



Village of Jones Creek

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

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Alderman of the Village of Jones Creek, Texas will hold a Regular Council Meeting on September 19, 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.

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 pm**
2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE**

Invocation led by Reverend Pittman. Pledge led by all.

3. **ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Present. Alderman David Gallaway- Present. Alderman Corey Thomas- Present. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Present. Alderman Glen Jordan- Present. Mayor Terry Jeffers- 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

Larry Lecompte- I thought it was going to be discussed about the speed bumps. Mayor Terry Jeffers- It was discussed last night at the special called meeting.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Discuss and consider the minutes of the Special Called Council meeting held on September 18, 2023.

Alderman Nicole Hardesty- Makes a motion to accept the minutes. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Seconds motion. All- Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

- b. Discuss and consider financial and monthly reports from all departments

Alderman Nicole Hardesty Makes a motion to accept financial and monthly reports from all departments- with the understanding that they are lacking the budget verses actual reports. Alderman Corey Thomas- Seconds motion. All- Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

- c. Discuss and consider drainage improvement projects and updates from Drainage Liaison Corey Thomas.

Alderman Corey Thomas- The county did one more driveway today on East Stephen F, there's 3 left, and those work orders got put in yesterday. They should make it on the docket for Commissioner's Court next week. Also the county starts work on Frontier, they will begin work tomorrow and I assume next week will resume East Stephen F. I need to send that email to all the Drainage Committee; we're looking at the 27th for a possible meeting if everybody is good with that date at 6:00 pm it shouldn't be long. Are you good with the 27th next Wednesday, so we will have a Drainage meeting next Wednesday at 6. Also we need to reach out to CenterPoint because we need to ask them about lowering those gas lines. I can't find that email. It's just a matter of time before somebody hits it. The county will begin work on Robinhood as soon as we get the equipment back so that could be next week, or 2 weeks, or 3 weeks. They're gonna start on that and eventually work their way out but I don't see that being any time soon.

- d. Discuss and consider action on updates for ARPA Funds.

Mayor Terry Jeffers- Looks like we have a little over \$31K in unallocated. Alderman Nicole Hardesty- We actually have more than that. Did you reflect this to show what we actually have? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- Yes. Alderman Nicole Hardesty- Because the difference between the trucks, that's quite a bit of money. I think it would give us a better understanding of what we have. The \$24k for Fun View we've only spent \$6k. I think if we could see that it would be helpful. Alderman Glen Jordan- Is there a time limit we have on that? To do something with those funds? Alderman Nicole Hardesty- Is there an end time where you have til such and such date to spend all of it? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- Yeah, I believe David said 2025 money should be allocated or exhausted. They're gonna pick a percentage of the cities that received the money and then audit. We got such a small amount compared to other places so I really doubt we're even on the radar.

- e. Discuss and Consider Past & Future Grant applications.

TxDot City Sidewalks grant (Stephen F. Austin, Primrose, & Bluebonnet)

Alderman Corey Thomas- The grant, we'll have to hold off until we get our books in order. Because most of the grants require a year or 2 from our books. I think that's just for the Texas Water Board and the federal grants. I'm sure there are other grants out there, I don't know what they require. Alderman Nicole Hardesty- Most grants do require budgets and financials.

Alderman Glen Jordan- Did we never finish that survey? The low income? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I know we still have a few that are not filled out. Alderman Corey Thomas- we have to have 30% or 33% of the population? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- 33%. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Has it been regularly posted on our Facebook page? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- No but we can start papering Facebook page with, "Come by and fill out .." Can it be put on our website so it can be downloaded and sent in. Also the link on Facebook so they could download it and email it to you. Make it as easy as possible. And can we remove this sidewalk grant from the next meeting? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- Yes.

CDBG-MIT Grant follow-up - New Water System update/ New approaches for grant opportunities. (RWF & County Commissioner)

Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I would say the same about the water as well, right? Because it's a non-issue until the financials are in order. Alderman A.J. Jinkins-I agree. Alderman Glen Jordan- There's other avenues about the water too, I don't know. Alderman Corey Thomas- We also have flood money coming up. In 2025. Marshal William Tidwell- Myself, and Terry and Lauren met with David Linder and his counterpart about the grants for water systems. They were really confused about what we were really going after. So since then, they're looking at other grants to make it fit for us. They're gonna reach out to the BWA for us even though that's really out of the question, but they thought we ought to talk to them. Once they arrange that ... I'm not so sure that it won't need to be a group of us to go out there and talk to them. Alderman Corey Thomas- Does all this fall under the CDGB-MIT grant? Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- No, I think the way it's listed is confusing. It's the CDGB-MIT grant that we did not get that grant. So, this part about grant follow up. That's already a dead deal. That's why I'm saying to remove this item. Alderman Glen Jordan- Discussing grants, there are other grants out there for like what we were discussing about fixing up the building or up the Marshal's Office that we should look into.

- f. Discuss and consider further steps to replace copier in the Marshal's department and software and copier in City Hall

Alderman David Gallaway- I see 2 of the same from Quality Copiers and I know there was one other one from somebody else. Did we ever get the 3rd one? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- No, I talked to David from Grant Works and he said if you can't find 3 then go with 2 as long as they're Sam.gov registered. We'll get their Sam registration and have him verify that they are registered and have an active membership and we can move forward with that. Alderman David Gallaway- We talked about this one, the \$3k colored one for the Marshal and for the front office. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- Yeah. Alderman David Gallaway- Makes a motion that we accept Quality Copiers Services Inc's proposal dated 8/10/23 for \$3,000 cash cost of the Xerox Altalink C8045 printer system to approve both the Marshal's Office and the City Hall. For a total of \$6,000. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Seconds motion. All- Aye. None opposed. Motion carried. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- When was the last time ya'll talked to Quality Copiers? Only reason I ask is we have our machine through them, and our secretary called them because we got a new computer and they're not talking to each other. It's like things are happening with them. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I've talked to them; they're merging with another company. The gentleman that owns Quality is looking to scale back his involvement. That's the only thing we know.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Public Hearing: Village of Jones Creek's Proposed 2023 Tax Rate of \$0.330000 per \$100.00 of assessed value.

Aldermoman Nicole Hardesty- Makes a motion that they go into a public hearing. Alderman David Galloway- Seconds motion. All- Aye. None opposed. Motion Carried. Alderman Glen Jordan- Does anybody have anything they'd like to say about the public tax rate? Reverend Pittman- What's the difference between this year and last years tax rate? Alderman Corey Thomas- Last year was a .39. Mayor Terry Jeffers- It raises more money for the city because the valuations went up but the rate is less. Alderman Glen Jordan- Makes a motion that the public hearing is closed. Aldermoman Nicole Hardesty- Seconds motion. All- Aye- None opposed. Motion Carried.

- b. Discuss and Possible action regarding the adoption of \$0.00000 as the portion of the tax rate to fund the debt service of the village of Jones Creek for the Fiscal year 2023-2024 (Record Vote)

Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Makes a motion to adopt the 0.00as a portion of the tax rate to fund the debt service of the of the village of Jones Creek for 2023-2024. Aldermoman Nicole Hardesty- Seconds motion. All-Aye. None Opposed. Motion Carried .

<u>Name/ Position</u>	<u>Action</u>
Terry Jeffers, Mayor	<input checked="" type="radio"/> For <input type="radio"/> Against <input type="radio"/> Abstain <input type="radio"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> No Vote
Glen Jordan, Alderman	<input checked="" type="radio"/> For <input type="radio"/> Against <input type="radio"/> Abstain <input type="radio"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> No Vote
Corey Thomas, Alderman	<input checked="" type="radio"/> For <input type="radio"/> Against <input type="radio"/> Abstain <input type="radio"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> No Vote
Nicole Hardesty, Aldermoman	<input checked="" type="radio"/> For <input type="radio"/> Against <input type="radio"/> Abstain <input type="radio"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> No Vote
David Galloway, Alderman	<input checked="" type="radio"/> For <input type="radio"/> Against <input type="radio"/> Abstain <input type="radio"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> No Vote
AJ Jinkins, Alderman	<input checked="" type="radio"/> For <input type="radio"/> Against <input type="radio"/> Abstain <input type="radio"/> Absent <input type="radio"/> No Vote

- c. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the adoption of \$.33000 as the portion of the tax rate to fund the maintenance and operations of the village of Jones Creek for the fiscal year 2023-2024. (Record Vote)

Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Makes a motion that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of the tax rate of 0.33 which is effectively a 4.0 increase in the tax rate. Aldermoman Nicole Hardesty- Could you repeat that? Alderman A.J. Jinkins- 'repeats motion made'. Aldermoman Nicole Hardesty- I thought that we didn't increase this? Alderman Glen Jordan- We're not. The property value increased. Aldermoman Nicole Hardesty- But that's not what we're talking about. We're only talking about the portion that we're responsible for. Which is .33, that's not an increase, that's a decrease from .394. Mayor Terry Jeffers- It's 4% more money because of the valuations. Aldermoman

Nicole Hardesty- But we're talking about the tax rate. Alderman Glen Jordan- You have to read it a certain way for the council. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- But that's not written here. Is it? Is that how it's written? Is that why you're saying it the way you are? Alderman A.J. Jenkins- It's the verbiage that you have to use when you adopt the rate. Remember this is that situation where we aren't really going up on anything. We're not asking for anything as a city, but the county is upping the appraisal and therefore the taxes are going up but they don't take the heat for it they give it to us. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- That's why I don't want to use the word increase because 'we' are not increasing taxes. 'We' are decreasing taxes. Alderman A.J. Jenkins- The wording has to say we are increasing, and I always say when I vote, I vote aye, but we as the city of Jones creek are not raising the taxes that's the county. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I'm not trying to be playing here. I do not see where that's written that that's exactly the way that you need to say it. Alderman A.J. Jenkins- This is the verbiage that the attorneys and everybody says we have to use. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Thank you, I didn't realize that that was a piece of paper that was in front of you that you were reading off of. I thought it was just something that you were saying.

<u>Name/ Position</u>	<u>Action</u>
Terry Jeffers, Mayor	(For) Against Abstain Absent No Vote
Glen Jordan, Alderman	(For) Against Abstain Absent No Vote
Corey Thomas, Alderman	(For) Against Abstain Absent No Vote
Nicole Hardesty, Alderwoman	(For) Against Abstain Absent No Vote
David Galloway, Alderman	(For) Against Abstain Absent No Vote
AJ Jenkins, Alderman	(For) Against Abstain Absent No Vote

- d. **Discuss and consider possible action regarding Ordinance 552AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF JONES CREEK, TEXAS; PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES OF THE VILLAGE OF JONES CREEK, TEXAS FOR THE YEAR 2023; PROVIDING THE DATE ON WHICH SUCH AD VALOREM TAXES SHALL BE DUE AN PAYABLE; PROVIDING FOR THE PENALTY AND INTEREST ON ALL TAXES NOT TIMELY PAID; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND REPEALED ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREIN.**

(Record Vote)

<u>Name/ Position</u>	<u>Action</u>
Terry Jeffers, Mayor	(For) Against Abstain Absent No Vote
Glen Jordan, Alderman	(For) Against Abstain Absent No Vote

Corey Thomas, Alderman

For | Against | Abstain | Absent | No Vote

Nicole Hardesty, Alderwoman

For | Against | Abstain | Absent | No Vote

David Galloway, Alderman

For | Against | Abstain | Absent | No Vote

AJ Jinkins, Alderman

For | Against | Abstain | Absent | No Vote

- e. Discuss and consider nominees to serve on the Appraisal Board for Brazoria County, Texas.

Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I nominate David Galloway. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- I think he would do a fantastic job. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I think so too. Alderman David Galloway- Thank ya'll. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Could we nominate residents? Mayor Terry Jeffers- Yes. Alderman Corey Thomas- We have 2 votes for the 5. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Oh ok, so we have our 2 votes that we can vote on David. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- We can nominate up to 5 candidates before October 14th the voting units must adopt a resolution to nominate up to 5 candidates for formal action. Alderman David Galloway- If I'm doing my math correct based on the information they've written here. Each taxing unit can nominate up to 5 candidates to fill the 5 positions. But because we only get up to 2 votes you can only submit 5 but you can only use your 2 votes. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- So we send 2 and vote for 1? Mayor Terry Jeffers- That would split the vote. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- So it would be better to just send 1 person and use both votes for them? Mayor Terry Jeffers- Yes. We might as well pass this resolution, although there is not a resolution number on there at this time. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Are we allowed to pass this resolution? There's not a number on it and it's not on the agenda. Alderman David Galloway- We'd have to set a special called meeting. Mayor Terry Jeffers- Lauren, let's put this resolution on the next special called meeting. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Makes a motion to appoint David Galloway to the Appraisal District. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Seconds motion. All- Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

- f. Discuss and consider further action on road improvements being made on East Stephen F Austin Road, Frontier Lane, Smith Street and Live Oak Drive.

Alderman Corey Thomas- William, can you get with the Zachary guys and get them to mark East Stephen F? That will be starting either Thursday or Monday. Both ends. And Live Oak and Smith Street are completed.

- g. Discuss and consider other upcoming City events.

- National Night Out Oct.3
- Veterans Parade Nov. 1 (in Angleton)
- Veteran's Breakfast Nov.9 Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Is that here or at the restaurant? Marshal William Tidwell- Right now it's going to be here, but we'll have to check on that.
- Pancake's with Santa Alderman A.J. Jinkins- I believe that's December 2nd.

h. Discuss and Consider allocation of funds for Christmas in the Creek Alderman David Galloway- *I asked Lauren to put this on there. I know that this is a Marshal's Office event, but I also know a lot of people in the city come and go and have a good time as well. I know a lot of people put funds into it. The event is at a level where it's kind of maintaining the equipment, the lights, and everything of that nature. It just kind of burns out. I did want to ask instead of burdening the system overall, I wanted to see if the city could put/allocate roughly \$1500 so that if somebody's up here to restring light, 2 or 3 strands of lights, they could bring a receipt to Lauren for that, and Lauren would be able to reimburse them for that. We could keep it in the vault. When the set up happens here it's roughly 3 or 4 people and about 2 weeks' worth of time. About 6 hours a day. I just want there to be some funds on hand. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Is this a Marshal's event now? Is it not a city event? Marshal William Tidwell- It was started by the Marshal's Department. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Way back when it was a city-wide event. Alderman A.J. Jenkins- It was started with the Marshal's Department. Alderman Corey Thomas- Makes a motion that the city allocates \$1500 to funds for Christmas in the Creek. Alderman A.J. Jenkins- Seconds motion. All- Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.*

i. Discuss and review new interlocal agreement between the Village and Brazoria County. Mayor Terry Jeffers- *It just says they provide the equipment and labor, and we provide the materials for potholes, road repair, culverts. Alderman Corey Thomas- Makes a motion to approve the interlocal agreement. Alderman Glen Jordan- Seconds motion. All- Aye. None opposed. Motion Carried.*

7. ADJOURN

Alderman Corey Thomas- Makes a motion to adjourn. Alderman David Galloway- Seconds motion. All accepted. Motion carried. Adjourned at 6:36 pm.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this Public Notice was placed on the official Bulletin Board at the City Hall on 15th day of September, 2023 no later than 5:30p.m.


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.