Discuss and consider financial and monthly reports from all departments.

Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Makes a motion to accept monthly reports but until we have clarification from Lindsey exclude financials. Alderman Glen Jordan- Seconds motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

, Discuss and consider the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 28, 2023. ***Alderman Corey Thomas- Makes a motion to accept minutes. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Seconds motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.***

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 December 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**

**via teleconference.**

**meeting in person and**

This written notice, the meeting agenda, is posted online at [http://www.villageofjonescreektexas.com.](http://www.villageofjonescreektexas.com/) The public were permitted to offer public comments telephonically as provided by the agenda and as pennitted 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:

**CALL TO ORDER**

6:00 pm

1.

2.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLI GEN CE**

Invocation led by Alderman A.J. Jinkins. Pledges led by all.

3.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

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

**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.

Anna Galloway- As you know we had Pancakes with Santa and Christmas on the Creek in the last couple weeks. I wanna give thanks to the people on the record that thus far have not gotten that "Thank You". So we had numerous people adopt trees and decorate them as always an amazing community participation that we have in this event. I definitely want to thank them for coming out and decorating trees, otherwise I would have to. We had an incredible group of teenagers come out the last two years and ask if they can help. They should up 2 hours before the event and were very professional. They did it with so much respect and they cleaned up after themselves. We had 3 members of the Marshal's Department who really went above and beyond on their off hours to make sure all this happened. The Fire Department came out and put stakes so all those trees were secure. Brazosport Commercial Roofing donated employees to make sure all those trees were installed and zip-tied to those posts in the rain. Rocky Thomas came down and saw I was struggling with some additional t- posts and just stopped and gave his time for that and that was incredible. The Lion's Club came out and dedicated the bench that the community earned through their plastic donations. And to brag on my son, this is year number 3 he strung up all the lights on the roofline. I just wanted to take the time and actually call out those people by name or association as much as I could because that is something we

definitely lack in doing. We definitely don't acknowledge our volunteers enough.

4.

5.

**OLD BUSINESS**

a.

b.

c. Discuss and consider updates from the CPA Lindsay English.

CPA Lindsey English- As you all know the financials were a mess going all the way back to 2021. I've gotten all of your accounts except for general fund updated through February 2023. I believe Lauren is working on getting me the statements for February through September of 2023 so I can get those updated. Texas Gulf Bank general fund account is up there. We're getting through that so we're all the way through June 2022 and working on July of 2023. It is taking some time because I'm trying to use the information that was already in Quick-books. because it's the most throughout, so I'm having to go line by line in Quick- books and line by line in bank statements and merge the 2 together before we reconcile it. I have a few questions that I will send to Lauren that I will categorize the biggest problem I am having is finding the documents during that time-frame to do everything correctly. South Star is a different animal. Your South Star general fund account; the merchant that accepts payments for that account lumps all payments and then makes one deposit a month so I have to wait for Lauren to get the break down of what that deposit is. So that has only been reconciled through February of 2022. As soon as she is able to get that break down I will start with March of 2022 and get all of that information in. Significant progress, I know it doesn't feel like it but we are making a lot of progress. It's taken a long time to figure out what's the best way to get the information we need to get everything entered correctly. And there was a switch from desktop Quick-books and Online so everything is being done on Quick-books Online. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Are those set up to be automatically be from the bank accounts now? Lindsey English- They are now. They weren't at the time. It does look like they are pulling information in, which is where my information is coming from and I just have to open. I am opening each major transaction to make sure all of the classes are in there correctly and the customer is in there correctly. So I am going line by line of those transactions and then I have to go back in and enter anything that hasn't come in that bank account once that's done then I can reconcile it.

Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- How comfortable are you with us going ahead with an audit for 2020-2021

tax year? Are we in a place now that it looks reasonable that we can call the company that we do the audits through? Through September 2021, because you said we're not done through past February 2022, could we at least do that audit? Lindsey English- Yes, we can. I will tell you there are quite a few deposits that are most uncategorized income because we don't know what they are, we could go back in and categorize them as general service income or that’s mostly where your deposits are coming from either trash or court fines. I can go back in if Lauren wants to go back in and take a look and see if anything sticks out at her to re class, as far as balances go they are all accurate through the end of the year. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- As far as us being a government entity and deciding where it's gonna go and it being unclassified, what's the legality? Lindsey English- Right now it's uncategorized because we don't have the documentation so there's no firm way for you to say exactly what it is, however, their may be something that sticks out to you guys.

Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- What if it's Ad Velor um tax? Is that a possibility? Lindsey English- It is a possibility. And I don't know what that would look like. Lauren may have some more insights. If we print it out it may stick out to you I don't deal with the day to day so it wouldn't stick out to me. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Would Kristen B. have that? Lindsey English- I would assume so. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I can get with the tax office and see. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- That seems the most important one. And really your records could reflect. We have the records somewhere whether it's court or tax and what's left would be trash and why those people aren't getting credited for that and that's another animal not yours. At that point Tiffany would need to look at because there was some discussion of garbage fees not going where they were supposed to that people were paying their bills and there was no record of it. Alderman Glen Jordan- Is there a timeline where we could see that you could get this achieved? Lindsey English- The Texas Gulf Bank general account in the next 2-3 weeks, South Star, that would be more of a question for Lauren. I think she has someone working on a schedule of that breakdown of each deposit. As soon as I get that I can jump on that and get it done quickly. Alderman Glen Jordan- Do you see any big variances of things looking out of place? Lindsey English- As far as numbers go I haven't really looked at the big picture because I've been so focused. Your activity is pretty consistent, you're pretty consistent. There are some transactions that I've come across that stick out almost as a red flag. And I've noted those and compiled a list of those to give to Lauren and have look into them and maybe there's an explanation for them. If not she'll at least she'll have list. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Would you be able to work with our CPA Curtis Craig? Lindsey English- He's the owner. I can help him as far as I can a lot of what he's gonna be asking for is gonna be source documentations his first request will probably go to Lauren. If she sees an entry she doesn't understand I can go back and pull what I have. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Moving forward would it be reasonable for you to look over our books once a month and reconcile for a time? Or until Lauren feels 100% comfortable with the accounts and how everything is supposed to be because we are in such a situation right now and we need to have a CPA because of the audits. And Lauren is still learning I’d like her to have as much support as she can because as you can see this was a very big mess. Alderman Glen Jordan- That is to let everyone know it was a big mess and that is inexcusable. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I think we would need a quote for what you think that would be after you get everything done. We appreciate everything you’ve done for us.

d. Discuss and Consider taking action on the update of the installing of rumble strips on city road ways inside the city limits.

Alderman Glen Jordan- There was no action on that. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Didn’t we order them? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- We can use the ARPA funs to do that. I wanted to bring that to you and I believe the marshal is checking with TXDOT. Marshal Tidwell- We did talk about that. I am going to talk to another source. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Makes a motion to purchase the rumble strips. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Seconds motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

e. Discuss and consider taking actions on master construction plans for a new community center and pavilion park/walking trails at 7117 S.F. Austin

Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I know, David, you and Tim were supposed to get together and Corey too and walk th property. Alderman David Galloway- Corey and I did get together because Tim had to leave town. I really think we need to set a special called meeting like what we do with our budget for us to discuss. We really need to decide how big of a building for the marshals’ and the city side and then addition space. We could then set it on our documents and if we do a workshop and we could talk about a 50\*75 building and you could have the same type of layout for the marshal’s department. I think we’d need everyone at the table

c.

***to discuss it. I can draft it. If I end up using my resources to draft it without talking to everybody else then someone could say I don’t like that and I want everyone to have a word. Alderwoman Nicole Hardety- David I know you could draw something out while we’re all talking right? So why don’t we go ahead and schedule a workshop where we can all bring out ideas to the table and hash them out? Maybe even do a town hall thing. Alderman David Galloway- I’ll go ahead and take a plotter and plot out the Platt. So we can place it up there and see visually. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- We would invite the community and that way everyone could partake in doing this. It would have to be after January. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Makes a motion to set a workshop day to discuss the construction of the community center and hall. Alderman David Galloway- Seconds motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.***

f. Discuss and consider taking action on security measures updates at city hall.

***Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- So Beverly, we found the money huh? Judge Beverly Widner- We do have the money, I think we have ample money as you can see the 37k in the account. I would like for it to happen yesterday. Why don’t you take over here marshal and tell them about the meeting. Marshal Tidwell- We met with a contractor to do this work, happens to be Tiffany’s husband. He can do part of the work, he can’t do full turn key. We’re talking about bulletproof glass, even below the countertop having steel plates and have brick on the outside. As far as the automatic doors, we’ve already paid for that. We’ve got it in the marshal’s office but not out here. We paid for that 2 years ago. We stopped doing anything else in here because we talked about doing a wall and we wanted to make sure where we wanted everything. I have already contacted those people and they’re ready anytime we get ready. A lot of this stuff can be donated to use as far as material, steel plates I know we can get that donated. Some of the material itself we have a lot of contractors around here and I know we can get a lot donated. We’re just talking about a wall. We’re talking about extending that wall a little where we do not have a lobby per say. We could have a sign out there saying you call in and we’ll call you when we are ready to see you, so we don’t have a bunch of people sitting up here. If you look at any other places, they don’t allow it. It’s just a safety thing We can say all day long it’ll never happen here, that’s what everyone else has said. That’s the famous words. Alderman Glen Jordan- Judge, when you have court, I know a lot of it is done in your office, is there any way we could have more of it out here? Judge Beverly Widner- I’m gonna be very honest. I’ve been doing this for 5 years now and the change in the demeaner of the public is unbelievably different. My issue is, I sit in that office, and I hear how those girls are talked to and when I’m here I get up and go intervene. But that’s not keeping a bullet from flying. What we are talking about doing, you won’t have access to that area period. I will no longer be seeing people in my office. I have already had a laptop ordered here and what I intend to do is they will be protected but I will not. I will sit out here and I will deal with everything from that laptop and they won’t be subjected to any of it. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- What’s going to protect you? Your safety would be if we had a bailiff. Judge Widner- That’s not feasible because on court dates I already know ahead of time who’s coming in for show cause and who’s coming in for court. We say 8am to 5pm and I go to lunch 11am to noon. Most of the time you have an office that doesn’t go to lunch. We go get something and eat up here but we’re working through lunch. I will say, would I like to be protected, yes. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Why cant we cut down your time so there’s an officer between 8 and noon or something? Alderman Glen Jordan- If they don’t want to come at that time they could come another time. Alderman David Galloway- You could stagger it. While you’re doing this you normally have multiple other people in the audience waiting? Or could you? If this design was done, over on the court side could you be there behind the glass? Judge Beverly Widner- To be honest I haven’t even thought of that. I think that would be an excellent idea. Right now it would be Tiffany sitting on the utilities in ADA. On the court it’s going to be higher level. Alderman David Galloway- Could we change the height to be ADA? Judge Beverly Widner- Most definitely. Honestly, I don’t know why we haven’t thought of that. Alderman Glen Jordan- We could have people waiting in here and have an intercom and they go around to in there. Alderman David Galloway- Or we could get one of those things that you pull the ticket with a number. Marshal, what do you need from us for this? Marshal Tidwell- This is just let ya’ll know what we’re talking about and we’re getting some numbers. Judge Beverly Widner- I feel good that the money is there. Alderman Glen Jordan- We’ll table this. All- Agreed.***

g. Discuss and consider taking action on offering all employees access to “Next Level” clinics.

***Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I thought we discussed and voted on this. Alderman Glen Jordan- We said if it was able to use the ARPA funds, are we. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- No, I contacted David and he said that is not included in the scope of the ARPA funds whether it be insurance or clinic care, it’s not included. Marshal Tidwell- However, you could increase everybody’s check by the $75 and remove it to pay for it. So we could give it to them and take it right back out to pay for it. We said we would do it for 1 year and take a look at it. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- It’s almost 11k to give everybody that. Alderman David Galloway- Makes a motion we’d increase everyone’s paycheck by $75 and pay for that. Alderman Corey Thomas- Seconds motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Should we make a motion to offer Next Level to each employee now? Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I have a question, $75 is the entire family, right? But if there isn’t a family, isn’t it not the $75. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- It’s $75 per account. My husband can go to the Dow clinic, but they are not open on the holidays and weekends. So he went there and he was seen by doctors and got x-rays and he was taken care of within the hour. The main location is by chicken salad chicken. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- There was a question by one of the employees, if they don’t want the next level care could they just get the $75? All- No. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Do we need to amend the motion? Alderman David Galloway- No I don’t think you can. If you limit to who’s actually getting the Next Level then your actually saying that you’re allocating it for the next level. If you allocate some of it to who wants Next Level then you’re actually going against providing it for everybody. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- he intent is to give the Next Level not to give them $75 more. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- They would have to take the Next Level for this one year. Alderman David Galloway- I’ve got a small issue without the attorney speaking on this thing saying we’re going to make people have to take it. Because we’re providing money in their check without saying it’s for this and then taking it. It’s almost taxation without representation they don’t have a vote that they get Next Level, then I feel that that opens us up. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- That’s why we’re giving them the money for the Next Level. Alderman David Galloway- We all understand that but the ramifications of it is providing it to them, the money, we can’t make them take a service. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Do we need to get the lawyer to weigh in on that? I’m not comfortable with giving the $75 to some and health insurance to the rest and what if they all say we want the $75. Then what the heck did we do this for? Alderman David Galloway- I make a motion that we strike the last motion until we get information from the attorney. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Seconds motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.***

h. Discuss and consider action on the hiring of a new maintenance person.

***Alderman Glen Jordan- Have we got somebody in mind? Mayor Terry Jeffers- We’ve had quite a few applicants. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- We started interviews. We had one today and 2 tomorrow and 2 on Thursday. There are some strong candidates that we are interviewing. Hopefully we’ll have somebody in place by the 1st of the year, fingers crossed. Alderman Glen Jordan- Have you discussed with them that they’re probably going to have to get a herbicide license. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- Yes, we had one today. Alderman Glen Jordan- Did you give them a timeline on that license? We’ve let it go and let it go and no one ever got one, so we need to stress getting one and I don’t feel comfortable starting them at the top wage. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- No, absolutely not. Alderman Glen Jordan- We need to set a minimum wage, and this is a trial basis, you set these achievements and you get more money like any other job. Mayor Terry Jeffers- We’ve got that in place. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- When we hired the last maintenance person, they started at $17 and after 90 days they got the extra $.50 and then they also got the ARPA. So right now the max pay is $21.50. I figure based on experience start at $18-$19 per hour. People that are stronger candidates have a lot of experience doing maintenance. Alderman Glen Jordan- Even at the county you don’t start at that pay, you gotta reach certain goals and many months to do this. You have to earn your position and that’s anybody. To me I don’t feel like they should get a $4 hour raise until a while. Alderman Corey Thomas- I agree with you there. Alderman David Galloway- One thing I do want to bring up, whenever we ended up having the issues we had with the past secretary and other individuals inside the front office I know we ended up coming together and the Mayor had it down to a couple candidates and we were able to have an executive session and given that we’ve had issues with the past with this department. I would like to discuss when we get it down to 4 and then we’re able to look at it and for one we need it to be comfortable with this situation and for 2 if there are any red flags we’re able to look at. Alderman Corey Thomas- That’s how we ended up with Lauren here. Alderman David Galloway- We looked at everything and said aren’t you doing that job, why aren’t we doing that. I’m just bringing it up because we’ve had some turnover there and we’ve had some people that are less than what you’d expect the standard to be. Alderman Glen Jordan- And we would like to be informed if there are issues with that person. Just like an email. And not after the fact that it’s been done. Alderman David Galloway- How many resumes have we received? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I think 5 or 6. We’ve gotten 6 but 1 we already interviewed before hand and he’s not a good fit because he has other obligations and that would create conflict. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I just want to say for the record, I don’t want to overstep Lauren’s authority she is the office manager, the administrator, that is her job to hire those positions and I don’t know that it’s our job to hire those positions. It’s our job to hire her position but not those people that work under her. I am more than happy to look at applications and help her make that decision but ultimately that decision is hers. I don’t want to make her feel that we’re not ok. Alderman David Galloway- I do want to go on record and say that if you look back at the recording, I never said one time we should make that decision. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- However do we not approve that in a meeting? Employees don’t get approved by council? Alderman Glen Jordan- Everyone that’s been hired since I’ve been here has. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Ok so then we have to approve it. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Yes, but she makes the decision. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Hold on, let me finish please. If we have to approve somebody then I think it’s only far that we get to talk to them before she makes a decision to hire them so she can consider any objections we might have. I don’t think that’s usurping her authority, I think that’s simply allowing everybody to have an input. Alderman Glen Jordan- And a maintenance person, I know about roads and mowers and Corey knows about tractors. Everybody can help we’re all here to help you, Lauren. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I’ve asked the judge and the marshal to sit in on the interviews, we’re all going to have to work directly with this person as a collective. Between community service and emergency management and just the day to day. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- I’ve just got to say we’ve got thousands and thousands of dollars’ worth equipment…Alderman Glen Jordan- Well… Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Hang on, don’t interrupt me. We approved the expenditure of with the tax dollars of the city. We need to make sure that person is acceptable to our standards and able to use them without damaging them. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I just don’t think that’s the way it’s set up though. In the past, like the marshal hires his own officers. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- But we have to approve them. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Yes, we have to approve them, but never once have we interviewed anybody in his department. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- However, in recent years he’s made a few mistakes too in hiring people and had some issues and was a black eye to the city. I don’t think it’s unreasonable to say if the council is going to be approving whether it’s him hiring or her hiring that we meet them. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I don’t have a problem meeting them, I don’t have a problem giving my opinion. I have a problem with us voting who’s going to be hired, that’s her job. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- I didn’t say that either. I said I think it would be a good idea to meet them and ask them questions. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Yes, and I’m agreeing with you. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- We do all have some burden to bare when the wrong person is hired as we know because we had just talked to the lady who was helping us figure out the last 3 messed up years. I don’t think it’s unreasonable for this council who votes on thing to have an opinion. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I don’t have a problem with it either, I have a problem with the council deciding who’s hired. I just wanted to be on the record that we were not going to be making the decision for her. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- If I can’t talk to somebody and she hires the wrong person, the I will 100% blame her when it comes falling down. William had to take the fall for the Facebook guy, that was his issue. Why can’t we all shoulder some of that responsibility? Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty-No we can. I think we’re saying the same thing here. I just was saying we can not decide who’s hired. That’s it.***

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discuss and consider taking action on a credit application with Equipment Share/Paul Rodriguez.

***Mayor Terry Jeffers- We have a credit application in our packet. If we fill this out and we are in an emergency and need a generator or backhoe or tractor then we will have the 1st shot with the equipment that he has. If we don’t do it then…Alderman Glen Jordan- That’s the 1st person we’ve had offer us that. We may never need it, but then we might need it. Alderman David Galloway- The only thing is before we make a motion, because equipment Share is the same thing as United Rentals and Sun, and there’s multiple venders out there before we can probably do the credit approval, we need to check what rates we would be given and look at which one would be better. You can get the rates locked when you negotiate. They can give Lauren their best rates and she can present it to us. Glen if you want to get with Lauren and give her a list on what places you think would be best and what equipment. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- I think we also need to make sure there’s no***

***annual rates/fees. Alderman David Galloway- What happens if we do the app with just this one and we end up with a tornado and they get our business. I’m not saying that would happen, but it could. I just want to be on record saying we’re going to do it the right way. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I just need a list of vendors. Mayor Terry Jeffers- United Rentals and Sun Built. Alderman Corey Thomas- There’s the one in Clute, Hertz I think. And Mustang. Alderman Glen Jordan- You probably could just Google local rentals. Alderman David Galloway- If you send out something to all 5 of them and we only get 3 returned, cool. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- I make a motion we table this until we get more information. Alderman David Galloway- Seconds motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.***

 b. Discuss and consider updates on pilot program for advertising personal yard/garage sales on city social media platforms.

***Alderman David Galloway- Has anything come of this? Has anyone reached out or have we even promoted this? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- We have told a few people that have come in to cancel trash service because they’re moving and told them we can provide this service. Tiffany kinda of reworked the city-wide garage sale paper so we have something. I believe I included it in the packet. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty-Have ya’ll announced this pilot program on our Facebook or our website? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I wanted ya’ll to look over this to see if there’s anything you wanted added or subtracted from this. Alderman Glen Jordan- Have you asked the lawyers about this? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I can get with Bridget and see if we can offer to promote people yard sales. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Does no one have garage sales on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday? Alderman Corey Thomas- Not according to this form. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I would add those days. I’d like to be different and have one on a Monday. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- You’re already different. Mayor Terry Jeffers- You might want to make that change, and speak with the lawyer. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I don’t really see this being a legal issue. We’re giving them a free service. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- This is not a mandatory form. Alderman Corey Thomas- I still say we should have her look it over.***

 c. Discuss and consider cost of code books for updating all building code requirements.

***Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Is that right, $670? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- Thos are the book I found on Amazon. Alderman Corey Thomas- If we ordered 1 more does it change that number? Alderman David Galloway- Your shopping cart has the 2018, did they not have the 2021? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- It wasn’t on Amazon. I can go to the website for getting your inspectors license and see if they have it. I know they don’t do it every year they do one every couple years. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- That’s a lot less than I thought it was going to be. I don’t know why I thought those books were in the thousands. Alderman Glen Jordan- Who was the last person that updated our codes? Alderman Corey Thomas- Don’t we adopt the state of Texas codes? Mayor Terry Jeffers- We don’t really need to have these books on hand as long as Mr. Malone knows which ones we go by. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Are those available online, Terry? Alderman David Galloway- No. Mayor Terry Jeffers- If we bought all these books and put them in the office they probably wouldn’t even get looked at. Alderman Corey Thomas- It’s something good to look at. If someone calls Lauren and she could take care of an issue. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Is it customary for the cities to have these books? Alderman A.J. Jinkins- If we’re having new construction in Jones Creek, do we as a community require certain codes. Mayor Terry Jeffers- Yes, we do. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- What if someone came in and said show me where that code is. How do we do that? If it’s not online, how would we show them? Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty—I’m sure Lake Jackson has them. But does Brazoria, Sweeny, Danbury. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- We’ve made contact with Oyster Creek and that city secretary has been extremely helpful. I’d have to call her and ask her if they have them on hand. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I have people all the time come in and show me that it’s Texas law and I have to go fumbling for it and if I had the book I could point to it. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- My point is with all the new construction will this be something we’ll need. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I think it’s something that the contractor is gonna need. You’re right, knowledge is power and we should be able to look it up ourselves. Alderman David Galloway- It’s my thought process that $670 to have a set of code is not a bad thing to have. If you have someone that deals with code violations and we have people starting to build. You’re concerned with someone bringing something to you and it’s important to have something to reference to. Maybe we get more permits instead of people doing things without telling us. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Why don’t we wait and get the new ones in 2024 when they come out since they’re good for 3 years? Mayor Terry Jeffers- You don’t normally adopt the new code, you normally stay one behind. Alderman David Galloway- So our codes right now for the city is 2015? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I haven’t been able to find that documentation. I only have to 2008. Alderman David Galloway- I’ll send you the one Brittney sent me. The one I had was 2015. If we’re able to bring it to 2021 we won’t have to mess with it for 4-5 years. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- So $670 every 4-5 years is not unreasonable. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Why haven’t we adopted the 2021? Alderman David Galloway- I think Lauren will have to get with the attorney to do that. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I would like to make a motion for that to be on the next agenda. To bring our code standards up to where the other cities are. Alderman David Galloway- Seconds motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.***

d. Discuss and consider outsourcing a temporary cleaning service.

***Mayor Terry Jeffers- I think we have a quote here. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- We do have some community services workers right now. We’re trying to get as much maintenance done as possible. We have one that can only come in a couple hours, so we have her mopping and cleaning and we have a gentleman that’s here all day he’s basically picked up everything outside and is working on the barn cleaning that up. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Is that sufficient until we get a maintenance filled? Alderman Glen Jordan- Why is that the maintenance persons job to clean the building? Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- It’s always been. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- That’s in the job description? Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Yes, it always has been. Alderman Glen Jordan- It’s been my understanding a maintenance persons field is mowing ditches. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- Since he is not hired by us he cannot operate the truck or tractor. Even when we had maintenance, if it was nasty outside we’d send him over there to do cleaning. Alderman Glen Jordan- I’m talking about in the office. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- It’s always been that. Christy did it and Phillip did it. That was their job. Alderman Glen Jordan- We rotate people out in the office. Everybody takes turns. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- That’s what we’ve been doing. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I guess I was just wondering if we’re spending $200 a week. Alderman Glen Jordan- That’s high. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- Right now we have community service coming and cleaning. Alderman David Galloway- So we’re going to table this. Mayor Terry Jeffers- No action.***

 f. Discuss and consider report on completed road improvement.

***Alderman Corey Thomas- It’s pretty much there. We still have $81k that we allocated and didn’t have to use. Alderman David Galloway- So that’s going back to the ARPA. That’s great. Make sure we put that in the right location. Alderman Corey Thomas- What did we have to pay engineering for? City Secretary Lauren Grayson- There were some spots on Smith and Live Oak they resurfaced and we had to pay engineering. Alderman Corey Thomas- Unless that’s just a fee for something else. City Secretary Lauren Grayson- I have the invoice I can go get it. Alderman Corey Thomas- I’m just curious as to why engineering. Mayor Terry Jeffers- That’s on one side of the road and it’s the other side that has the big pot hole that everyone hits. Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- I was wondering what they did. They blacktopped one little piece not at my house but before my house. But on the other side is where the hole is. They patched nothing and didn’t fix the hole.***

g. Discuss and consider current and upcoming events.

* Christmas in the Creek Dec. 12

***Mayor Terry Jeffers- This was a good turn out.***

* Volunteer event for the installation of sprinkler (TBA)

***Anna Galloway- We don’t have that information yet. We’ll get that.***

* Easter Bake sale March 29, 2024
* Spring Citywide Cleanup April 20, 2024

***Alderman David Galloway- I just want to say thank you to Anna for all that you do. Mayor Terry Jeffers- Absolutely.***



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DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON ANY OR ALL OF THE ITEMS LISTED IN A DIFFERENT ORDER IF A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD SO DETERMINES.

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

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

**CERTIFICATION**

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

***Mayor Terry Jeffers- I think we have that under control.***

**8. ADJOURN**

***7:17 pm Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Makes a motion to adjourn. Alderman Corey Thomas- Seconds motion. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.***