

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The City of Jesup Board of Commissioners held a work session Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at 5:00 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	Present
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.

City Clerk/Treasurer Rose Marcus reviewed the May 2021 Financial Statement with Council.

City Manager Deal reported he received an estimated turn-key job on the Cracker Williams swimming pool at \$597,400. Commissioner Harris recommended tabling discussion and scheduling a called meeting to discuss the swimming pool.

A Public Hearing was held on the proposed 2021-22 annual budget.

No one present opposed.

Commissioner Harris made motion seconded by Commissioner Darden to approve the 1st reading of the proposed 2021-22 annual budget.

All Council voted yes.

Mayor Keith noted the 2nd reading of the proposed 2021-22 annual budget will be held on June 29, 2021, at 5:00 P. M.

Will Murphy, with Atlas Technical Consultants, reported total costs of \$2.3M for the downtown Streetscape and Lighting Projects as follows:

Streetscape	\$1,798,550
Lighting	\$513,925.87
Federal Match	\$781,500
City Match	\$1,530,972.38

Mayor Keith apologized for missing the last meeting, but said he would have voted yes to break the tie to proceed with streetscape projects.

Commissioner Harris made motion seconded by Commissioner Darden to approve the Downtown Streetscape & Lighting Projects.

Commissioners Darden, Harris, Todd and House voted yes. Commissioners Harvey and Armstrong voted no.

Commissioner Harvey stated the reason he voted no is because it is an outlandish amount of money for what the City is getting. Also, there is too much other fees involved in the project that are increasing the costs.

Commissioner House stated he felt the same way in the past, but will vote to finish the Streetscape Project.

Commissioner Armstrong stated she felt this was too much money with the upcoming lawsuits, and swimming pool project.

Mayor Keith stated he spoke with Commissioner Harris, and the consensus of Council was not to enter into a long contract with Wayne County. He noted County Administrator Ed Jeffords requested using Cracker Williams Park annex building for early voting for the City's November 2021 election for \$1,000. City Attorney Conner would draw up a contract for Council to review.

Commissioner Darden made motion seconded by Commissioner Todd to agree to enter into a contract with Wayne County for early voting for the City's November 2021 election, with City Attorney Conner drawing up the contract.

All Council voted yes.

Fire Chief Josh Huffman reviewed the ISO (Insurance Services Office) Rating Report. He stated the ISO rating will increase unless the City hires 3 new firefighters.

Mayor Keith explained the lower the number of ISO rating, the better. Lowest for residential is a 4, which is where we are currently. ISO of 3 rating would reduce insurance premiums for businesses.

Commissioner Todd made motion seconded by Commissioner House to hire 3 new firefighters in the proposed 2021-22 budget.

All Council voted yes.

Commissioner Darden made motion seconded by Commissioner House to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel.

All Council voted yes.

Upon returning, Mayor Keith announced no action was taken in Executive Session.

Meeting Adjourned,