**Village of Jones Creek**

7207 Stephen F. Austin

Jones Creek, TX 77541

(979) 233-2700

 **SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**The Board of Alderman of the Village of Jones Creek, Texas will hold a Special Called Meeting on September 18, 2023 at the Village Hall Located at 7207 Stephen F. Austin Road beginning at 6:00pm Members of the public are able to attend the meeting in person and**

 **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** *6:00pm*

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE** *Invocation AJ Jinkins, Pledges by All*

3. **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS** *All Members of Council Present*

4. **COMMUNICATION OF VISITORS (PUBLIC COMMENT)**

Section 551.007 of the Texas Government Code allows a member of the public who desires

 to address the body regarding an item on an agenda for open meeting of the body to address the body regarding the item at the meeting before or during the body's consideration of the item. *Mayor Terry Jeffers-communication of visitors, John, you got anything that you want to bring up? Alternate Judge John Rice-I guess I could. What about code enforcement, Yall got any plans for that, or can ya’ll discuss that. A.J. Jinkins no but we can certainly put it on there for the next. John Rice – that’s all I can think about I am seeing stuff kind of building up. Thats all I got Glen I got one thing I d like to thank the fire department for all the stuff and to everybody that volunteered it was a pretty decent turn out, the food was good everything went pretty good. Nikki -I have one thing I would like to bring up. We had the City wide clean up, the beautification committee Regina Tidwell and Tammy Butler were there this weekend and they collected 536lbs garbage and one kitten. She kept it, its name is josie, its theirs. And of course thank you to jinks links for coming out for serving hot dogs.A.J. Jinkins – so that beats the old record , right? Nikki – Yes that was more trash than last year. So we are collecting more trash… we are going up in the trash collected but down in the volunteers coming. Hopefully we can rally more support at our next clean up in April.*

5. **Old Business**

 a. Discuss and consider the minutes from the regular council meeting August 15th 2023, Special Called Workshop Session August 22nd and a Special Called Meeting on August 28th, 2023. *Nicole Hardesty – I make a motion that we accept the minutes as they are presented. A.J Jinkins- Ill second that. All accepted, none opposed.*

 b. Discuss and consider any updates from the CPA Lindsey English. *Glen Jordan- Is she supposed to be here today? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- No. terry Jeffers- we have her first invoice, it understandably the first one its quite high, Lauren Talked to her about it and the first one getting set up, hopefully next month that is reconciled will be considerably less. Nicole Hardesty- It’s good to be getting this cleaned up and have a balance sheet and have confidence in. Lauren, I just want to thank you for all the hard work you’ve put in to work with the CPA and gather what she needs. Lauren Grayson- We’re both working towards the same goal and be about to move forward in peace. I’ve run into, I’ve tried to run a profit loss on QuickBooks. All our credit card payments are coming up as uncategorized income. I have to categorize it to what’s coming into Utilities Department, or Court Department and through Permits. I have to get on the phone with QuickBooks and see if we can remedy that. We’re showing a $50,000 loss. Nicole Hardesty- Hopefully that’s not a hard fix, you should be able to recreate a rule because it didn’t jump over. It should just automatically categorize it.*

 c. Discuss and consider termination of the Interlocal Agreement with the Village’s current animal control provider.

*Lauren Grayson- The attorney sent over another paper for us to release them from any liability. I will get a copy made to take to the SPCA so your lawyers could look over it. The attorney did draw up a 90-day notice of termination for Brazoria. So December 4th our agreement is up. Nicole Hardesty- Did the Marshall go talk to them? Lauren Grayson- He did not get with me about that. The last interlocal agreement we had with Brazoria said we have to give 90 days. Nicole Hardesty- This will be an addition to the contract provided by the City. David Galloway- - makes motion to accept new documentation for the city to move forward for the proposed contract between the SPCA and the city of Jones Creek. . Nicole Hardesty- abstains from vote. Corey Thomas seconds motion. All accepted. None Opposed. Motion carried. David Galloway- makes a motion to terminate contract with Brazoria Animal Control. Corey Thomas- seconds motion. All accepted. None opposed. Motion carried. Nicole Hardesty- recused herself from vote.*

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

 a. Public hearing: Village of Jones Creek, Fiscal 2023-2024 proposed budget. *Nicole Hardesty- Makes a motion to go into a public hearing. Glen Jordan- seconds motion. All accepted. None opposed. Motion carried.*

 b. Discuss and Consider ordinance 551: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE VILLAGE OF JONES CREEK, TEXAS, GENERAL BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2023-2024; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY FOR SUCH YEAR AS REFLECTED IN SAID BUDGET; ESTABLISHING THE PROCEDURE FOR INTRA BUDGET TRANSFERS; AND, CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT. (RECORD VOTE) *A.J. Jinkins- makes a motion to cease public hearing before recorded vote. Glen Jordan- seconds motion. All accepted. None opposed. Motion carried.*

*Recorded Vote: A.J. Jinkins- Aye. David Galloway- Aye. Corey Thomas- Aye. Mayor Terry Jeffers- Aye Nicole Hardesty- Aye. Glen Jordan- Aye. All voted Aye. None opposed.*

 c. Discuss and consider possible action regarding a vote to ratify the Village of Jones Creek, Texas general budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 to find that the budget’s proposed tax rate will raise more total property taxes than last year’s budget by $29782.00 or 9.76% and of that amount $4093.23 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the taxed this year. (RECORD VOTE) *Nicole Hardesty- makes a motion to accept item c. David Galloway- seconds motion. All accepted. None opposed.*

*Recorded Vote: A.J. Jinkins- Aye. Davvid Gallaway- Aye. Mayor Terry Jeffers- Aye. Nicole Hardesty- Aye. Glen Jordan- Aye. All accepted. None opposed. Motion carried.*

 d. Discuss and consider action to be taken toward the Fiscal year 2024 road project request from the Brazoria County Engineering office. *Corey Thomas- We won’t get HUD money til next year. It’s every 3 years. And now digging is included in your road plan. Glen Jordan- Next year we’ll get the list of what roads are on yall’s road plans? Corey Thomas- We have a drainage meeting next week, so we’ll be able to go over stuff. We have to turn this in by November 1st. Terry Jeffers- Lauren got an email from a resident on Terrace Road. She’s been there for 45 years, and the road has never been resurfaced. I know right there at the intersection it’s been patched and patched. She mentioned that in the email too. Ya’ll might want to take a look at that. Glen Jordan- We looks at the worst roads in Jones Creek when we do the repairs. We look at the whole street and the worst street. There are certain spots that they are responsible for fixing I will look at that terrace road and I know Corey will look at the terrace road. Terry Jeffers- I’m sure what brought this up is the county patched Smith Street or on Nelson on the intersection. Glen Jordan- The new highway is going to repair a certain amount of feet. Cory Thomas- I think it’s 150ft. Glen Jordan- Keep in mind, or if you could pull up their address and see where their at. If that’s where it’s already going to be repaired with concrete. Just a FYI on that.*

 f. Discuss and consider the request from Village residents for the use of speed bumps to be placed on high traffic city streets. *Terry Jeffers- In our packet we have an email from our attorney and I don’t think the city can afford to have lawsuits that these speed bumps can open up. Corey Thomas- they won’t have damage if they’re doing the speed limit. Glen Jordan- I would say the same. Lauren Grayson- For someone that drives a lowriding vehicle you don’t know how many times I’ve scraped the bottom of my car going over a speed bump. Corey Thomas- The make them now more wide than tall. Glen Jordan- All it is, is asphalt at a hump. Their probably at least 8-10ft wide. Nicole Hardesty- The attorney is advising against us getting involved with this because of the liabilities. Bigger cities, they can afford if they get sued for this. We know we don’t have the finances to defend ourselves. I’d like to see a study that says we actually need this. The Marshall goes out there and he puts up his speed sign and we’ve done speed studies and we find the data be that they actually are not speeding. A.J .Jinkins- It was like 20% were speeding. You said it, there were people going 100mph. Glen Jordan- Let’s do some more research on it. If the other towns do it. Nicole Hardesty- Lake Jackson has the rumble strips. A.J. Jinkins- I would like to explore the possibility of rumble strips. We could get their attention with rumble strips and it’s not an obstruction. There’s no danger of damaging your car. We could see if the attorney was being all inclusive with the speed bumps. David Galloway- The attorney is going to advise on liability. Whether or not it would be an obstruction in a court of law or not that’s where you’d have to fight that out. Corey Thomas- I don’t know many judges that would rule in favor of speeding over speed bumps. TXDOT has grants. Nicole Hardesty- I says we also would have to have txdot permissions to put it on the highway. Corey Thomas If we were to get the county to do that we would have to rent the machine. They have some temporary one that Freeport has that they put before stop signs. A.J. Jinkins- Makes a motion to table subject until more information is obtained. Nicole Hardesty- seconds motion. All accepted. None Opposed. Motion carried.*

 g. Discuss and consider if any action is needed on current animal ordinance s. *Nicole Hardesty- I don’t have an issue with limiting the amount I think when you get to having 20, 30, 40 animals you could be having sanitation problems, or not caring for the animals properly. What about the neighbors and what the feel about having barking dogs and multiple barking dogs in light of a rescue that intended on moving here with unlimited numbers of animals coming from other states, North Carolina, without knowing their sanitation plan ; I think that’s an issue and to get in front. A.J. Jinkins- Is that a business your referring? Nicole Hardesty- I think it’s a business. But we’re city council so we need to be making some decisions. It’s a commercial facility, so she would have to gets licensed by us and have to get permits. Cattle I thought is limited. Glen Jordan- It is limited. You have to have so many acres per animal. A.J. Jinkins- So we’re basically starting a homeowners association? Nicole Hardesty- No, Lauren do you want to weigh in here. Lauren Grayson- They’re planning on starting a rescue they’re looking into bringing in shipments of dogs and stuff from South Carolina. Nicole Hardesty- They already have 3 dogs and they have already gotten out and accosted the neighbors. And my concerns is the language that’s being used here; shipments, loads of dogs. I am an animal welfare person. We do not speak like that. People that are reputable do not speak like that. A.J. Jinkins- What’s the purpose of them bringing in shipments of dogs? Lauren Grayson- They think they’re an animal sanctuary. Nicole Hardesty- And they are not zoned business. But we don’t go after code enforcement. Who’s gonna go and deal with that? A.J. Jinkins- we have the Marshall, don’t we? Glen Jordan- The city does it now. You issue them a summons and make them appear before the court. Nicole Hardesty- In the meantime this load of dogs is gonna come in. What’s gonna happen to them? They’ve already put up the correct fencing. Lauren Grayson- 10ft wide and 60 ft long in 3 sections. Nicole Hardesty- They came up, and this is not against you, they got their fence permit, and went and put-up cattle fence to hold in dogs. Our ordinance does not allow to put up cattle fence to hold up dogs. We have no code enforcement here. A.J. Jinkins- Does the cattle fence block the view? When I was on code enforcement committee, we set specifically that you can have that fencing as long as you can see through it. Nicole Hardesty- The Marshall said that’s not allowed for our fences. A.J. Jinkins- That’s not true I voted on that. David Galloway- What she’s talking about It does say in the ordinance that it has to be 50% see through and also if it is a wire fence the size must be and it had dimensions on it. Nicole Hardesty- We are already not following ordinances. And nobody is doing anything. They’re not gonna be made to take the fence down. A.J. Jinkins- What did they put new laws on the books? Why don’t we see who we can get to go out there and say your in violation of code. Glen Jordan- We didn’t have the funds to hire someone to do this. Nicole Hardesty- The Marshall is already having to do code enforcement even though we’ve taken it away from him but he’s still having to do it. A.J. Jinkins- maybe we need to readdress that situation. Corey Thomas- He never technically had it in the first place. Nicole Hardesty- That’s not true. He did. And the council voted to take it away from him and then it was given back and he had a officer get a license to be certified as code enforcement and then it was taken away from them again. A.J. Jinkins- Could we look at the possibility of moving that back to Marshall’s department. Corey Thomas- You need to look at the laws. I have multiple people have said that an officer go to code enforcement to police officer. Nicole Hardesty- But they’re doing it anyway. We’ve taken it away and they’re doing it anyway. David Galloway- The easy solution here is that someone in the front office works with someone that has the license in the Marshall’s office. The caveat is When people call in for code enforcement violation it goes to that person in the front office. The person in the front office goes and takes all the photos. It validates there is a issue they send it to the person that has the license and they sign off on it. Glen Jordan- When there is a fence being built is there an inspection done? Lauren Grayson- They said they were not ready to do the inspection. Theye putting a live wire around it. Lauren Grayson- I know myself and the judge has gone out when we’re told to go look at a property. And we take pictures. Glen Jordan- You can pull up google maps and see the problem areas. A.J. Jinkins- If we were to change the laws and have some magic number of how many dogs we could own what would be that number? Nicole Hardesty- I was thinking 10. Terry Jeffers- Other cities have 4 I do know that. A.J. Jinkins Most people here have acreage. Nicole Hardesty- I was thinking 10. A.J. Jinkins- We could have a variance like if you have 5 or a special circumstance. Nicole Hardesty- When I was spit balling this I was thinking 10 and I was thinking if you need more you could get a permit or a license, but at this point you would have to prove to the city there is sanitation. Glen Jordan- I think we’d need William to weigh in. He’s the one out there running code enforcement. Nicole Hardesty- He’s not supposed to be though. David Galloway- I make a motion to table this until our next meeting. Glen Jordan- seconds motion. All accepted. None opposed. Motion carried.*

7. **ADJOURN** *Corey Thomas- makes a motion to adjourn. David Galloway- seconds motion. All accepted. None opposed. Motion carried at 6:47pm*

 **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this Public Notice was placed on the official Bulletin Board at the City Hall on 14th day of September, 2023 no later than 5:30p.m.

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 Lauren Grayson, 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.