Village of South Jacksonville

Mayor Richard Samples	*Trustee Tom Jordan*	*Trustee Paula Belobrajdic-Stewart*
Deputy Village Clerk Mindy Olson	*Trustee Steve Retzer*	*Trustee Michael Preston*
Attorney Roland Cross	*Trustee Christina Butler*	*Trustee Vacant*

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday July 9, 20026 @ 7:00p.m.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Samples.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance led by Attorney Rob Cross and recited by all in attendance.

Roll Call: Roll call was taken with all Trustees in attendance. Also in attendance were President Richard Samples, Attorney Rob Cross, Police Chief Eric Hansell, Fire Chief Rich Evans, Code Enforcement Officer Cindy Beddingfield, and Treasurer and Deputy Village Clerk Mindy Olson. Not in attendance was Public Works Superintendent Brian English.

Approval of Agenda: President Samples asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion to approve by Trustee Retzer, second by Trustee Jordan. Roll call was taken approving the agenda as presented unanimously.

Comments from the Floor: None

Mayor's Report

- *Fire Department Update:* Chief Evans reported they had 48 calls for the month of June. The new ladder truck is here and in service. They are waiting on the decals. The Jacksonville Fire Department did some training on the truck with our department. He also told those in attendance that their annual fundraiser cookout will be held

September 5th. Trustee Retzer asked about disposition of the old fire truck. Chief Evans said he has reached out to a few places. One is only offering $10,000. He is looking for more at $25,000. President Samples suggested that we set a date of October 1, 2026, as a date to have the truck gone.

•*Police Department Update:* Chief Hansell reported 788 calls for the month of June. The 4th of July activities went well. The department is working at the PD booth. Sheryl graduates from the academy on Saturday. Chief Hansell also reported that the department has one vacancy now and he is looking to hire someone. He will keep the Board advised.

•*Public Works Update:* President Samples shared Superintendent English's update for Public Works. Th splash pad has been up and running. They are still working on hauling the rock out from Dewey Park. The guys are doing a lot of patching and digging out of culverts. They have finished up the leg work at the water tower. We are working with Benton's on a grant for water main replacement.

•*Code Compliance/Enforcement Reports:* Cindy Beddingfield reports she had court this week for two properties owned by the same person. Treasurer Olson advised that the Village received a check of about $10,000 for the Beeley case. President Samples advised the Board that Comcast is building a shelter building behind the hotel. He also reported that the Village issued 11 building permits totaling $2,789.47 with a value of $574,200.00.

•*Treasurer's Report*: Treasurer Olson reported that she included the animal control report the Village received from the County. The auditors will be here the week of July 27th, and she does not anticipate any issues. She advised the Board that we are currently running everything through QuickBooks. Treasurer Olson said we hired Bridgette Norton for the water clerk position. We moved Jackie Kennedy to the AP Clerk position and she is doing great.

Action Items

1. *Approval of Payables in the Amount of $523,828.66:* President Samples asked for a motion to approve the payables in the amount of $523,828.66. The purchase of the fire truck is on this list. Motion to approve was made by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Jordan. Roll call was taken with all approving the payables unanimously.

2 *Approval of Treasurers Report for the month of April 2026:* President Samples asked for a motion to approve the report as presented. Treasurer Olson said MFT has about $791,000 in the account, ePay has about $465,000, Tourism has about $400,000, TIF about $370,000, Water Sewer a little over $100,000, $478,000 in the General IPTIP account and about $178,000 in the General Savings account. Motion to approve the report was made by Trustee Jordan, seconded by Trustee Retzer. Roll call was taken with all approving the report as presented.

3. *Approval of Tourism Grant Application for Prairieland Heritage Museum Institute in the amount of $30,000.00:* President Samples presented the grant application for

PLHM. President Samples said we had reviewed this in prior meetings, but they had not submitted the actual application. Motion to approve the grant was made by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Jordan. Roll call was taken with all approving the grant as presented.

Discussion Items

1. *Parks:* President Samples advised the Board that we received information today on the parks. The overall price for Coronado Park is about $139,517. She has not received a price on Godfrey Park yet. President Samples said there really isn't much to discuss. Treasurer Olson said the question becomes are we to a point the Board is ready to make a decision on this. Do we want to wait until we get the Godfrey Park numbers or do we want to start on Coronado Park. She just needs directions from the Board. Trustee Retzer asked where Dewey Park was in the plan. Treasurer Olson said Dewey Park is the last one on the list to be done. Trustee Retzer asked where Godfrey Park is in the plan. Treasurer Olson said that as soon as she gets solid numbers and the Board decides what they want then she will turn it all over to the engineers to work on the OSLAD Grant. Trustee Butler asked if Ms. Olson wanted something approved before she applied for other grants. Treasurer Olson said she can apply for other grants, but she needs final numbers and plans to include with grant applications.

   Trustee Retzer said the Village of Lynnville may be interested in the old equipment at Godfrey Park. Trustee Stewart said she likes the idea of moving forward. She always wanted Godfrey Park to be first, but it is going to be a very large amount of money. If we are looking for a grant for Godfrey Park, then she is content with that. If the cost for Coronado Park is something we can do in the budget, then she is satisfied with that. Trustee Stewart would like to see other color options as well. Changing the colors will not change the price. She would like to know what other Trustees think. Trustee Butler said she is ready to move forward. Treasurer Olson said she will take this all back and work on it further.

2. *Budget Discussion: Treasurer* Olson presented the draft budget to the Board. She is close to being finished with the budget but has a few items to move around. One question is, does the Board want to keep the grants/donations under Tourism the same or increase it. She also increased the hotel ad reimbursement because there is another hotel that is now participating in this program. Trustee Stewart asked under the Tourism grants have there been any new people who request grants. Treasurer Olson said it is mostly the same groups just asking for more money.

   Treasurer Olson said she still needs to get with Chief Hansell to go over the contracts he has and the new FOIA system. For the Water Department we have not heard back about the water tower or lead lines, but she has planned for it in the budget. She was also able

to reduce the amount of water we purchase from the city. The repairs to the lift station that need to be done have been added to the Sewer Department budget. She has included some sidewalk projects in the Street Department budget. Treasurer Olson said her goal is to have final budget numbers for the Board to review at the Committee of the Whole meeting and vote on the Budget at the August Board meeting.

3. *Committee of the Whole Meeting July 23, 2026:* President Samples suggested the Committee of the Whole meeting for July 23, 2026, at 6:30pm.

Old Business

None

New Business

1. *Fire Department: Chief* Evans said he received a letter today from Doyle Plumbing and Heating Co. who performed the annual backflow testing. Doyle found a bad leak in the relief valve and hose. The valve will need to be rebuilt. The estimate to rebuild the unit is $3,900 and the cost to replace the unit is $14,537. This unit was required by IDPH; however, the department seldom uses it. They typically use the hydrant outside. Trustee Stewart asked if it was only on the fire side. It is. Trustee Butler asked if we could get a 2nd quote. Treasurer Olson said the Village just had the other backflows tested. She will reach out to them for another quote. President Samples said his suggestion is not to repair it but replace it. Trustee Retzer asked what would happen if we did nothing. Chief Evans said we would not be in compliance with IDPH.

Executive Session: There is no need for an executive session.

Adjournment: President Samples asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion to approve by Trustee Retzer, second by Trustee Preston. All in favor of adjourning the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Richard Samples, Village President

Attest:

Mindy Olson, Deputy Village Clerk

Ayes: 4
Nays: 0
Absent: 0