

CITY OF JEFFERSON
Regular Council Meeting
Public Hearing
April 27, 2023

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Chandra Cruikshank, David Kellogg, Bob Rossiter, David Watkins, Mayor Myers, Keonali Hutley(zoom), Charles Vickery
COUNCILORS ABSENT: None
STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Cook, CM/R; Jeff Buskirk, PWD; Sgt. Olson and Deputies West and Connelly, MCSO

- I. **MEETING CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Myers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and led in the flag salute.
- II. **PUBLIC HEARING** – Ordinance #726, Repealing and Replacing Ordinance #657, Establishing the Specified Crime Property – Nuisance, and Amending Chapter 5.04, Article VII of the JMC

Mayor Myers opened the hearing at 6:31pm and read the purpose of the hearing, background and summary. With no abstentions from the Council, the Mayor called for public testimony. The City Manager confirmed there had been no written or electronic testimony submitted prior to the meeting. Sergeant Olson noted the useful tool the ordinance would be for them to work on chronic problem properties, explaining the broken window theory. He assured the Council it wouldn't get used every single time, in all cases, noting it was for more extreme circumstances when other law enforcement methods weren't working.

With no further testimony and no questions of the Council, Mayor Myers closed the hearing at 6:37pm and proceeded with the reading of the required ordinance adoption language and the title of Ordinance #726 for its first reading. Councilor Kellogg moved the Ordinance be adopted and moved to the second reading by title only. Councilor Watkins seconded. Sarah Cook noted a minor typo correction that changed "County" to "City", noting it did not change the intent of the ordinance. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

Mayor Myers proceeded to read Ordinance #726 by title only for the second reading. Councilor Kellogg moved to adopt the Ordinance and that the title of the Ordinance become the Ordinance. Councilor Watkins seconded. There was no further discussion. Roll Call Vote: Watkins – aye; Rossiter – aye; Cruikshank – aye; Vickery – aye; Kellogg – aye; Hutley – aye. **APPROVED.**

III. **OLD BUSINESS** – none

IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

4.1 Jefferson Municipal Court Judge Contract Amendment

The City Manager noted this was only the second request for increase in 20 years, noting it had been about 15 years since the last one. The proposed rate matched that of the City of Keizer, whom the

same Judge also contracts with. She also pointed out the increase would not require the budget to be increased since it was typically underspent. Councilor Watkins moved to approve the contract amendment for Jefferson Municipal Court Judge A. Carl Myers. Councilor Vickery seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

V. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

5.1 Review 1st Draft Ordinance in Compliance with HB 3115: Re: Homeless Camping

Overall, the Council was in favor with the proposed language; however, there was discussion on the length of time a person or person in a vehicle could camp in any one location without having to go through some form of eviction process. The Council was interested in hearing what timelines other communities were doing, and would prefer to have Jefferson's set at the shortest amount of time the City was allowed to enforce, whether that was 1 night, 72-hours, or otherwise. Sarah Cook would check into it and bring the ordinance back.

5.2 Staff Update on Dangerous Bldg. Case 2022-01: 145 S Main

The City Manager provided a verbal update, noting the building had been sold right under the wire of the City moving forward to abate it; however, conversations were had and agreements were being formed between attorneys that would require the previous owner to resolve the fines/fees that had accrued. She expected to receive payment the following day and in the meantime, a notice would go out to the new owner formally informing him of the dangerous building status and that the fines had begun accruing at the time of closing.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Rossiter moved to approve; seconded by Councilor Watkins. Councilor Kellogg confirmed the high price invoice to Marion County Building was for the 84-unit apartment permits. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

VII. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Historical Society – Amy got married! Heroes Day planning underway; picnic tables delivered.

Planning – MU code amendments were approved and forwarded to Council

Fire Board – no new info

Parks & Rec – no new info

School Board – discussing how to deal with hot topics in the district and how best to communicate with parents; held special meeting to approve school based health center

Library – 865 patrons visited the library last month; started needle craft club; very enthusiastic Director

LAC – no new info

MWACT – no meeting

City Parks – held first meeting; introductions were made; received update on existing park plans; meeting again May 9th

VIII. VISITORS

Linda Baker, 1287 Filbert – expressed concern about the possibility of more homeless people coming into Jefferson and wondered about staff’s safety and training, use of Narcan , etc. There was open discussion with the deputies about new drugs hitting the streets that Narcan didn’t work with, as well as the risks that come with the use of it once the individual comes to. They highly recommended staff just call law enforcement rather than attempting to deal with an unstable or high risk individual.

Patti Ball, 554 S Main – Heroes Day was the main topic of the Community Partner’s meeting, which meets on the 4th Mondays of each month at Noon. They were working on re-activating the Chamber.

IX. COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Councilor Watkins shared conversations he’d had with a number of citizens who were quite pleased with the increased law enforcement presence in town and complimented them on their continued good work.

Mayor Myers shared information he obtained from a meeting he and Councilor Rossiter had with Superintendent, Brad Capener, where they learned the school based health center would be for students of the district only. He also directed them to review the Q & A section on the school district website about it, noting Brad would be attending the next Worksession to give an update on the topic.

X. ADJOURNMENT – Councilor Kellogg moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Vickery. All were in favor and the meeting closed at 7:35pm.

MINUTES APPROVED this 25th day of May, 2023.



Michael D. Myers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sarah Cook, City Manager/Recorder