

Jackson City Council
Minutes
Regular Meeting of November 26, 2012

Patrick Crew, Mayor
Connie Gonsalves, Vice-Mayor
Marilyn Lewis
Keith Sweet

Michael Daly, City Manager
Scott Morrison, Police Chief
Gisele Cangelosi, City Clerk

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:
Wayne Garibaldi

Mayor Crew called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Moved by Vice-Mayor Gonsalves, and seconded by Councilmember Sweet, and unanimously carried to approve the City Council Agenda dated November 26, 2012 as amended.

2. PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR.

- a. Approval of Minutes of November 13, 2012.
- b. Approval of Expenditure Report for November in the amount of \$143,853.58.

Moved by Vice-Mayor Gonsalves, seconded by Councilmember Lewis, and unanimously carried to approve as presented.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS.

Police Chief Morrison reported the Department had not incidents at Christmas Delights, the event went smoothly police wise.

City Manager Daly reported on the following:

1. Neil Peacock of ACTC will hold a workshop explaining the City of Jackson Circulation Improvement Program project in the Council Chambers on Thursday, November 29 at 6:00 p.m. Omni-Means, LTD will be present to answer questions regarding the project.
2. PMC continues working on the Jackson Wastewater Treatment Plant Project Environmental Report which will be submitted the first meeting in January.
3. Amador County Park Restoration at Detert Park is currently paving the tennis court.
4. Court Street Project is under way.
5. Vista Point Improvement Project will reopen sometime this week and the dedication will be held in the spring.
6. The following items will be on the December 10 agenda:
 - a. ACES Proposition 218 Public Hearing, to date 2 protests have been received.
 - b. Central Sierra Economic Development District – JPA Amendment and Funding Commitment will be on the next agenda.
 - c. Ceremony to swear in the newly appointed Councilmembers Wayne, Marilyn Lewis and Keith Sweet.

- d. Approval of a Resolution Declaring Council's Intention to Appoint Individual(s) to the
- e. City Clerk/Treasurer Position.
- f. Planning Commission Appointment. Applications for the two vacant seats are due Wednesday, December 5.

5. COUNCIL REPORTS.

Councilmember Lewis attended Central Sierra Resource Conservation & Development meeting.

Vice-Mayor Gonsalves reported on the following:

1. Attended the Parking Solution Group committee meeting.
2. Attended Christmas Delights. She thanked JBCA for hosting this event, City Clerk Cangelosi for handling the 3rd Annual Cookie Contest, Jackson Police Department, Jackson Fire Department and all the Main Street merchants.

Councilmember Sweet reported on the following:

1. Attended Christmas Delights both nights and sold Kennedy Tailing Wheels note cards.

Mayor Crew reported on the following:

1. Attended the last LAFCO meeting for 2012.
2. Attended the Jackson Business and Community Association Christmas Delights, held which was a great success. He thanked the City Clerk Cangelosi, Jackson Police Department and Jackson Public Works for their help during this event.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

For the record: Action minutes provide the necessary documentation of City Council actions and audio recordings are retained for those desiring more detail on particular agenda item discussion. These audio recordings provide an accurate and comprehensive backup of City council deliberations and citizen discussion.

7. **Contract Agreement with Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps for Assistance with Kennedy Tailing Wheel Preservation Project.**

City Manager Daly reported the City of Jackson is using federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funds it received through a grant from Caltrans for the Kennedy Tailing Wheel Preservation project. In 2008, a new requirement was added to this funding program requiring local agencies to partner with or commit to employ the services of a California Conservation Corps. When the City prepared its application, it was connected with the SRCC by the California Conservation Corps and representatives from this agency visited the site and evaluated the type of work to be completed. The provided agreement has been reviewed and approved as to form by the City Attorney.

The SRCC indicated a desire to participate in this project after the site visit and specific portions of the project were identified. The work to be completed by SRCC includes:

- Bid Item # 1- Clearing and Grubbing
- Bid Item #15 - Stacked in place retaining wall
- Bid Item #16- Ornamental Fencing
- Bid Item #18- Cobble lined ditch
- Bid Item #20 - Bathroom painting and finishing

The total fee for the services and construction rendered by SRCC is \$37,082. One unique aspect of their work is that they plan to camp at Kennedy Tailing Wheels Park on Monday through Thursday of a typical work week. A crew of six to eight corps members and their construction supervisor are expected to participate on the project.

Dwight Washabaugh, SRRCC Executive Director, was present to explain SRRCC, Director. SRRCC is delighted and noted this will be a great experience for his Corps.

Mayor Crew opened the public discussion. Hearing no comment, Mayor Crew closed the public discussion.

Councilmember Sweet stated this is a great opportunity to introduce the Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps to our Community.

Moved by Vice-Mayor Gonsalves, seconded by Councilmember Lewis, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution No. 2012-43, authorizing the City Manager to sign a construction services agreement with the Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps (SRCC) for work to be performed on the Kennedy Tailing Wheel Preservation and Access Project.

6. Parking Solution Group Recommendation to Re-activate Parking Meters on Main Street After Holiday Season and Lower Parking Permit Fees.

City Manager Daly reported at the September 10, 2012, City Council meeting, information was presented to the City Council regarding the current parking program that was launched in May, 2008, to cover the parking meters on Main Street. After reviewing and dismissing an idea to utilize Measure E funding replace the revenue lost by covering the parking meters on September 24, the Council authorized the formation of a committee to review the current program and present recommendations to consider any possible changes once the holiday season ends on January 7, 2013.

Vice Mayor Gonsalves volunteered to assist with recruiting a committee and attended the October 1, 2012, Jackson Business and Community Association meeting to seek volunteers. At this meeting, Jasmine Harris from Olive Heaven, Jeannette McDonald from Gifted, and Anne Platt from Sutter Amador Hospital agreed to participate on the committee. At the first meeting, it was concluded that the merchants should be surveyed regarding the parking policies to determine the success of the free parking and its effect on business in the downtown area.

A survey was hand distributed to all of the merchants on Main Street and forty two surveys were returned. The survey questions and response totals to date are as follows:

1. Does free parking (as opposed to metered parking) on Main Street benefit your business?
Yes, a lot 21 Yes, probably 12 No, not at all 9
2. Would you be willing to "sponsor" a meter to keep them covered?
Yes 6 No 31 Maybe 1 No Response 4
3. If Yes for #2, how much would you be willing to pay to sponsor a meter?
\$10/month 1 \$30/month 2 \$40/month 0 \$50/month 1 No Response 2

4. Do you think there is a problem with merchants/employees parking on Main Street?
 Yes 35 No 5 No Response 2

5. Are you aware of the parking permit program that allows merchants and employees to park in City parking lots without "feeding meters" or moving every three hours?
 Yes 29 No 13

6. What should the parking time limit be on Main Street (currently 3 hours)?
 2 hours 6 3 hours 28 4 hours 8

Survey respondents were also invited to provide any other suggestions or comments relative to the downtown parking situation. Several of the respondents took advantage of the opportunity and some of the more detailed comments are attached. One of the consistent comments was that the merchants and residents in the Main Street apartments frequently park in the high demand parking spaces on the street. Other ideas from commenters will also be pursued, including possibly moving some of the loading zone and taxi zone locations to maximize Main Street parking areas, adjusting the parking enforcement schedule to be less predictable for merchants parking on the street.

The parking committee met on Monday, November 19, to review the completed surveys and develop their recommendation. All were present except for Jasmine Harris. The committee noted that this was almost a no-win situation, as there was a demonstrated benefit to merchants to continue the free parking on Main Street, but also a clear notation that merchants parking on the street was a problem and that parking is becoming more difficult to find during prime shopping hours. In addition, the City's parking revenues are down approximately \$35,000 per year compared to when all meters were in operation. The other notable comment on the responses was the change in public parking availability behind the old courthouse on Summit/Court Street. The County's current lessee has posted signs restricting parking at this location, however, there may be some relaxation of this restriction in the near future.

Funds from parking meters are used to fund the City's downtown area parking system, including maintenance, operation and enforcement of parking restrictions and investment in new parking. Over the course of four years, the existing fund balance of the Parking Fund has been depleted by the loss of parking meter and fine revenue. Parking investments over the past decade in the downtown area have resulted in new public parking at north end of Main Street (26 spaces), and where Mel & Faye's was previously located (18 spaces). Approximately twenty years ago, the City acquired parking spaces near the corner of Summit and California Streets (18 spaces).

The committee's recommendation is two-fold.

- The first recommendation is to uncover the parking meters on Main Street and charge 25 cents per hour, the same as before they were covered. Though less than many other pay for parking rates, the parking meter coins are responsible for approximately \$25,000 of the revenue loss, while the other \$10,000 is from the parking fines lost from expired meters.
- The second recommendation is to decrease the cost of monthly parking permits that can be used in off-street City parking lots. The current rates are \$20 per month for the North Main Street and California/Summit parking lots and \$35 per month for the parking underneath the

Jackson Civic Center. The clip-on hang tag permits allow for the permit to be used by more than one employee (or even a customer) if there are different shifts. Parking is on a first-come, availability basis with no spots reserved in the parking lots. The committee is recommending decreasing these rates to \$10 per month in the north end lots and \$20 per month downstairs at the Civic Center.

The goal of these two changes is two-fold: generate revenue for downtown parking needs and provide other parking options for merchants and residents. Staff explored how the City could prohibit business owners or their employees from parking on Main Street, however, the conclusion is that there is no legal method to accomplish this type of restriction.

The committee also agreed that the survey was successful in informing merchants about the City's parking program and the issue of merchants/residents parking in the high demand on- street areas. It also agreed that it would be important to ensure that information about the parking permit program was disseminated in a way that businesses would know about how to obtain a permit and the benefit of not parking on Main Street. Another area discussed was other parking revenue options. It was agreed that the responses did not indicate support for an "adopt-a-meter" or sponsorship program, and since it would require a vote for any kind of assessment on businesses or properties, the committee did not think that it would gain support from the downtown stakeholders, even if it meant that meters could be removed. Lastly, the committee felt that if the meters were to remain inactive, they should be permanently removed.

Jeannette McDonald, committee member, was present to support the committee's recommendation.

Mayor Crew opened the public discussion. Patricia Hamann spoke in opposition of the Parking Solution Group Recommendation to Re-activate Parking Meters on Main Street. Hearing no further comment, Mayor Crew closed the public discussion.

After considerable discussion among the City Council and staff the following motion was made:

Moved by Councilmember Lewis, and seconded by Councilmember Sweet to approval the recommendations of the Parking Committee to uncover the parking meters on Main Street and reduce the monthly parking permit program after the holiday season. This motion was denied by a 2 to 2 vote (Mayor Crew and Vice-Mayor Gonsalves dissenting).

8. Reappointment of Jackson Revitalization Committee Members.

City Manager Daly reported the two year terms on the Jackson Revitalization Committee expired in September. The committee has reduced its meeting schedule to a quarterly basis, so the re-appointments were not considered until its November meeting. The Jackson Revitalization Committee now meets on a quarterly basis (next meeting scheduled in February) on second Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Jackson Council Chambers. Members of the public are encouraged to attend these meetings and participate. The regular term on the committee is two years. The committee terms are staggered so that approximately half of them expire each year. All of the current committee members who have terms expiring are interested in continuing on the committee. The Jackson Revitalization Committee has recommended that all of the current committee members be re-appointed to an additional two year term. The following committee members terms are expiring and have requested re-appointment: Councilmember Wayne Garibaldi, Merchant Duane LaMoureaux, Property Owner Stan Lukowicz, and Members-at-large Sally Bligh and Gary Little.

Mayor Crew opened the public discussion. Hearing no comment, Mayor Crew closed the public discussion.

Moved by Vice-Mayor Gonsalves, seconded by Councilmember Lewis, and unanimously carried to re-appointment of the Jackson Revitalization Committee members who have terms expiring this month to an additional two year term on the committee. Those members are Councilmember Wayne Garibaldi, Merchant Duane LaMoureaux, Property Owner Stan Lukowicz, and Members-at-large Sally Bligh and Gary Little.

Adjourn 7:56 p.m.

ATTEST:



Gisele L. Cangelosi, City Clerk

Date Approved: December 10, 2012