

# Víllage of Jones Creek

7207 Stephen F. Austin Jones Creek, TX 77541 (979) 233-2700

### CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA MINUTES

The Board of Alderman of the Village of Jones Creek, Texas will hold a Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at the Village Hall located at 7207 Stephen F. Austin Road, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Members of the public can attend the meeting in person or via teleconference.

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER-** 6:32 PM
- **2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** *-Led by Alderman, Corey Thomas. Pledge said by all.*
- 3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS- Mayor, Terry Jeffers; Alderman, David Galloway; Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty; Alderman, AJ Jinkins; Alderman, Glenn Jordan (Via Zoom); Alderman, Corey Thomas.
- 4. **BUSINESS OF VISITORS** (limited to five minutes per person)

Alderman, David Galloway wanted to make everyone aware that he would be reaching out to other cities to see how they run projects and how their checks and balances check out, examples such as research for the HUD grant, Work completed on private property, Arrington Lane. Researches not complete on some of the drainage issues. He just wants to make sure we have a good grasp on the work that we are doing, so that we are not made aware of the issues after the fact. He believes we should be very proactive towards our future planning for projects, no matter the type of funding.

## 5. OLD BUSINESS

- **a.** Discuss and approve the minutes of the regular council meeting on June 21, 2022. *Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty motions to approve the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman, Corey Thomas, all in favor, motion carried.*
- b. Discuss and approve monthly financial reports from all departments including open grant funds, and ARPA Funds. *Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty, Motions to table this item until the accountants are able to review and confirm they are accurate, 2*<sup>ND</sup> *Alderman, David Galloway, all in favor, Motion carried.*

- c. Discuss and consider action on drainage improvement projects and updates from Drainage Liaison Corey Thomas. No set date on pipe delivery for replacement pipe for Live Oak Drive, hopes for the end of the month. Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty asked if the driveways would go back to the way they were before the culvert replacement for the buses. Alderman, Corey Thomas mentioned that it would be up to the school to cover that part of the road. He had spoken to BISD school representative, Alec Journeay, and he said the school would not be doing anything to the driveways. Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty agreed with the uncertainty with what is happening with the school but she was concerned that it would be dug out with the flow of traffic during school. It was also mentioned that the County did widen the driveway in hopes to help so that another bulkhead would not have to be placed. We have not had any E. Stephen F. Austin quotes come back, City Secretary; Brittney Fairchild mentioned that she would have to reach out to Sorrell Construction to see if their priced quote was still valid due to inflation and time. Alderman, Corey Thomas and Alderman, Glenn Jordan had previously discussed that the resurfacing project would have to be completed by September. Marshal, William Tidwell discussed getting another extension for this project from FEMA. This would be the 9<sup>th</sup> extension. If we do not move forward, we have to give back the estimated 66,000.00. He has also reached out to them about the cost due to inflation and if it is over the amount can they approve additional funds, and from his understanding they are open to this request. There are 4 stages of this, A video was made available to be viewed of this project which includes repaying E. Stephen F. Austin Rd, Frontier Lane, and Live Oak Drive from the Intersection near Terry Jeffers home, north to the end of the road. This was originally from 2016. This would not include culver replacement for crushed pipe on other end of Live Oak Drive. Alderman, Corey Thomas asked to move forward with this project. Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty mentioned that it is an estimated 22,000,00 would have to be covered by the city for this project to move forward. Due to inflation, are we able to cover the full cost of this and will we be approved. Anna Galloway, worked on the video presentation that Chief Deputy New created to show the details of this project. Technical issues were present, and we had to proceed with the meeting while this was worked on. Once available, Council and anyone would be available to view this. Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty motions to get the ball rolling on this project since it has been 6yrs, Alderman, Corey Thomas mentioned that once County completed Atwood, that they could roll over and start on this project. Atwood does have sufficient ditches that will be cleaned out by the County with the HUD Grant. FEMA Grant name is DR 4272. Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty Motion to approve moving forward with the FEMA Grant Money we have in our possession, Alderman, Corey Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, Motion Carried.
- d. Discuss and consider action on ARPA Funds, any current projects, future use, and updates. Tractor is in their yard, should be available by the end of the month. Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty asked if we can look elsewhere for a faster delivery date. Previously it was mentioned by Equipment Depot that we would receive the Tractor in July. The City Secretary Addressed that our Maintenance Department could really use heavy equipment right now. Try reaching out to other New Holland Suppliers to see if they can get something to us sooner. We had an agreement upon approval we would pay upon receipt of the Tractor. Citizen asked if we had talked to Brazos Tractor about the LS Brand they have available on the lot. Please talk to Marie Underwood at Brazos Tractor for a quote. City Secretary, Brittney Fairchild mentioned that we did receive a quote after the fact but due to our previous council approval to wait for the New Holland, it was not brought into discussion. Council discussed LS Brand, and how comparable it would be to the New Holland. Marshal, William Tidwell asked Council to Consider a High Rescue Vehicle, equipped for wheelchairs, 4x4, Firefighting unit for grass fires, funds from the ARPA Funds can be used for this. He asked that he would like to present this vehicle at the next council meeting to show more

details about this unit in person. Ideas for costs were not available at this time but he would look into it. It was mentioned that the previous council approved grant was for a High Rescue Vehicle to be refurbished. Marshal Tidwell mentioned that they have abandoned this due to the costs to fix this vehicle were not within range. Use for this vehicle will be determined at a later date.

- e. Discuss and consider action on HUD Street Improvement Project
  - County Invoice for Arrington Ln \$8,663.19. Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty motion to table this item until financials are made available and we know what we are looking at,  $2^{ND}$  Alderman, AJ Jinkins. Alderman, Corey Thomas mentioned that we have until September to finish all HUD projects. He had also reached out to Troy Brimage about possibly donating this piece of property. Since it was included in the project lists, if it were to be donated, per Nancy at County, this could still be completed at no cost to the City. Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty mentioned that we then would be responsible for maintaining that road. It isn't a benefit to the entire community for paving the road. Mayor Jeffers mentioned that Matt Hanks called him personally asking when this invoice would be paid. Mr. Thomas said we have until the end of September to finish all HUD Business. City Secretary asked what would be included if the city maintained this property. It was said that normal City maintenance such as mowing, drainage, interlocal county work as well. Alderman, AJ Jinkins mentioned that he was concerned about what lays underneath this road, but since the work had started on this project, it was partially stabilized and prepped to become a durable asphalt road. The width is more than required. If any more money is put into the project, can the Grant approval Process come back and say we still have to pay. As mentioned above, Motion was made by Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty to table this discussion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman, AJ Jinkins, all in favor, motion carried.
- f. Discuss and Consider Upcoming Events:
  - Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty gave date of the next Beautification Meeting on Thursday, July 21, 2022 at Noon. If anyone would like to come, we would like to make the City Wide Clean up a big event and they would be going over a date for this as well as details, please come out and join us at the meeting. Beautification Committee Bake Sale Thank you to all of those who donated baked goods, volunteers, and those who purchased from our bake sale. City Secretary mentioned the Marshal's Dept. put out a flyer about an Event on August 6, 2022 for a School Supplies Donation collection. Marshal, William Tidwell mentioned that this event has been very successful in the past with helping students in our area with school supplies. Mrs. Hardesty mentioned the 4-H club was also doing a School Backpack event for Donations for Uvalde, and would love to team up and work together on that date. They are wanting to get 2000 backpacks to Uvalde.
- g. Discuss and consider pricing options to replace the Mulch at the City Park Playground. Price options, Texas Garden Materials \$9500.00, McKenna \$6600.00, These prices to include mulch, labor and delivery, does not include the barriers. Alderman, David Galloway talks about the significant amount of price difference from the 1<sup>ST</sup> quote of \$4600.00 from Living Earth,that doesn't include labor. Due to our budget and having a community who comes together, we should be able to take on this task. Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty mentioned getting trustees from the past for help. Marshal Tidwell mentioned that due to covid and short staff4-H kids would be available to help. Access to this area needs to be accessed from City property, since previous driveway was temporary. Citizen asked if we need to remove old mulch or can we place it on top. It was asked to see if we can reach out to other cities to see how they handle the process. This will come from City funds, it is not covered by ARPA Funding at this time. Council was unsure if this amount was budgeted but this is a mandatory maintenance required by the State. Alderman, AJ Jinkins motions to accept the \$4600.00 bid, 2<sup>nd</sup> Corey Thomas, all in favor, motion carried.

#### 6. NEW BUSINESS

Discuss and consider the request made by Mr. & Mrs. Houston, by adding a stop on Stephen F. a. Austin Rd at the intersection of Durazno. Speed limit is currently 30mph. Bruce Houston talked about how he clocked multiple vehicles traveling 40mph or over. Alderman Corey Thomas mentioned with the construction starting that it would also help reduce those speeding off onto side roads. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty asked if we had to do a speed study to put a stop sign. She asked Mr. Noska about when they had the sign out in front of their homes on Live Oak that it did help reduce speeding vehicles. It was confirmed we do not have to. Council would have to decide this decision. It was asked if we put a speed sign near that address if possibly it could help reduce reckless driving. Alderman AJ Jinkins said speeding should be addressed down Stephen F. Austin and other streets. He would like to reform a previous committee, Safe streets committee. He asked if Mr. Houston would like to be a part of this committee. Mr. Houston agreed as long as it didn't interfere with his schedule. Marshal Tidwell let us know that he has pushed permitting for heavy trucks coming down these roads as well. Alderman AJ Jinkins motioned to reform the Safe Streets Committee, Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty, 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, motion carried.

All signs are message, data, and radar signs such as the one that was on peachpoint for awhile. Corey Thomas mentioned over a Bridge in Louisiana that if you make it over the bridge under a specific amount of time you would get a ticket. This was made aware that this could not be done in Texas.

- b. Discuss and consider bids/quotes for accepting accounting services.

  Discussion on quotes received, One bid available from TRC-The Right Choice at \$90/Hr.

  Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty asked if they had Municipal or Grant experience. City Secretary said she would have to reach out to find out. No further communication with Green & McElreath, still waiting on other quotes to come in for services. Green & McElreath secretary said they do not usually do bookkeeping unless they have sGrants would need to be seen by CPA so that we verify that funds are being properly handled since they were not placed in the right account.

  Liondas said they were 3 weeks out. Mr. Quirk had Covid. Motion to table this until more bids come in by Alderman Corey Thomas, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman David Galloway, all in favor, motion carried.
- c. Discuss and consider scheduling budget workshops.

  Alderman Corey Thomas motion to table this item until we acquire an accountant, 2<sup>nd</sup>

  Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty, with the addition to noting that we need to get this going with the budget creeping us on us very fast. All in favor, motion carried.
- d. Executive Session:

Re: Personnel Matters & Review of Formation of Contracts

Motion made to go into Executive Session by Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty, 2<sup>nd</sup> Alderman Corey Thomas, all in favor, motion carried. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty Invited Marshal Tidwell into Executive Session.

Motion to reconvene by Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty, 2<sup>nd</sup> Alderman AJ Jinkins, all in favor, motion carried.

e. Discuss and consider any actions if any taken from executive session.

Motion made by Alderman David Galloway to create a Goal Setting Program Committee

consisting of The Mayor and 2 councilman,  $2^{nd}$  Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty, all in favor, motion carried. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty asked to amend this by adding a timeline by the end of the week. Alderman David Galloway, motions to amend his motion to create a Goal Setting Program Committee by the end of the week,  $2^{nd}$  Amended motion by Alderman Corey Thomas, all in favor, motion carried.

f. Discuss and consider gaining rights back for water providers for various subdivisions within the city. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty made this agenda due to citizens having issues with our water providers and their quality of water. Recently she found out that we gave up our rights to fight for our residents, and at this time they have to make that fight on their own. There is more bargaining with a City behind you. Resident Kevin, looked into the quality of water but also the service, and transparency of what they are doing. Community individuals gave him information about their issues and concerns. He would like to have a way to help organize and voice their concerns. They want to speak but are afraid to do anything official in risk of increased rates. Alderman AJ Jinkins asked what is entailed with asking for our rights back. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty responded with saying that we just have to ask for it. Send a formal letter with the request to PUC. Mayor Terry Jeffers mentioned information from the PUC Website, TECQ regulates all public drinking water systems and septic systems, those addressing water quality, periodic inspections, water pressure and system design. City Secretary mentioned that city hall is already at a minimum and they stay busy on the phones. Who will be taking these complaints, is there going to be a designated person for this. Alderman David Galloway said we could create something on the website. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty said she would want to educate residents as well this way. Resident said she personally wouldn't fill out an online complaint form. It is troublesome for elderly residents. What other ways could this be fulfilled, how many would not follow through. City council members could help. Some committees could reach out and set a timeframe to submit their documentation and include it during an event. Access is not available to all. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty motioned to send a formal request to PUC, within the next two weeks, August  $2^{nd}$ ,  $2^{ND}$  by Alderman Corey Thomas, all in favor, motion carried.

#### 7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Alderman Corey Thomas,  $2^{ND}$  Alderman David Galloway, all in favor, motion carried.

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the Minutes of the **Regular Council Meeting** are confirmed and true on this day of July 21, 2022, at 11:02 a.m.

Brittney Fairchild,	City Secretary