

**TOWN OF JACKSON
MAYOR JAMES MCRORY
TOWN MEETING
Jackson Volunteer Fire Department
1631 Charter Street
Jackson, Louisiana 70748**

**MEETING MINUTES
January 12, 2026
6:00 p.m.**

5:45 p.m. A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HAD TO DISCUSS THE NEWLY INTRODUCED AMENDMENT TO THE NOISE ORDINANCE “JAKE BRAKING” ORDINANCE. Discussion on the jake braking on Highway 10 and Highway 68 and – there was discussion that the amendment include Louisiana Highway 952. There is a contact for the person at DOTD, Chris Ewing, who will orchestrate getting the proper jake braking signs. They should be set at any entrance from a major highway into Town of Jackson. Haley Major Green suggests when we get into the agenda, we put table the voting until next month in order to include all language as discussed.

**January 12, 2026
6:00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

MR. JAMES MCCRORY, MAYOR
MRS. ANNISSA WOODARD, TOWN CLERK
MR. DANE BROWN, BOARD MEMBER
MR. DAVID GUILLORY, BOARD MEMBER
MR. WILLIAM FREE, BOARD MEMBER
MRS. DEBRA ALLEN NORSWORTHY, BOARD MEMBER
MR. MICHAEL HARRELL, BOARD MEMBER
HALEY MAJOR GREEN, TOWN ATTORNEY (TAKING MINUTES)

No absent

CALL TO ORDER:

The town meeting was called to order by Mayor, Mr. James McCrory at 6:00 pm., pursuant to the prepared agenda.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called by clerk, Mrs. Annissa Woodard, with all Board members present.

PRAYER/PLEDGE

Opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance were led by Mr. Guillory.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA-

A discussion of the Agenda was had;

There were additions discussed. There was a request to amend the agenda to add putting the old bobcat and trailer out for bid.

Michael Harrell made a motion to add the issue of the time clock to the agenda. There was a second by David Guillory.

Addition requesting by Chris Farris – resolution for LGAP and CWET grant. And bids for Blighted property grants and the Sewer Rehabilitation Grant.

There was a request to remove the vote on the approval of the amended ordinance from the agenda.

There was a motion by Michael Harrell to amend the agenda to add the requested items above, Mr. David Guillory gave a second. There was no opposition and the agenda was approved as amended.

Mrs. Dianne Parker shared a story about Jose going back to El Salvador. Jose saw a boy riding a bike with an American flag. They are celebrating America. He is looking forward to a return visit.

MEETING MINUTES-

Mr. Free made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 08, 2025, meeting as written. Brown gave a second; there was no opposition. The minutes of the December 08, 2025, town meeting were approved as written.

BILLS

Mr. Free reported that he and Mr. Guillory have examined all the bills and he made a motion for the mayor and Annissa to process the bills. Harrell gave a second. There was no opposition. There was approval of the bills and authorization to pay the same.

BUDGET V. ACTUALS

For any questions, the public is directed to contact Mrs. Annissa Woodard, town clerk. The budget is on a good track.

OLD BUSINESS

1. None.

NEW BUSINESS-

1. Amendment – there is additional language that needs to be included in the noise ordinance amendment after discussion. Mr. Harrell moved to table the discussion and vote, Guillory second. There was no opposition. The matter is tabled until next month to include the proper language and information.
2. Marshall's Office now has an organizational chart. Marshall Harrell is asking for a 50 cents raise per hour for each position for the top three positions in the chart – detective, sergeant, and chief of operations – not a specific person, just for the position itself, whoever shall fill this position. This includes Part-time and full-time. How much will it cost for the year? Not going to cost Town any more than what is within the Marshall's office budget. \$7000.00 per year total additional cost to this town. The detective will get an extra 50 cents for being a sergeant. A detective will be on an 80 hour schedule.

How will the police department be within its budget? The question was posed as the new police car was supposed to be paid back through the grant. Then the grant prohibited the paying back of the vehicle. The vehicle was not paid back. Pennington said could not use new grant funding for old purchases. It was paid at that rate – used \$50,000.00 – the accounting on the vehicle is confusing to Mr. Martin – surplus is from this year already. Mitch says their responsibilities are greater than what they are being paid. We are trying to keep good, post certified officers. It costs \$18,000.00 to send to POST academy. Guillory moves that we add 50 cents per hour to three positions. Second by Debbie Norsworthy. Motion passed.

ADDED ITEM = Time Clock for employees – there is a lot of discussion regarding the time clock. Norsworthy agrees with a time clock. There is a time clock in every employment. Michael Harrell – the reason behind this is we need a written policy for the issue of time clocks. There needs to be training. Annissa has not been trained. AMG time clock was purchased. After some discussion and inability to agree on the issue of a time clock, Michael Harrell moved that the issue be tabled so that the Town can work on a policy to be drawn up. Question: who do the employees fall under? Who do they fall under? Who is the Human Resources person? Who needs to make the decision? The mayor is the determining factor. It is up to the mayor as to what he will decide. Mayor says when some employees arrive into the city limits, they are on duty. What happens in the case of emergency? What about phone calls when an employee is on-duty. Who is getting questions? Cheryl has a problem with time clock because when there is some emergency, it is impossible to go back to the office and clock-in. Dustin offers that Quick Books has quick book time – clock in an application with a geo tag. How long does it take to process? It also can be adjusted retroactively. Kimberly says if they forget, she can go in and adjust it. There seems to be a problem all of a sudden – we need to see where the problems are. That is why Harrell wanted to open up a discussion. If you can get

something on your app ... There is support for an app that could be amended by a supervisor especially if it can be amended on the back end. Annissa says IT guy does not know how to work them. Nick Hamilton is the IT guy and can't get it to work. Mr. Harrell moved to have the discussion tabled and Mrs. Norsworthy gave a second to table it until we can have further discussion among the counsel and a policy if the time-clock will be enforced. Mr. Harrell suggests that if the Town of Jackson is going to enforce the time clock, it must have a policy and a procedure. If not, it needs to be removed. There have been complaints, therefore Mr. Harrell feels like transparency calls for a discussion.

ADDED ITEM. Chris Farris requests a Resolution – two of the grants LGAP and CWF (WATER SYSTEM) in order to upgrade equipment. – We need a resolution for the COMMUNITY WATER ENRICHMENT FUND (CWF) grant–

LGAP – grant is a \$35,000.00 grant for the purpose of renovating public buildings – town hall or bathrooms. Mr. Guillory moved to adopt the resolution for town to receive and accept funding of the grant, and for the mayor and clerk to co-sign all documents in support thereof. Mr. Harrell gave a second no opposition, the resolution was adopted.

CWF GRANT – grant in order to upgrade equipment involved in running the water system. Mr. Harrell moved to adopt the resolution for the town to receive and accept funding of the grant and for the Mayor and the clerk to co-sign all documents in support thereof. There was no opposition, the resolution was adopted.

The Town is applying for the Clearance Program grant for blighted property. Everything has been finalized and submitted. We have received authorization to start the process on the bid. Mr. Harrell moved to authorize advertising for bids. Mr. Guillory gave a second. There was no opposition. The department is authorize to advertise for bids.

Sewer lining rehabilitation grant. This is 2.2 million dollar grant. For sewer lining rehabilitation. The grant has been approved on state and federal level. We are now waiting on LDH approval. It is a combination of federal and state funds. Motion was made by Mr. Free to start advertising for bids, a second by Mr. Harrell. No opposition. The department is authorized to advertise for bids.

MAINTENANCE REPORT -

MATT LEGGETT.'S report. Water project – The Town is waiting on the contractors to do what is necessary to create a final walk through.

The Sewer project must be done by January 30, 2026. They are doing walk through on the January 23, 2026. There are a few things left to complete before final walk through on sewer project.

The Maintenance Department is still changing water meters as they go. There is a significant portion of them complete at this time. The Town still has two grants from last year pending. When those orders are filled, the department will have all the meters and antennas needed to complete the change out.

The Town still needs to put the old bob cat and trailer out for bid – put it in the paper (mini excavator and trailer) on facebook. We missed the deadline from last month. That will be done tomorrow.

POLICE REPORT- Last month there were 69 citations written. 21 citations were paid. 0 bench warrants were issued. We collected \$5140.00. However, there was no court scheduled for December which affected the collection of fines. The Marshall's office had lots of patrols during the holidays, but reported very little trouble. There were 311 calls in December.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

Officer Quiet reports

Old business –

There were 5 blighted property letters. Issues of stray dogs is tabled. Our efforts for vets and other plans for sheltering dogs has brought nothing. Justin Nevels reached out to West Feliciana but only take local dogs. DCI did not produce. There is no animal control in Jackson. Several letters sent out regarding blighted properties were returned. 2 individuals showed up in court. Lots of medical calls.

NEW BUSINESS. There are some new properties that need to get taken care of – vehicles, trash, refrigerators. Officer Quiet is in touch with individuals to clean these properties up.

ATTORNEY REPORT: None.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: Mayor McCrory turned in his resignation January 31, 2026. Has prepared a letter. Has thought on this a very long time. He feels this is the best decision given the circumstances.

Justin Nevels publicly acknowledged his appreciation to the mayor for coming in and stepping up and have done a tremendous job. He thanked the mayor for his efforts and expressed his appreciation for the great job he has done, on behalf of everyone. The Marshall complimented the mayor on handling things tremendously with all of the stress involved and the struggles of the position, which starts with money. There is so much stress regarding these leadership

positions that it is hard to have any life outside of this position and thanked Mayor for his dedication.

Officer Cary Quiet also expressed publicly his appreciation the Mayor.

A motion to adjourn was made by _Dane Brown and there was a second offered by Debbie Norsworthy. There was no opposition and the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.