

CITY OF JEFFERSON
Regular Council Meeting
May 26, 2022
6:30pm

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Dave Beyerl, David Watkins, Walt Perry, David Kellogg, Bob Rossiter, Mayor Michael Myers

COUNCILORS ABSENT: Keonali Hutley

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Cook, CM/R; Jeff Buskirk, PWD

- I. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Myers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and led in the flag salute.
- II. **PRESENTER** – Marion County Circuit Court Judge, Erious Johnson Jr., Introduction

Judge Erious Johnson came forward and introduced himself to the Council and shared his background, noting he had moved here from New York because his wife was originally from Oregon and they were ready for a change. He shared information about his work history, which included DOJ, State Representative, running a private practice law firm, and then, on February 2nd he was appointed Circuit Court Judge. Visiting all the communities that made up Marion County was important to him, as he felt accountable to those people and wanted them to know him as something more than the judge behind the bench. Mayor Myers encouraged him to visit two special places in Jefferson, as his time allowed, which were the All Nations Native American Veteran’s Memorial and the Historic Jacob Conser House. In response to what the City could do to help make his job easier, Judge Johnson said to just make him feel welcome, which the City had already done. He welcomed all to visit his courtroom #46 to observe anytime.

- III. **OLD BUSINESS** – None
- IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

- 4.1 Resolution #1079, Setting COLA for FY 2022-23 to Establish Adjustment of Employee Wages and Water/Sewer Rates Based on the Consumer Price Index

Councilor Beyerl moved to approve Resolution #1079, and Councilor Perry seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 5, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

- 4.2 Resolution #1080, Authorizing a Transfer Within the Water System Development Fund 37 to Correct Unanticipated Requirements for FY 2021-22

Councilor Rossiter moved to approve Resolution #1080, seconded by Councilor Watkins. Discussion: it was noted the plant project had drawn out longer than anticipated, and engineering had begun on the XR System which was not anticipated until the City was awarded a grant from Marion County. All in favor: Ayes – 5, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

V. **DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**

- 5.1 Jefferson Fun Facts – FYI

There was general discussion over the census data provided and comparisons to the previous census. Mayor Myers noted the consistency of the Hispanic population; an area he felt was under-represented. Also noted was the under 18 age group, which had decreased quite a bit, indicating that group was aging out and that

people moving to town were not moving with children. Councilor Kellogg suggested considering what the City could do to bring in younger families with children. Councilor Beyerl, having lived in Jefferson for a long time, noted the trend he had seen was teenagers grew up and moved elsewhere for school or work, and sometimes returned years later to retire here, after they had raised a family elsewhere.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA – Councilor Beyerl moved to approve. Councilor Watkins seconded. Sarah confirmed the banner purchase was for the upcoming Farmer’s Market put on by the City’s Landmark Advisory Board. All in favor: Ayes – 5, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

VII. VISITORS – None

VIII. COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Sarah Cook noted they had conducted 2 interviews earlier in the day for the public works position, and had one more scheduled the following day. The Budget Committee had approved the budget, which would be coming to Council later in June.

Jeff Buskirk explained the public works staff had changed out over 400 diffusers in the wastewater plant, which was a scheduled maintenance, and spoke on upcoming projects associated with the ARP funds.

Walt Perry complimented the fabulous people working for the City, one of which was the Library Director, who he noted was making great strides in adding a lot of life and character to the Library. Mayor Myers agreed, noting the foresight of the City made it a pleasure to live in Jefferson.

Councilor Beyerl shared he had been approached by the Historical Society about building a display for them, and he planned to help them out. He also had a 10 x 30 canopy he generously donated to the City.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Councilor Perry moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Kellogg. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

MINUTES APPROVED this 23rd day of June, 2022.



Michael D. Myers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sarah Cook, City Manager/Recorder