

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

MEETING MINUTES

**OCTOBER 13, 2025
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
MR. MICHAEL HARRELL, BOARD MEMBER
MRS. DEBRA ALLEN NORSWORTHY
HALEY MAJOR GREEN, TOWN ATTORNEY (TAKING MINUTES)

ABSENT: All members present.

CALL TO ORDER:

The town meeting was called to order by Mayor, Mr. James McCrory at 6:03 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 are also meeting minutes from September 15, 2025, special meeting. Mr. Guillory made a motion to amend the agenda to include approval of the meetings minutes of the Special Meeting on September 08, 2025, and adopt the changes/additions to the agenda and approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Harrell gave a second and there was no opposition. The agenda was approved as amended.

MEETING MINUTES-

Mr. Harrell made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 08, 2025, special meeting with the change of Mitchell Harrell to Michael Harrell, Mr. Guillory gave a second and the meeting minutes of September 08, 2025, were approved as amended. Mr. Harrell made a motion

to approve the Meeting minutes of the special meeting that was held September 08, 2025, as written Harrell and Free gave a second; there was no opposition. The minutes of September 8, 2025, special town meeting, were approved as written.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion by Mr. Free to have Mayor McCrory and Annissa pay the bills. There was a second by Harrell. There was no opposition. There was approval of the bills and authorization to pay the same.

BUDGET VESUS ACTUALS

Budget was provided.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS-

1. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL TO HIRE HOLLI GILMORE FULLTIME.

There was a discussion regarding the need to hire Holli Gilmore full-time. There is a lot of work to handle especially with the grants. Motion to hire Holli Gilmore full-time was made by Mr. Harrell, second by Mr. Free. There was a question as to whether we can afford to hire her pursuant to the new budget. Mr. Free feels comfortable with the hiring of Holli Gilmore. There is a request to make sure that the budget will allow for it. It will be about \$40,000.00 expense to the town. There was no opposition. Holli Gilmore will be hired as a full-time employee, effective November 1, 2025.

2. HALLOWEEN/TRICK OR TREAT.

There was a discussion of the time and date for Trick-or-Treat for Halloween in the town of Jackson. On October 25, 2025, we will host Spooktacular and will have trick or treat from 6pm to 8pm. There was a discussion and then a motion by Mr. Guillory to hold trick or treat in the Town of Jackson on October 25, 2025, from 6 o'clock p.m. to 8 o'clock p.m. There was a request for lights on the south end. The town will ensure that there will be lights for both ends of town. There was a second by Harrell. There was no opposition and the time and date for Trick or Treat in the Town of Jackson will be on 25th October 2025 from 6 pm o'clock p.m. to 8 o'clock p.m.

3. PASTOR MICHAEL MUNRO – COMMUNITY SERVICE

Prepared a statement regarding his proposal for a community service credit program. He would like to offer a solution. – credit rate for service was adjusted to \$15.00 per hour. Did not speak up last time. Wanted to go forward in prayer first. He has discussed this with others - \$270.00 for 18 hours of community service. Feels like this is concerning. Thinks this is a great program. A program offered in grace should have grace. Propose a two-part

solution. A motion to convert back to \$50.00/ hour. It would allow them to work and do the things they need to do. Second thing – well organizations can come together to beautify the town. Propose – that there would be a community service officer put into that position. We can use that to build a town community service project. Pastor Munro believes we could coordinate with schools and churches. We could form an initiative and build relationships. The Jackson United Method Church is willing to work together – can demonstrate the good Christian values of the town.

An explanation was given on how the community service program works currently from the court system on to the program. We have Dy. Carlisle assigned to be in charge of the community service program. Paid \$15.25 per hour. Mr. Harrell lodges an objection to paying them the same rate as an officer. Riley and Taylor Foreman have just moved here. They would like to be part of the beautification of the town and opportunities to gather. Excited to come together for community building. Riley believes it might not be in the same category but would like to do some community building and gathering for some new opportunities for community service.

4. JIM PARKER – VETERAN PROGRAM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REPORT Veteran's program will be November 8, 2025. It is a Saturday. We are going to have a lot a people, one hour. The guest speaker will be retired Lt. General Russell Honore. This will be put on by Jackson Tourist and Exchange Committee and the Town of Jackson. The group wants it to be a big event. It will begin at 10 am and last for one hour. They will have a tent and boy scouts bringing chairs. The Mendels will be playing music. I will invite the sheriff and all dignitaries. Will there be any veterans? Yes. They will be some coming from the War Vets home.

The Economic Development Board has been doing lots on Economic development. The Air Park has had lots of work. The road has been totally resurfaced. The Air Park is Noted as LA3 on any map. Once there is completion on the projects, there will be an open house. There will be all kinds of airplanes. There will be free food and an opportunity to visit with the pilots. Also working with Mary Jenkins Reece. She is working with the humane society. There is a piece of land dedicated for her. She had an event, and she made a little bit of money. There is talk of putting a nice Sports Park out in the parish. The Board is currently looking for a piece of land. It will be patterned after Zachary Park. They are also looking for a piece of land to establish some economic development. We had the airport shut down for a while. When we did that, we had some farmers that had to pay for their spraying. It was very costly – had to go to the insurance company. We sat on the airport for four months but went to the governor and we got something done. We just applied for funding to provide AC in the hanger. They meet every month at 5 pm. The next meeting is in Slaughter and then Jackson.

With all of the AI that is coming to West Feliciana, he encourages that Jackson and East Feliciana need to be prepared for that to spill over into Jackson. We want to take the opportunity to expand our economic development. We are in the Baton Rouge district for economic development. We are having meetings in Baton Rouge to let them know what we have here and what we are interested in.

5. LINDA CALLENDAR – NUISANCE DOGS. No show. Pass.

6. MATT LEGGETT – OLD VEHICLES OUT FOR BID

Matt Leggett would like to declare some old vehicles as surplus and place them up for bid. Yellow tractor 3500 Ford model to be placed for Bid beginning at \$2500. 2003 Chevrolet 1500 truck, starting bid for \$1000, 2005 Chevrolet 2500 heavy duty truck minimum bid was \$2500. Let's put them out for bid. We can put this out. Mr. Harrell made a motion to put the vehicles out for bid as stated. Mr. Guillory gave a second and there was no opposition. The vehicles will be advertised for public bills as stated.

MAINTENANCE REPORT -

MATT LEGGETT'S MAINTENANCE REPORT WAS SUBMITTED. The sewer project at oxidation ponds – will possibly be finished by November 1, 2025. They should be done with the aerators and lift station; those have been taking a while to get here. Water tower is back on-line and painted. The maintenance department is still working on one well. Annissa commented that everything with the blighted property grant is done and submitted. Chris says we had some revisions, and had to pay some invoices. Chris Farris says the Town is ready to go on to the demolition. On the sewer project, the Maintenance Department is getting things in line. The grant has been submitted to the federal government.

POLICE REPORT- Mitch Harrell, Town Marshall, reported that 44 tickets were written this month. 52 tickets were paid, 17 bench warrants were issued. \$16,443 in fines collected. Celebrating breast cancer awareness month by wearing the color pink (whole Marshall's office), 315 calls, 34 calls on animal calls. We show up there is nothing we can do – unless they bite someone. If we have problems with animal control – maybe we can see if we could find a vet to see if they would take an animal – keep them for an amount of time and after a time period, euthanize. Would one of the local vets be willing to do something? These animals are getting out of control. 7-8 dogs behind Jett's that go to the creek that is where they grew up. Another problem is that local residents are feeding these dogs. We really want to be able to show people that we are doing something. One deputy could not get a driver's license so he could not be hired. Asking for 1 full time – 2 fulltime. Earl Newman will be part-time, Andrew Poe will be full time, Christian Cook will be part-time. All are post certified. The Marshall's office has 15 active officers. 20 on the books. Some of them have not worked in a while. They are post certified but will come out and help. Warrant for felony vehicle. Got DNA, working with EBR.

Motion by Harrell to hire the proposed officers as listed, a second Mr. Free. There was no opposition. The hiring of the proposed officers was approved, second by free.

There was a Motion after the fact to amend agenda by Mr. David Guillory, and a second by Mr. Michael Harrell to include hiring of officers. There was no offer to

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

Officer Cary Quiet. Old business – 3654 Highway 10 – dumping. The DEQ was involved, cited the owner of the property through the Parish and referred to DA's office. Requesting the recovery fee – the suspect will bear the cost. There are problems at 1552 Austin Street. The owner no longer lives here but did obtain address of the owner. 2262 Hwy 10 – is not habitable. The house was condemned back in April. We believe owners have the funds to fix up. Coming back on 10/16/25.

Wilbert Guillory – met with her attorney to give us the names of heirs.

New business – There are many nuisance dogs. They are becoming a big problem. 4118 Carter Street has an inoperative vehicle. She has been cited to come to court and tell us what she will do. Community service workers – 1 left. Lots of other things going on and incidents to report – burning plastic, riding off road vehicle on public road, recovered a stolen vehicle, some notices for property owners. Asking you to go around and look at these properties – blighted properties and inoperative vehicles that have been cited. Please see if you have any objections to the properties that have been cited, talk to Cary Quiet and let him know.

ATTORNEY REPORT: none.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: The mayor thanked everyone for coming out. He commended the great job that everyone is doing.

Mr. Harrell moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Mr. Guillory. There was no opposition.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.
