also the watermain replacement and sanitary sewer replacement in two of the blocks. Mitchell said then after that, it's going to be Nielsen Contracting that will be doing all the concrete work.

Mitchell said Nielsen Contracting is the company that he was hoping would take a hard look at the Downtown Alley Project and they did, but as a subcontractor instead of the main contractor.

Cushman asked why Nielsen Contracting would just be a subcontractor instead of being the main contractor. He said that seems kind of odd to him. Cushman said the company that was hoped to be the main contractor will come in as a subcontractor under the umbrella of another contractor.

Mitchell explained as a subcontractor, Nielsen Contracting doesn't have to manage the overall contract. He said when their portion of the project is ready for them, Nielsen Contracting can come in, do their work, get done, and get out. He said the subcontractor doesn't have to mess around with any of the other details that the prime contractor has to.

Palmer noted about getting the job done right. He said that's why the City has an engineering company hired to make sure the job is done right.

Mitchell said that's correct.

Mitchell noted Jensen Excavating has been involved as a subcontractor on a project in Wells, Minnesota and Jensen Excavating has worked with Bolton and Menk's Iowa offices on some ditch projects.

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Tony Oxborough noted that the City can request references from Jensen Excavating.

Cushman said let's be clear about that, Jensen Excavating will be responsible for the project as the main contractor, the subcontractor isn't.

Mitchell said the prime contractor is responsible for the project.

Polz said he's basing accepting the bid from Jensen Excavating and Trucking on the good reputation of Engineer Greg Mitchell of Bolton and Menk.

Mayor Walter asked for a motion.

PALMER/POLZ moved and it was carried on a 4 to 1 vote to accept the low base bid of \$692,633.25 and the Alternate Bid of \$146,652.00 for the concrete pad in Memorial Park from Jensen Excavating and Trucking, LLC of Albert Lea, Minnesota.

Voting in favor of the motion were Aldermen Michael More, Jerome Palmer, Nathan Peterson and Marcus Polz.

Voting against the motion was Alderman Dave Cushman.

2020-2021 STREET AND UTILITIES IMPROVEMENT PAY APPLICATION NO. 11

Engineer Greg Mitchell explained Pay Application No. 11 is for the 2020 and 2021 Street Project. He said Duininck's has been doing final punch-list items for the past couple of months such as raising castings, applying the final wear course along with some work at the Water Plant's parking lot and Frost Avenue alley.

Mitchell said there are some punch list items still to go through. He said Pay Application No. 11 is not a final payment but the quantities that have been completed should be pretty close to being final.

Mitchell said Pay Application No. 11 is in the amount of \$365,589.70. He said he wanted to point out that as it looks right now, the 2020-2021 Street and Utilities Improvement project will be \$569,000 under the original contract price. Mitchell said the big reason for that is a lot of the soil conditions encountered on North Highway and South Street were better than what was expected so not as much aggregate base needed to be used. He said a significant amount of aggregate was able to be reclaimed and reused on the project so that saved money. Mitchell said money was saved on excavation and aggregates along with some other items.

Skaret said the money saved in the project fund cannot be used for another project but can be used to pay down the existing debt service on that bond which takes some pressure off the levy and utility rates to offset some of the overages on other projects such as Emily Street and Riverside Drive.

PETERSON/PALMER moved and it was unanimously carried to approve 2020-2021 Street and Utilities Improvement Pay Application No. 11 to Duininck's Incorporated.

SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT PAY APPLICATION NO. 16

Mitchell said this will be the 16th and final Pay Application for the Sanitary Sewer Extension Project. He said the total amount is \$103,756.62. Mitchell said of that amount, about \$47,000 was retainage. He noted there's about \$50,000 of just work that was done between the paving, final measurements and just working out quantities with the contractor.

CUSHMAN/PETERSON moved and it was unanimously carried to approve Sanitary Sewer Extension Project Pay Application No. 16 in the amount of \$103,756.62.

APPROVE 2022 SEAL COATING BID

Skaret said two bids were received for the 2022 seal coating project. He said the seal coating will involve all of the downtown streets that Bargaen, Incorporated had done the mastic crack filling on earlier this spring. He said the seal coating will also include the Liquor Store parking lot. Skaret said it's been estimated that the mastic seal and the seal coating will provide another 7 to 10 years of life to the downtown streets.

Skaret said MR paving of New Ulm submitted a total bid of \$81,371.10 (Liquor Store-\$8,526) and Pearson Brothers of Hanover, Minnesota submitted a total bid of \$91,412.60 (Liquor Store-\$9,578),

Skaret said this is more than what was budgeted for sealcoating. He said \$45,000 was budgeted for seal coating out of the City's General Fund. Skaret said there's about \$42,000 in seal coating money that was left over from years ago in the City's Capital Reserve Fund that can be used to cover the overages. He said the cost for the seal coating of the Liquor Store parking lot will come out of the Liquor Fund. Skaret said he's worked with MR Paving in a previous City and they are a reputable contractor.

PALMER/POLZ moved and it was unanimously carried to accept the low bid of \$81,371.10 from MR Paving of New Ulm, Minnesota for the 2022 Sealcoating Project of the downtown streets and Liquor Store parking lot.

APPROVE BID FOR REROOFING CITY HALL

Skaret said Street Department staff was up on the roof last summer looking at something and it was brought to his attention that the City Hall needs new shingles. He said the last time City Hall was shingled was believed to be back in 2000.

Skaret said \$16,000 was budgeted for shingling City Hall this year. He said he reached out to Boekett Lumber in Jackson who quoted materials and labor with Jorge Castro doing the shingling for a total \$18,392.24. Skaret said it's a little bit over budget, but it needs to be done.

Polz said he appreciates the quote coming locally and an opportunity to keep the business in town.

Cushman agreed with Polz.

POLZ/PETERSON moved and it was unanimously carried to approve the quote of \$18,392.24 from Boekett Lumber in Jackson to reroof City Hall.

SECOND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 123 FIXING COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

Skaret noted first consideration of Ordinance No. 123 was held by the City Council at their June 7th meeting. He said the Finance Committee had recommended increasing the Mayor and City Council salaries.

Skaret said City Council salaries would increase from \$4,200 to \$5,000 per year and the Mayor's salary would increase from \$5,000 to 6,000 per year. He said the pay for the Local Board of Review would increase from \$25 to \$35 a meeting. Skaret said Ordinance No. 123 would also add attendance at board, commission and committee meetings at \$35 a meeting. He said there would also be a \$60 a meeting reduction in pay for unexcused absences from City Council meetings. Skaret said those were the major changes.

Skaret said the changes outlined in Ordinance No. 123 would take effect on January 1, 2023.

Polz noted the changes were discussed by the Finance Committee. He said the Committee agreed on the \$35 dollars for board, commission and committee meetings hoping it would drive participation. He said he specifically wanted the inclusion of the \$60 reduction in pay so you just don't see people showing up to collect a paycheck and make sure that group is together.

POLZ/CUSHMAN moved and it was unanimously carried to approve Second Consideration of Ordinance No. 123 fixing compensation of the Mayor and City Councilmembers.

AIRPORT RUNWAY TREE MITIGATION PROJECT PAY APPLICATION NO. 2

Skaret said he's been informed by the City's Airport Engineer, Eric Hanson of HDR, that Thate's Tree Service has all the tree removal work finished at the Meneely farm. He said Hanson has inspected the site and determined it to be complete. Skaret said Hanson is working with Knute Meneely on a plan to plant new trees.

POLZ/PETERSON moved and it was unanimously carried to approve Airport Runway Tree Mitigation Project Pay Application No. 2 in the amount of \$23,271.50 to Thate's Tree Service of Fairmont.

DOWNTOWN DECORATIVE STREET LIGHT POLE LED BULB QUOTE

Skaret said he received a quote from Kirby Brothers. He said Kirby Brothers is the company that the City purchases a lot of the lighting fixtures from for the street lights.

Skaret reported there are a total of 88 bulbs in the downtown decorative fixtures that could be replaced. He said there were two quotes. Skaret said to replace all the bulbs at \$85 each would cost \$7,420.00. He said if replacing the bulbs were phased in and only part of the bulbs changed, for example 24 bulbs at a time, there would be a higher price per unit and the cost would be \$2,520.00.

Polz asked what the longevity of the LED bulbs are verses the current candescent bulbs.

Skaret said he didn't have that information, but knows that the LED bulbs do last longer.

Mayor Walter noted the LED lights in his home last a whole lot longer than regular bulbs and give off a lot nicer light.

Polz noted the LED lights would also be all the same color.

Peterson added the LED lights would be brighter and provide for more safety on the streets.

Polz asked if the street lights would all look the same if the LED light bulbs were installed.

Skaret said all the bulbs would look the same.

Cushman asked if the money for the bulbs would come from the City's Electric Fund.

Skaret said the funding would come from the Electric Fund.

Mayor Walter asked for a motion regarding the downtown decorative street light pole LED Bulb quote.

CUSHMAN/PETERSON moved and it was unanimously carried to purchase 88 LED bulbs from Kirby Brothers for \$7,420.00 for the downtown decorative street light poles.

PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH PROCLAMATION – JULY 2022

Mayor Walter said he had a proclamation he was going to read designating July as Parks and Recreation Month.

Mayor Walter read:

WHEREAS parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including in the City of Jackson; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation promote health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health of people in the community; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation promote time spent in outdoors, which positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance and well-being, and helps alleviate illnesses such as depression, attention deficit disorders, and Alzheimer's disease; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation foster physical activities by providing space for popular sports, hiking trails, swimming pools and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles; and

***WHEREAS** parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and*

***WHEREAS** parks and recreation areas increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and*

***WHEREAS** parks and natural recreation areas benefit our environment by improving water quality, protecting groundwater, preventing flooding, improving the quality of the air we breathe, providing vegetative buffers to development, and producing habitat for wildlife; and*

***WHEREAS** our parks and natural recreation areas enhance the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and*

***WHEREAS** the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and*

***WHEREAS** the Jackson City Council recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation areas and facilities;*

***NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY** the Jackson City Council that July is recognized as Park and Recreation Month in the City of Jackson.*

Signed this 21st day of June, 2022

Wayne Walter, Mayor

SPLASHPAD UPDATE

Skaret reported the splashpad has not been in operation yet this year. He explained when Parks Coordinator Neal Carlson tried to start up the splashpad in May to get it ready for the season, it would not start up. Skaret said City staff worked over the phone with Commercial Recreational Specialists, which is the company that sold the City the splashpad and the manufacturer, Vortex, on a variety of troubleshooting methods.

Skaret said after none of the troubleshooting methods resolved the problem, City staff removed the computer that operates the splashpad system and sent it to Vortex which is located in Quebec, Canada.

Skaret said on May 27th, the computer was shipped to Quebec by Express International Mail via the U.S. Postal Service. He said it had to go through customs in Chicago before it could go onto Canada. Skaret said the computer finally arrived at Vortex on June 8th for diagnostic testing. He said on June 20th, the City was notified that the diagnosis was a dead Central Processing Unit and a new computer chip would need to be ordered. A week ago, Skaret said he was told it would be about another two to three weeks before the chip would be installed and the unit would be ready to be shipped back. He said under that timetable, the splashpad would probably not be opening until mid-July.

However, Skaret said a new computer for the splashpad arrived via UPS (United Parcel Service) at City Hall today (June 21st). He said the computer still needs to be installed and determined that the splashpad actually works the way it's suppose to. Skaret said he wasn't going to give any days or a timetable, but the splashpad should be up and running soon before mid-July. He said he feels confident in saying that.

Polz asked if the splashpad computer is under warranty.

Skaret said the warranty is expired.

Polz asked if the computer is expensive.

Skaret said the computer costs around \$1,500.

Polz asked if it would be worth purchasing a second computer to have one on hand in case a computer unit quits working.

Skaret said if this new computer works, it may not be a bad idea to order a second one. However, Skaret said if the second computer sits on the shelf for four years, then it may be outdated.

Skaret said he can look into purchasing a second computer to have one on hand and whether it would become outdated if it sat on the shelf for a period of time.

**JOINT CITY COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD MEETING JUNE 28TH, 29TH OR 30TH
AT 5:30 P.M.**

Skaret said he received an email from Jackson County Central School Superintendent Barry Schmidt and had also spoken with him about setting up joint City Council/School Board meeting talk about the swimming pool and specifically the pool survey that will be distributed to residents.

Skaret said Schmidt is taking a poll to see if a joint meeting could be held on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, June 28th, 29th or 30th at 5:30 p.m. at the JCC High School.

Skaret asked Mayor Walter and Councilmembers if they had any preferences on when they could meet jointly with the School Board.

It was the consensus of the Mayor and Councilmembers that they could meet with the School Board on either Tuesday or Wednesday, June 28th or June 29th.

Skaret said he would inform School Superintendent Schmidt that the City Council could meet with the School Board on either June 28th or June 29th.

Other:

Alderman Dave Cushman

Cushman asked City Clerk Maschoff what the filing dates were to run for City Council in this November's elections.

Maschoff said the filing dates will be from August 2nd to August 16th.

Cushman said he's decided after three terms on the City Council, he will not be seeking re-election to a fourth term. He said he wanted to announce that so interested parties would know of his intentions if they are considering running for City Council.

Alderman Marcus Polz

Polz said he had a question for Skaret. He said in reading the Park Board minutes, it looks as though that when the dog park situation went back to the Park Board with a recommendation to locate it at the original splashpad location in Memorial Park, it sounded like the Park Board decided to maybe table it until next year. Polz asked if that's the current situation.

Skaret explained the Park Board kind of wanted to look at the usage of Albertus Field some more for the rest of the season and then revisit the dog park issue later on.

Polz asked if that's the Park Board's preference in hopes that Albertus Field doesn't get utilized and that would be the location for the dog park?

Palmer, a member of the Park Board, said he doesn't think that was the Park Board's preference. He said the Park Board just wants to see how the ballparks are being used this summer and have that information to go by. Palmer said if the ballparks aren't being used, then the Park Board can go back to their original plan or look for somewhere else to construct a dog park.

Polz thanked Palmer for the clarification.

Alderman Jerome Palmer

Palmer asked about the quote for painting the Husky Logo on the old ground storage water tank. He asked if the Council was going to take action on the quote.

Mayor Walter noted that was approved on the Consent Agenda.

Skaret said Blaise Jacobsen is going to paint the Husky Logo on the tank for \$1,500.

City Administrator Matt Skaret

Skaret noted the City Council has talked about the potential of electric power shortages this coming summer. He said the process is underway of putting together a plan. Skaret said part of the plan involves getting an inventory of who has generators. He said City Office staff have been making phone calls. Skaret said a list of the City's top 100 largest electric customers was compiled. He said most of those are on demand power.

Skaret said it's not known who has generators and who doesn't. He explained the reason that information is being compiled is in case the City gets into a tight situation regarding electricity this summer. Skaret said in those cases, businesses can be asked to turn their generators on because the City will need to lighten their electric load.

Cushman asked Skaret if there's been a good response regarding businesses willing to turn on their generators if needed.

Skaret said there aren't very many businesses that have generators. He noted the hospital and the Good Samaritan Center have generators. Skaret said he doesn't know if they are big enough to carry their entire electric load.

Skaret said he's also spoke with Missouri River Electric Distribution Superintendent Jeff Bechold and Jackson Distribution Maintenance Foreman Tony Nitchals about different scenarios that can be done if the City gets in a tight spot regarding the supply of electric power. He said residents can also help by conserving power at certain times if electric supplies become tight.

Polz asked if the City of Lakefield's generators could benefit Jackson's electric system.

Skaret said Lakefield's generators would only serve the City of Lakefield. However, he said it would help to ease stress on the overall electric grid and would help in that regard.

ADJOURNMENT

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

PETERSON/POLZ moved and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Mayor Walter thanked Councilmembers and wished everyone a good evening.

Skaret also thanked everyone

David A. Maschoff, Council Secretary

Wayne Walter, Mayor

