

Village 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 held a Regular Council Meeting on November 15, 2022 at the Village Hall located at 7207 Stephen F. Austin Road, beginning at 6:00p.m. Members of the public were able to attend the meeting in person or via teleconference.

Join the meeting on Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/9792331826

Or dial the following toll free numbers and enter the Meeting ID: 979 233 1826; and #:

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US; or +1 301 715 8592 US

This written notice, the meeting agenda, is posted online at

http://www.villageofjonescreektexas.com. The public were permitted to offer public comments telephonically as provided by the agenda and as permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting. A recording of the telephonic meeting will be available to the public in accordance with the Open Meetings Act upon written request. The matters discussed and acted on at the meeting are as follows:

# 1. CALL TO ORDER 6:00 P.M.

- **2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** *Invocation led by Brother Brent Pittman, Pledge said by all.*
- **3.** ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS Mayor, Terry Jeffers; Alderman, Corey Thomas; Alderman, Alderwoman, Nicole Hardesty (Absent); Glenn Jordan; Alderman, AJ Jinkins; Alderman, David Galloway.

# 4. BUSINESS OF VISITORS

Brother Brent Pittman wanted to let everyone know that this coming Sunday, November 20, 2022 is the Free Community Thanksgiving Service. It will be held at the Jones Creek Assembly of God, and the pastor of Gulf Prairie Presbyterian, David Pierce will be the speaker. It will be held at 6:00 P.M. Mr. Glen Jordan asked if the Zoning Board would be having another meeting. City Secretary, Brittney Fairchild made him aware of an upcoming Re-Zone Application has been submitted and a meeting would be set up soon awaiting the confirmation of a Public Notice in the paper date.

# 5. OLD BUSINESS

- *a.* Discuss and approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 18, 2022. Alderman, David Galloway motioned to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alderman, AJ Jinkins, all in favor, motion carried.
- **b.** Discuss and consider action on financial and monthly reports from all departments. Alderman, David Galloway mentioned that he has reviewed the reports and believes the reports are a lot closer to where we want them to be at. He wanted to stay in the same lane that Mrs. Hardesty's previously started and based on when these are fully flushed out to have a final approval. At this time the reports will not be approved. We aren't there yet, but he does truly believe that we will be there by the next council meeting.
- c. Discuss and consider action on drainage improvement projects and updates from Drainage Liaison Corey Thomas. Culverts on E. SFA, Mrs. Stockton Driveway & Road Crossing have been completed. We need to figure out a list of the next two or three that we would like to complete on the list of 9 total. The County can help us in completing this. The Texas Parks and Wildlife reached out to Mr. Thomas last week and CenterPoint wants to meet with them, the drainage district, and Mr. Butler who works for The Texas Parks & Wildlife wanted Mr. Thomas to sit in this meeting to discuss what CenterPoint is proposing. The understanding of what CenterPoint will be proposing another substation on Terminal Rd, and a possible 11ft levy around this substation. When they give a date, Mr. Thomas will come back with further information. Mr. Hoffman from the drainage district is looking into a major grant for the section and possibly combined with Matagorda County as well. They will continue cleaning out Jones Creek; they still have water gates to look at. Alderman, Glenn Jordan asked about the school driveways, and if they had been fixed. City Secretary, let him know that we went ahead and fixed them ourselves with what we had. He asked about the work order for asphalt. She mentioned she did reach out to county for a quote, and has not received a response but will follow up. Alderman, Corey Thomas said the Asphalt plant does close down in November so this project would most likely not happen until after the first of the year. The pipe we ordered that was left over is at County's yard for storage. Across from Mr. Means old house use to be a metal pipe that goes into the pasture. Please turn in a work order to have it replaced with pipe we have available next door. Mr. Thomas asked if Jordan (Maintenance) was monitoring culverts and ditches. City Secretary, Brittney Fairchild asked if it was the Homeowners responsibility or the City to clean around culverts, quite a few homeowners mow, and weed eat everywhere except the culverts. If we begin cleaning one, we have to do them all. Mr. Thomas mentioned that it is our right away, but the homeowner is responsible to clean that area. Alderman, Glenn Jordan asked about the Herbicide license for spraying, and when that would be completed. This would allow less time mowing. Ms. Fairchild assured him that this was in progress and the next available testing would be in January.

#### **d.** Discuss and consider action on updates for ARPA Funds.

All funding has been received and at this time the approved \$4 an hour rate is ongoing. Alderman, David Galloway discussed the length of this approved dollar amount looks to have about 40% left which would put us in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2023. Alderman, Glenn Jordan asked about grants, Alderman, Corey Thomas agreed. Ms. Fairchild mentioned that The City of Halletsville reached out about a community

BRIC Grant. She will follow up with more information about this. She also mentioned she spoke with Grant Works and they would be following up with upcoming grants that they would recommend the city should apply for.

- e. Discuss and consider upcoming and past events. *Alderman, Glenn Jordan asked for these items to be read aloud, City Secretary, Brittney Fairchild went through the following appreciation items:* 
  - Beautification Committee Halloween Trunk or Treat. (Letter and pictures attached for reference. This event was a huge success, The Fire Department, Marshals Office, and our Beautification Committee members did such a great job with their costumes and decorations. We would like to thank The Galloway family for all of their hard work and support in helping with this event. Traci Stowers and Alice Taylor for coordinating donations. Snacks and supplies were donated from El Toro in Clute, Taco Jalisco Mexican Grill in Jones Creek, and Ronnie's Ice House in Brazoria. We also want to thank our Judges from the Gulf Prairie Presbyterian Church!
  - Veteran's Breakfast- We would like to thank the Marshals Office for hosting this event. Chief Deputy New did an amazing job decorating and hosting. It was a memorable experience. We would also like to thank Mrs. Anna Galloway for helping as well. The Breakfast was cooked by our own David Galloway (Alderman) and Jordan Meeks (Maintenance Department). Mr. Meeks had the Village property looking beautiful for this event. We hope you were able to join us, or drive by for the view. We appreciate all of our Veterans and we want to thank you for serving.
  - Pancakes with Santa December 3, 2022 Jones Creek Community Hall-No time available at this time, but keep checking the website or Marshal Department and City Hall Facebook pages.
  - Christmas in the Creek December 13, 2022 Jones Creek Community Hall- The Fire Department has already put up the T-Posts for the Christmas Trees outside. They plan to begin decorating trees soon so that the children can see the trees when they come for Pancakes with Santa.

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss and consider a revision for permit fees for Ordinance No. 450 -Peddlers, solicitors, and vendors. A discussion on this subject was pricing per person. Background checks and daily rates are per day/per person. Alderman, Corey Thomas reached out to other cities to see what their pricing was. We don't get many food trucks, or ice cream trucks and we would want to agree on a set rate for them. Bringing in something a little different around would be beneficial to bringing the community together. Alderman, Glenn Jordan said maybe a food truck day. They would have to follow our ordinances. Mayor, Terry Jeffers would like to put a paragraph just for Ice Cream trucks. Alderman, Corey Thomas mentioned that they do have to comply with the Health Department already. A Vendor File would be annually, with all of their workers. Alderman, David Galloway mentioned that we could have them renew every 6 months so they we can keep them in compliance as well. An initial \$50 and then \$25 fee. At this time we need to work on suggestions and then have the attorney review. City Secretary, Brittney Fairchild agreed that we should wait for further information but all have been in favor that this would help our community come together. Alderman, David Galloway made everyone aware that he would be the first to spend \$50 if we get food trucks. Alderman, Glenn Jordan,

motioned to table this item until next meeting,  $2^{nd}$  Alderman, Corey Thomas, all in favor, motion carried.

b. Discuss and consider updating building codes and acquiring building code books. It was mentioned that these books can be costly, we can acquire used books. Alderman, Glenn Jordan mentioned we should update our code books for ordinances and code enforcement. Can we get these updated per our attorney? The Ordinances are not being enforced at this time. Alderman, David Galloway asked for this item to be on the agenda due to issues with looking into details for code enforcement. He thinks these books would help create an easy, quick link for our staff to reference the code in the code book. At this time we do not have this. We currently go by the 2009 code books except the Fire/Electrical code that is 2008. City Secretary, Brittney Fairchild asked what regulates what years we use. How do we determine which one benefits our city? What would it change if you updated as the codes updates? We do have a digital form on hand, but it is a lot of information. We have one set printed. The Mayor, asked to get prices since currently we have 2009 but also get prices on 2015 to have at our next meeting. Every 2 years a new code book is created. Alderman, David Galloway mentioned that if a resident has an issue, they will have to bring their home up to the current code the city enforces.

#### c. Discuss and consider commercial inspections prior to issuing a Certificate

of Occupancy for rental properties. *City Secretary, Brittney Fairchild mentioned that we have commercial rental properties that are turned over are not always fully inspected. When the Fire Marshal comes in he is looking for fire hazards and it is possible that things are overlooked that are for day to day use. This goes for business' that do not have to have a health inspection. We are recommending a full inspection similar to a remodel. The renter would be responsible for the cost, but the owner should be aware that this is something the city will enforce before the Certificate of Occupancy would be issued. Alderman, Glenn Jordan asked if we could ask for an inspection of residential properties beforehand. He asked for the City Secretary to reach out to the attorney for more information if this is possible. All remodels/New buildings already go through this process. We just want to catch the turnover of hands and enforce that the building stays in compliance for commercial use. Alderman, Corey Thomas made a motion to approve getting a commercial inspection before issuing a Certificate of occupancy, 2<sup>ND</sup> Alderman, David Galloway, all in favor, motion carried.* 

### d. The Village of Jones Creek is seeking applicants for Front Desk Clerk.

Mayor, Terry Jeffers let everyone know that we are currently going through applications and as we go through them and have our recommendations we will reach out to council for final approval. Alderman, Corey Thomas asked since the last Front Desk was also working on Code Enforcement, will this new person be doing that as well. City Secretary, Brittney Fairchild mentioned that at this time, we are looking at alternative options to just have them handle permits and Trash, but help with Court as well. She talked about possibly using our Maintenance Department be a part of it. She had also reached out to the Marshal's office about having a part time officer or someone who they could work under. This is all up for discussion but it is an ongoing concern that we know needs to be dealt with. Alderman, Glenn Jordan asked if we would be paying the same pay. City Secretary, Brittney Fairchild responded with pay is based on experience but would be lowered since they would be removing an extra job duty. A lower rate would suffice for this position.

# 7. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn made by Alderman, Corey Thomas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Alderman, David* Galloway, all in favor, motion carried.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the minutes of this Regular Called Meeting have been reviewed and are known to be true.

<u>BrittneyFairchild</u> Brittney Fairchild, City Secretary

NOTE: ITEMS WILL NOT NECESSARILY BE DISCUSSED AND ACTED ON IN THE ORDER THEY APPEAR ON THE AGENDA. THE BOARD OF ALDERMAN, AT ITS DISCRETION, MAY DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON ANY OR ALL OF THE ITEMS LISTED IN A DIFFERENT ORDER IF A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD SO DETERMINES.

This notice is being posted pursuant to the Texas Open Meeting Act. (Chapter 551, Government Code). In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, on request the Village of Jones Creek will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending meetings of its Board of Aldermen. Request for such accommodations or for interpreter services should be received 48 hours prior to any meeting. Please contact the Village Secretary's office at 979-233-2700 to request such accommodations.