

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The City of Jesup Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting Tuesday, May 4, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Cracker Williams Community Center. Mayor David Earl Keith called the meeting to order. Roll call was as follows:

Mayor, David Earl Keith	Present
Commissioner, Shirlene Armstrong	Present
Commissioner, Don A. Darden	Present
Commissioner, Nick Harris	Present
Commissioner, Bill Harvey	Present
Commissioner, Ray House	Absent
Commissioner, Stanley Todd	Present
City Attorney, Mike Conner	Present
City Manager, Mike Deal	Present
Police Chief, Perry Morgan	Present

The Lord's Prayer was led by City Attorney Conner.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Police Chief Morgan.

Mayor Keith asked Council to keep Commissioner House in their prayers.

Commissioner Armstrong made motion seconded by Commissioner Harris to approve the minutes of the regular meeting dated April 6, 2021, work session dated April 20, 2021, and special called meeting dated April 23, 2021.

All Council present voted yes.

Mayor Keith recognized Perry Morgan for recently being appointed as the new Police Chief.

Grover Randolph read the following questions:

- 1) According to the City of Jesup employee handbook, what is defined as sexual harassment?
- 2) What training will be put into place to prevent or address reported cases of sexual harassment on the job?
- 3) Who do victims report their concerns if the individual is in a supervisory role?
- 4) What is the anticipated plan to give raises to the city employees in the coming year and to cover legal expenses from the past year?
- 5) Will there be a Human Resources department established to handle the hiring and firing of employees?

Mayor Keith informed Mr. Randolph that Police Chief Morgan and City Attorney Conner are working on an anti-sexual harassment policy. He noted there is a pay increase for City employees in the upcoming budget. Also, Assistant City Clerk/Treasurer Harriett Clary is responsible for Human Resources.

Mayor Keith asked City Clerk/Treasurer Rose Marcus to email a copy of Mr. Randolph's questions to Council.

Frank Ross told Council he just wanted to start a conversation about communication between the Commissioners and the community. He said effective communication is key.

City Attorney Conner reminded Council they previously voted to accept the petition requesting annexation by Industrial Development Authority (IDA). The next step is for Council to approve an Ordinance to formally annex 63 acres into the City of Jesup.

Commissioner Harris made motion seconded by Commissioner Armstrong to approve the 1st reading of an Ordinance to formally annex 63 acres into the City of Jesup as requested by IDA.

All Council present voted yes.

Commissioner Harvey voiced his concerns about the danger from people coming to see work progress on the Cracker Williams Park swimming pool. Fencing needs to be installed for safety.

Commissioner Harvey asked City Manager Deal to bring Council up-to-date on a recent meeting he had with the swimming pool consultant.

City Manager Deal reported the application was submitted to the Health Department. Several changes and lighting are required. Chris Teston, with East Coast Pools, will provide a projected cost estimate.

City Manager Deal asked City Clerk/Treasurer Marcus how much is budgeted for the swimming pool. City Clerk/Treasurer Marcus stated a \$100,000 grant and \$200,000 city funds are budgeted in new budget.

Commissioner Harris stated he is interested in the cost of the swimming pool renovation before Council moves forward. City Manager Deal stated he would provide the projected cost estimate to Council as soon as he gets it.

Commissioner Harris inquired about Wayne County requesting to use Cracker Williams Park annex building for early voting. City Manager Deal said Wayne County Administrator Ed Jeffords is working on a proposal for Council so they can make a decision.

Commissioner Darden stated on N. Fourth Street, from Dexter to Poplar Street, milling is needed due to damage from installing sidewalk. He also stated items were being dumped in the ditch on North Third Street.

Commissioner Armstrong thanked Council and everyone who helped with the City-Wide Cleanup Day last Saturday, May 1st. She thanked Commissioner Harris and Public Works Director Eddie Williams for cooking. She also thanked DDA Director Molly Hall for volunteering.

Mayor Keith noted he asked Commissioner Armstrong to chair the City-Wide Clean-Up Day, and she was more than happy to do so. He thanked her.

Commissioner Armstrong asked City Manager Deal had he checked on dilapidated houses they discussed.

City Manager Deal stated Building Inspector Don Herrin is writing letters to property owners.

Mayor Keith congratulated the baseball team on their recent play-off win.

Commissioner Armstrong recognized City Clerk/Treasurer Rose Marcus as part of the 52nd Annual Professional Municipal Clerk's Week. This is a time of celebration and reflection on the importance of the Municipal Clerk's office.

Meeting Adjourned,

Rose Marcus
City Clerk/Treasurer