**Village of Jones Creek**

7207 Stephen F. Austin

Jones Creek, TX 77541

(979) 233-2700

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**The Board of Aldermen of the Village of Jones Creek, Texas will hold a Regular Council Meeting on July 29, 2025, at the Village Hall Located at 7207 Stephen F. Austin Road beginning at 6:00 p.m. 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 ALLEGIANCE**

*Mayor Corey Thomas led the invocation. Pledge led by all.*

**3. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

*Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty- Absent. Alderman A.J. Jinkins- Present. Alderman Mike Chilcote- Present. Alderman David Galloway- Absent. Alderman Glen Jordan- Present. Mayor Corey Thomas- Present.*

**4. COMMUNICATION OF VISITORS (PUBLIC COMMENT) Limit to 5 minutes**

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 an 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.

*Marshal William Tidwell stated there is going to be a school supply drive for SFA, and details will be posted on Facebook and at City Hall. Mashal Tidwell also stated he received a text from the school board the day before about a meeting that was held at the school board last week and Rocky Thomas spoke for them and one of the things he spoke about is that they have not been feeding the kids out here like they used to do. He stated the text he received said the reason they had stopped doing free lunches out here was because they were only feeding about 3 children. He stated that he responded right away and said it is really amazing to him that he had to direct traffic to get people in there last year to get the lunches and it was a lot more than 3 people. He then commented that Regina Tidwell, Tammy Butler and Melania Gutierrez are feeding 85 kids every week. Marshal Tidwell then said he told them it is a shame that they screw the numbers around to fit their own judgement and agenda and that is basically what has happened. He added that they will continue to be right here feeding the kids and they are doing a great job. Alderman A.J. Jinkins asked Marshal Tidwell who it was that sent the text, to which, Marshal Tidwell answered it was Danny Massey and the board president both responded.*

**5.** **OLD BUSINESS**

**a.** Discuss and consider accepting the minutes from the regular council meeting on June 17, 2025.

*Alderman A.J. Jinkins made a motion to accept the minutes* *from the regular council meeting on June 17, 2025. Alderman Mike Chilcote seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.*

**b.** Discuss and consider accepting the financial reports from all departments.

*Alderman Glen Jordan made a motion to accept the reports but exclude the financials until the final reports are received from the adjuster. Alderman A.J. Jinkins seconded the motion. Alderman Mike Chilcote abstained due to not having looked them over. All others were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.*

**c.** Discuss and consider any updates on new or ongoing drainage issues.

*Mayor Corey Thomas stated the county did finish the 1st part of Robinhood and the box culverts are in. He stated they have put in a total of 7 boxes at 42-48 ft. Mayor Thomas added that next year they will be doing driveways.*

*Alderman Glen Jordan warned that on Peach, Laurel and Meadow Lane, the streets are getting wore down and requested the maintenance look into that and advised that people driving should be careful on those roads.*

**d.** Discuss and consider addressing any items that were released by any publication.

*None.*

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**a.** EXECUTIVE SESSION 551.074 Personnel Matters; Closed Meeting. (1) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

*6:08 pm- Alderman A.J. Jinkins made a motion to go into executive session. Alderman Mike Chilcote seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.*

*6:30 pm- Alderman A.J. Jinkins made a motion to return to regular session. Alderman Mike Chilcote seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.*

**b.** Discuss and consider taking action on any item discussed in the Executive Session.

*Alderman A.J. Jinkins made a motion to make 2 payments to the IRS. Alderman Mike Chilcote seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.*

*Alderman A.J. Jinkins made a motion to approve the 9/01/2025 hire date for the new court clerk. Alderman Glen Jordan seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.*

**c.** Discuss and consider the appointment of a Mayor Pro Temp.

*Alderman A.J. Jinkins made a motion to nominate and elect Alderwoman Nicole Hardesty for Mayor Pro Temp. Alderman Mike Chilcote seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.*

**d.** Discuss and consider exploring a tax abatement for a new commercial/ residential development.

*Mayor Corey Thomas stated that he was approached by Mr. Pearson who has the property across from Meadow Lane and Laurel Lane, and he is wanting to sub divide it, however he asked if there is any grants or tax abatements that we have. He went on to say that Mr. Pearson is interested in annexing all of it and would have the front that will be a shopping center and a subdivision in the back with between 50-60 homes. Mayor Thomas stated that for the city he would like to see something worked out and advised council to look in their agenda packets and read over the letter from the city’s attorney stating that it is not a quick process for an abatement. Alderman Mike Chilcote requested this topic be tabled to give council time to look into the matter. Alderman A.J. Jinkins advised council to continue to look into the subject since the lawyer is at the present meeting. He then stated the big question is, is the council ok with moving forward to get the abatement? City Council all agreed to move forward with starting the process. Alderman Mike Chilcote commented that if the city is wanting to get any kinds of businesses out here, we would have to do some type of tax abatement.*

**e.** Discuss and consider the institute a Flag Program in Jones Creek.

*City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated that the program would be that residents may pay a small fee and have flags placed in their yard for such occasions like, Veteran’s Day, Memorial Dal, Independence Day, etc. She added that there was so much feedback from placing the flags on the highway and how it makes people feel a sense of home. Mrs. Grayson stated they would do an annual fee of possible $20-$25. Alderman Glen Jordan advised to consult with the Volunteer Fire Department about assisting with this venture.*

**f.** Discuss and consider renewing the Village’s current debris removal and monitoring contract with Debris Tech.

*Marshal Tidwell stated this is more of a formality as it has to be a motion every year. Alderman Glen Jordan made a motion to renew the Village’s current debris removal and monitoring contract with Debris Tech. Alderman A.J. Jinkins seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.*

**g.** Discuss and consider reviewing to the “Prohibition of Fireworks” Ordinance (451).

*Alderman Glen Jordan stated that where he lives, even with it being against the law people still do it and they always will. He suggested leaving it as it is. Mayor Corey Thomas stated he feels it would be a good idea and possibly having a centralized location or involve the fire department. He then added it would need to be picked apart to allow some but not all. Marshal Tidwell stated there are people with PTSD that it really affects. He then added the city has enough problems without adding this, and the last July 4th he said he had more comments on how things are a lot better than they have been. City Secretary Lauren Grayson informed everyone that it is an International Code Council; the fire code and it is not able to pick and choose which to use. Alderman Glen Jordan stated he would like for one day, to see about creating a city fireworks show like how other cities do.*

**7. BUDGET WORKSHOP**

*The city council, Mayor Corey Thomas, and City Secretary Lauren Grayson discussed the current budget, where the village is at currently and what should change on the budget for the next budgeted year. City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated the budget and the Budget rate needs to be done by September 30, 2025, however she suggested the budgeting be completed by the 15th of September. Marshal William Tidwell discussed what is spent when someone has to be put in jail, which was $106 last year. The recommended budget for the upcoming year was $200. Alderman Glen Jordan asked if the vehicles that the city had for sale had sold and Marshal Tidwell answered all but 1 and that would fall under the Marshal’s section. Mayor Corey Thomas stated the ad velorum numbers just came in yesterday, but our portion is just what we have our taxes set at. City secretary Lauren Grayson stated she had gone over the different numbers to show what we would be getting and once we get our percentages next week there will be a more accurate number. The council discussed the projections for the BCCA meetings and it was recommended to leave that number the same. Mayor Corey Thomas asked about the franchise fees and if the city will hit the projected mark. City Secretary Lauren Grayson discussed which companies we’re receiving franchise fees from. City Secretary Lauren Grayson went over the section of the agenda packet that shows the bank account interest received and what she thinks will be received by the end of the fiscal year. Mayor Corey Thomas discussed the sales tax and what comes to the city. In animal registration fees it was mentioned that they should bring back animal day to have everyone register their pets, as it is required to register yearly. Alderman Glen Jordan stated the city should do more than just one day. Alderman A.J. Jinkins stated he feels this should be communicated better with the community, as most people he knows does not know they have to register their animals. Judge Widner stated that most do not know it is an annual thing either. The council advised to have the pet registration projection lowered to $500 for next year as the current amount set for $750 does not seem feasible. Marshal Tidwell discussed with the council the game room amounts. It was stated that game room permit is issued per game, functioning or not, and it is for the business that was grandfathered in. Council agreed to keep that amount the same. The city council discussed the permitting amounts received and what is to be expected for the next year. City Secretary Lauren Grayson had stated there was only 1 permit purchased for the month of June but there have been several for the month of July. The council recommended the permitting projection being around the same. Alderman A.J. Jinkins mentioned he would like to see more on enforcing the golf cart permitting, as there are a lot of golf carts on the road but no permits. Council agreed the $80 set for that could stay the same as it is feasible to receive that amount even with the permits only being $10 each. City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated there have been 6 new vendor permits that are in process. Council discussed contractor registration and City Secretary Lauren Grayson commented that licensed trades cannot be charged but unlicensed trades such as, general contractors, tree removal services, lawn care, and things of that nature could be charged a registration fee, however council could not agree on what fee. She then stated by doing the fee we could have these businesses on our web page and being able to have a list of what services are registered for the residents of Jones Creek. Council agreed to leave the amount projected for the vendor fees. Mayor Corey Thomas went over what court fees are averaging out between $30-40k a month at the moment. Council discussed leaving the projected $460k the same. Mayor Corey Thomas went over the projected accident report fee and stated its way lower than projected. Marshal Tidwell advised to leave the amount the same as he feels it is achievable and is based on requested reports. Council discussed the credit/debit card processing company. City Secretary Lauren Grayson responded we don’t get charged until August 1st and stated it would probably be around $850-$900. Council agreed to leave the projected amount at $10k. Council discussed how the amount of the rental fees did not reach what it was projected, however there were mitigating factors and advised to lower the projected amount. City Secretary Lauren Grayson advised renting the community center during Christmas time fully decorated. Mayor Corey Thomas discussed with council what was made for the trash bags sold. City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated that now that we consistently have them they are selling much better. She mentioned that contractors when picking up permits tend to buy them. The mayor advised to set the amount projected at $1500. The council discussed keeping the amount predicted for the trash accounts the same as it is pretty consistent. Council agreed that until they have the accurate ad velorum number they should wait to discuss the payroll portion of expenditures. City Secretary Lauren Grayson mentioned that TML prices have gone up along with TMCA, GCCC, Newspaper notices have also gone up and there are 2 more notices that have gone out and the city has to put the public notice out. She then recommended having that number set to $2500. Mayor Corey Thomas asked City Secretary about the workman’s comp and how he had thought it was supposed to go down. She then responded that they reevaluate right after Christmas as it is based on hours worked. She added there was an extra $1600 that had to be paid because of the hours worked and the difference from the year before. She mentioned that she had spoke to the Interlocal Risk Pool and they had stated there has been a 25% increase on everyone’s insurance. Council discussed the amount listed for the audit and how with what has been spent it should be raised. Concerning the bookkeeping, the council leaving the projected amount the same. Marshal Tidwell advised leaving the software amount the same. He then stated concerning the Marshal’s Department there are some changes to phone systems and other things the expenditure should be lower. For software maintenance, City Secretary Lauren Grayson advised raising the amount to $5500 as the company that provides the maintenance has raised their rates. City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated for the council expenditures is for the council to attend the BCCA meetings. Council advised leaving the same amount. Under credit cards fees, which is the 3% that is charged when cards are accepted, was advised to stay at the projected amount. Under elections, council advised raising the amount to $10k. Under events, council decided to keep the same amount. Council discussed the tax assessor and how that amount will be the same along with pest treatment. Under copier maintenance it was discussed to keep that the same. With office postage and maintenance, City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated the contract for the electronic machine is up in April and we will be doing away with that and going back to regular stamps. She stated the fee that the city is paying wasn’t necessary as she is having to go to the post office anyways. Council advised lowering the amount to $1500. Under travel and seminars, City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated she received a grant that will pay for her courses it just doesn’t cover food, travel, or stay. It was advised to keep the amount the same for that as well as milage. Under electric and gas it was advised to stay the same. Council advised changing the amount for internet to $3000. City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated that she should find out next week if the windstorm coverage being the same. For expenditures in the Marshal’s Department it was advised to raise the copier maintenance to $900. For office supplies it was advised to lower the projected amount. For uniforms the amount should be the same. Under seminars and training the council discussed how it was already over budget and possibly should be raised. Council discussed how there has been a lot of vehicle maintenance and that number may need to be raised as well. Under court fees it was advised to raise the amount to $430 in Interpreter fees. For Jury fees council decided to stay the same. City Secretary Lauren Grayson mentioned for Omni base it ranges about the same. For prisoner keep the amount was recommended to stay the same. Correctio Fees was discussed by the council to have the amount raised as the fee has gone up. City Secretary Lauren Grayson commented that under prosecutor fees it could stay the same as long as she does not raise her fees. The council discussed office supplies and City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated it could stay the same since administration provides paper for all departments. Judge Widner advised to leave seminars at the current amount. City Secretary Lauren Grayson discussed that the generator needs $4300 for the maintenance so the amount should be raised from the current amount listed. Alderman A.J. Jinkins advised setting $600 for park maintenance. The council discussed penciling in $1000 for street maintenance. City Secretary Lauren Grayson discussed under building supplies that basically every department shares in that. Mayor Corey Thomas advised to cut the amount down to $2000. For signs, the said to leave it at $500 and for milage it was advised to raise it, as the maintenance is having to use his person truck for work. Council decided to raise it to $400. Under seminars and training it was decided to leave it as is. Council discussed the street lights fee and having the amount set for $7000. For the Trash Service the amount for postage was advised to be raised to $5000,, the computer fee was raised to $900 and the sales tax was advised to stay the same or cutting it down to $17k. For the initial trash service, City Council advised to lower the amount to $150k. City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated the cards for the bills has gone up slightly, so the amount could be raised a little. City Secretary Lauren Grayson stated she would like to see a Special Called Meeting to go over the budget since we will have the final numbers for the taxes.*

**8. COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST**

**for Council announcements only**

1. Expression of thanks, congratulations, etc.

 **b**. Reminder of upcoming events organized by the Village.

 **c.** Information regarding Community events outside of the Village.

 **d**. Announcements of public threats to health or safety.

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**10. ADJOURN**

*8:45 pm- Alderman A.J. Jinkins made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Glen Jordan seconded the motion. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.*

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this Public Notice was on the official Bulletin Board at City Hall on the 25th day of

July no later than 5:30 p.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 COMMITTEE 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. Requests for such accommodation 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 accommodation.