

RULES COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, April 13, 2022 12:00 P.M.

Present: Committee Members: Chairperson, Aaron Banks; Ashby Foote, Vice Chair; Angelique Lee; Brian Grizzell, Vernon Hartley, Virgi Lindsay, Council President. Directors: Kenneth Stokes, Shanekia Mosley-Jordan, Clerk of Council, Constance White, Chief Deputy Clerk of Council and Terry Williamson, City Attorney’s Office.

Absent: None.

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The meeting was called to order by **Chairperson Aaron Banks**.

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Chairperson Aaron Banks stated that the following Agenda Items No. 3 & 4 should be removed from the agenda.

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**ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
PROHIBITING ADVERTISEMENT OF IMAGES FEATURING GUNS AND THE
LIKENESS OF GUNS IN THE CITY OF JACKSON.**

WHEREAS, the public health, safety, and welfare shall be considered by this ordinance;
and

WHEREAS, the proliferation of guns and gun violence in the City of Jackson has increased to record setting levels; and,

WHEREAS, the advertising of messages promoting guns and the likeness of guns is detrimental to the public safety, health, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Jackson- - especially the children; and,

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council must address the ever present assault on the very fabric of a peaceful community by the proliferation of guns and the advertisement of images featuring guns and the likeness of guns.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, that the Jackson City Council hereby prohibits the advertisement of images featuring guns and the likeness of guns in the City of Jackson.

SO ORDAINED, this the **13th** day of **April, 2022**.

Council Member Banks moved adoption; **Council Member Hartley** seconded.

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Chairperson Banks recognized **Terry Williamson**, City Attorney, who expressed concerns about 1st amendment issues in regards to the proposed Ordinance.

Thereafter, **Chairperson Banks** called for a vote on said item:

Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee and Lindsay.

Nays – None.

Absent – None.

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Note: Council Member Stokes left the meeting.

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**ORDER OF THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE
ADMINISTRATION TO RELOCATE THE ANDREW JACKSON STATUE TO
THE SMITH ROBERTSON MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER.**

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2020, the Jackson City Council passed an Order authorizing the Administration to lawfully remove and relocate the Andrew Jackson statue from the grounds of the Jackson City Hall; and

WHEREAS, the instant Order incorporates and adopts said July 7, 2020 Order; and

WHEREAS, said July 7, 2020 Order did not designate a specific relocation site; and

WHEREAS, there is no statute of limitation on reconsidering symbols of racism and systemic crimes against humanity; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Mississippi recently signed legislation ordering the design of a new state flag absent the Confederate battle emblem, globally recognizable as a symbol of division; and

WHEREAS, some controversial monuments have been destroyed or toppled amidst mass protests against institutional racism; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks a peaceful, if overdue, reckoning with the meaning of certain emblems, artifacts and statuary displayed on public property; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks to be forthright, transparent, and in accord with law, in its decision to relocate, specifically, the statue of Andrew Jackson; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks to be guided by principles of public education and racial justice in determining the relocation of the statue of Andrew Jackson; and

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WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks a “teachable moment” and continuing education as to the facts of Andrew Jackson’s crimes against humanity and the rationale for the removal and relocation of his statue from the grounds of City Hall; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks neither the destruction of the statue of Andrew Jackson nor the erasure of Jackson’s racism from the public record; and

WHEREAS, scholars have long known with perfect certainty that Andrew Jackson orchestrated the genocidal removal of Native Americans from their ancestral land, and bitterly resisted the United States Supreme Court’s decision in *Worcester v. Georgia*, 31 U.S. (6 Pet.) 515 (1832), a ruling foundational in establishing the general idea that Native Americans have some degree of sovereignty in their interactions with state and federal governments; and

WHEREAS, it is meticulously documented that Andrew Jackson enslaved up to 150 Black men, women, and children on his Tennessee plantation; and

WHEREAS, it is indisputable that Andrew Jackson practiced and incited depraved violence as it pertained to the forced labor of enslaved Black men, women, and children; and

WHEREAS, it is fact that Andrew Jackson amassed wealth, in large part, from the institution of slavery; and

WHEREAS, it is fact that Andrew Jackson continued to enslave Black men, women, and children throughout his tenure as President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is fact that Andrew Jackson increased his private ownership of enslaved Black men, women, and children even as abolitionists of his own era demanded an end to the global slave trade and its horrific practices, specifically, in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the statue of Andrew Jackson is given celebratory placement on the public grounds of the Jackson City Hall; and

WHEREAS, City Hall is the center of local governance and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, City Hall is where the public convenes to make their voices heard to their representatives; and

WHEREAS, the looming statue of Andrew Jackson stands in stark contradiction to principles of justice, equality, freedom, and democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks to protect residents from further City-sanctioned insult and injury, and the captivity of injustice; and

WHEREAS, the statue of Andrew Jackson is not appropriate or suitable for display on the grounds of the Jackson City Hall; and

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WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council, seeks, therefore, to be guided by best practices in historic preservation and the exhibition of artifacts in appropriate cultural centers or museum settings with relevant annotation and accurate interpretive analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council finds the Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center, located on the periphery of downtown Jackson, to be a museum setting more appropriate and suitable for display of the statue of Andrew Jackson; and

WHEREAS, the Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center is curated by professional museum staff; and

WHEREAS, the Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center presents a nationally recognized collection of artifacts, articles, books, papers and memorabilia that illuminate the multifaceted trauma and triumph of the African-American experience in Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center attracts visitors from all over the world; and

WHEREAS, the Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center allows visitors to engage with difficult subject matter at their own pace; and

WHEREAS, visitors to the Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center are a self-selected audience, choosing to enter a museum space dedicated to exploring the truth of America's racial history – however painful and wherever it takes us.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the Jackson City Council finds the Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center to be a more appropriate and more suitable place to display the statue of Andrew Jackson.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Jackson City Council authorizes the Administration to coordinate removal and relocation efforts with the State's Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives and History, the City's Historic Preservation Commission, and any other person or entity, all in the manner and to the extent as may be required by law.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED, that this Order incorporates and adopts the above-referenced July 7, 2020 Order of the Jackson City Council.

Council Member Hartley moved adoption; **Council Member Banks** seconded.

Chairperson Banks recognized **Council Member Lindsay** who moved, seconded by **Council Member Hartley** who recommended an amendment to leave the location unknown until a decision is made. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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Yeas – Banks, Foote, Grizzell, Hartley, Lee and Lindsay.

Nays – None.

Absent – None.

Thereafter, **Chairperson Banks** called for a vote on said Order as amended:

**ORDER OF THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE
ADMINISTRATION TO RELOCATE THE ANDREW JACKSON STATUE TO
THE SMITH ROBERTSON MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER.**

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2020, the Jackson City Council passed an Order authorizing the Administration to lawfully remove and relocate the Andrew Jackson statue from the grounds of the Jackson City Hall; and

WHEREAS, the instant Order incorporates and adopts said July 7, 2020 Order; and

WHEREAS, said July 7, 2020 Order did not designate a specific relocation site; and

WHEREAS, there is no statute of limitation on reconsidering symbols of racism and systemic crimes against humanity; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Mississippi recently signed legislation ordering the design of a new state flag absent the Confederate battle emblem, globally recognizable as a symbol of division; and

WHEREAS, some controversial monuments have been destroyed or toppled amidst mass protests against institutional racism; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks a peaceful, if overdue, reckoning with the meaning of certain emblems, artifacts and statuary displayed on public property; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks to be forthright, transparent, and in accord with law, in its decision to relocate, specifically, the statue of Andrew Jackson; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks to be guided by principles of public education and racial justice in determining the relocation of the statue of Andrew Jackson; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks a “teachable moment” and continuing education as to the facts of Andrew Jackson’s crimes against humanity and the rationale for the removal and relocation of his statue from the grounds of City Hall; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks neither the destruction of the statue of Andrew Jackson nor the erasure of Jackson’s racism from the public record; and

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WHEREAS, scholars have long known with perfect certainty that Andrew Jackson orchestrated the genocidal removal of Native Americans from their ancestral land, and bitterly resisted the United States Supreme Court’s decision in *Worcester v. Georgia*, 31 U.S. (6 Pet.) 515 (1832), a ruling foundational in establishing the general idea that Native Americans have some degree of sovereignty in their interactions with state and federal governments; and

WHEREAS, it is meticulously documented that Andrew Jackson enslaved up to 150 Black men, women, and children on his Tennessee plantation; and

WHEREAS, it is indisputable that Andrew Jackson practiced and incited depraved violence as it pertained to the forced labor of enslaved Black men, women, and children; and

WHEREAS, it is fact that Andrew Jackson amassed wealth, in large part, from the institution of slavery; and

WHEREAS, it is fact that Andrew Jackson continued to enslave Black men, women, and children throughout his tenure as President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is fact that Andrew Jackson increased his private ownership of enslaved Black men, women, and children even as abolitionists of his own era demanded an end to the global slave trade and its horrific practices, specifically, in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the statue of Andrew Jackson is given celebratory placement on the public grounds of the Jackson City Hall; and

WHEREAS, City Hall is the center of local governance and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, City Hall is where the public convenes to make their voices heard to their representatives; and

WHEREAS, the looming statue of Andrew Jackson stands in stark contradiction to principles of justice, equality, freedom, and democracy; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council seeks to protect residents from further City-sanctioned insult and injury, and the captivity of injustice; and

WHEREAS, the statue of Andrew Jackson is not appropriate or suitable for display on the grounds of the Jackson City Hall; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council, seeks, therefore, to be guided by best practices in historic preservation and the exhibition of artifacts in appropriate cultural centers or museum settings with relevant annotation and accurate interpretive analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Jackson City Council finds the _____; and

WHEREAS, the _____; and

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WHEREAS, the _____; and

WHEREAS, the _____; and

WHEREAS, _____; and

WHEREAS, _____

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the Jackson City Council finds the _____ to be a more appropriate and more suitable place to display the statue of Andrew Jackson.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the Jackson City Council authorizes the Administration to coordinate removal and relocation efforts with the State’s Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives and History, the City’s Historic Preservation Commission, and any other person or entity, all in the manner and to the extent as may be required by law.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED, that this Order incorporates and adopts the above-referenced _____ Order of the Jackson City Council.

After a thorough discussion, **Chairperson Aaron Banks**, who stated that said item would remain in committee to allow further research.

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ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-62 OF THE JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, Section 2-62 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances establishes locations and schedules of the Jackson City Council meetings; and

WHEREAS, the current guidelines and requirements establishing locations and schedules of the Jackson City Council meetings, as set forth in Section 2-62 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances, is as follows:

(a) *Place of meetings.* Unless notice to the contrary is given, all meetings of the city council shall be held in the council chamber. Certified, sworn law enforcement officers shall be present at the public entry doors of the council chamber before, during, and after regular and special called meetings of the council to ensure the safety of all in attendance. Attendance of individuals at regular and special called meetings of the council shall be limited to 20 persons, with the exception of council members, as well as members of the administration, members of the office of the clerk of council, and/or city staff.

(b) *Regular meetings.* Regular meetings of the council shall be held on every other Tuesday. The regular meeting times shall alternate with the first regular city council

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meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m., with the second regular city council meeting of the month to be held at 6:00 p.m., and the next regular city council meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. Any additional regular city council meetings in the month shall also follow the alternating time schedule. At 4:00 p.m. on each Monday preceding a regular Tuesday council meeting the council will also hold a planning session to discuss the business to be considered at the following regular Tuesday council meeting. The planning session shall be limited to one and one-half hours.

(c) *Zoning meetings.* Zoning cases to be considered by the city council shall be heard 42 days after the planning board makes its recommendation to the city council.

(d) *Special meetings.* Special meetings of the council may be called at any time by the mayor or a majority of the members of the council. A notification of such meeting shall be reduced to writing and posted in a public place in City Hall. When possible, special meetings are to be held on those Mondays that do not precede a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday. Such notice shall include the time, place and general subject matter of such meetings. Members of the council shall be notified in the most expedient manner available, whether in writing or not; provided, however, that where possible the clerk shall give council members 24 hours' notice of such meetings. The 24-hour notice may be waived by the council when the council deems that an adequate notice has been given and when a quorum is present at the special meeting.

(e) *Committee meetings.* Committee meetings may be called at any time by the chair of the committee, upon 48 hours' notice of the same to all council committee members. A notification of such meeting shall be reduced to writing and posted in a public place in city hall.

NOW BE IT ORDAINED BY THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL that Section 2-62 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances shall be amended to establish the locations and schedules for meetings of the Jackson City Council as follows:

(a) Place of meetings. Unless notice to the contrary is given, all meetings of the city council shall be held in the council chamber. Certified, sworn law enforcement officers shall be present at the public entry doors of the council chamber before, during, and after regular and special called meetings of the council to ensure the safety of all in attendance. Attendance of individuals at regular and special called meetings of the council shall be limited to 20 persons, with the exception of council members, as well as members of the administration, members of the office of the clerk of council, and/or city staff.

(b) Regular meetings. Regular meetings of the council shall be held on every other Tuesday. ~~The regular meeting times shall alternate with the first regular city council meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m., with the second regular city council meeting of the month to be held at 6:00 p.m., and the next regular city council meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. Any additional regular city council meetings in the month shall also follow the alternating time schedule.~~ At 4:00 p.m. on each Monday preceding a regular Tuesday council meeting, the council will also hold a planning session to discuss the business to be

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considered at the following regular Tuesday council meeting. The planning session shall be limited to one and one-half hours.

(c) Zoning meetings. Zoning cases to be considered by the city council shall be heard 42 days after the planning board makes its recommendation to the city council.

(d) Special meetings. Special meetings of the council may be called at any time by the mayor or a majority of the members of the council. A notification of such meeting shall be reduced to writing and posted in a public place in City Hall. When possible, special meetings are to be held on those Mondays that do not precede a regularly scheduled council meeting on Tuesday. Such notice shall include the time, place and general subject matter of such meetings. Members of the council shall be notified in the most expedient manner available, whether in writing or not; provided, however, that where possible the clerk shall give council members 24 hours' notice of such meetings. The 24-hour notice may be waived by the council when the council deems that an adequate notice has been given and when a quorum is present at the special meeting.

(e) Committee meetings. Committee meetings may be called at any time by the chair of the committee, upon 48 hours' notice of the same to all council committee members. A notification of such meeting shall be reduced to writing and posted in a public place in city hall.

(f) Citizens' Agenda Meetings will be held on the last Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the council chamber. At this time, the city council will entertain public comments unrelated to items found on the regular council agenda, proclamations, special presentations, commendations, and resolutions honoring individuals, businesses, groups, or organizations. The city council may call a Citizens' Agenda Meeting on dates and at times and locations set by a majority of the members of the council. During this Citizens' Agenda Meeting, members of the public may be permitted to give comment or input within the prescribed time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker. Prospective speakers at this special called meeting must register with the clerk of council no later than 12 noon on the business day immediately preceding the special called meeting, and shall provide, in writing, his name, his address, and the number of the agenda item with reference to which he desires to speak. At any Citizens' Agenda Meeting, the city council may take such action as is appropriate under the circumstances on any matter found on the agenda for that meeting. The agenda for the Citizens' Agenda Meeting shall give notice that official action may be taken on matters found on the agenda.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE JACKSON CITY COUNCIL that this Ordinance Amending Section 2-62 of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances shall become effective in accordance with the provisions of Section 21-13-11 of the Mississippi Code Annotated (1972), as amended.

Council Member Banks moved adoption; **Council Member Lee** seconded.

Chairperson Banks recognized **Shanekia Jordan**, Clerk of Council, who provided a brief overview of said Ordinance.

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Chairperson Banks recognized **Terry Williamson**, City Attorney’s Office, who expressed concerns about minutes being approved on Regular Council Meetings or within 30 days whichever comes first.

After a thorough discussion, **Chairperson Banks** and **Council Member Lee** who withdrew their motion and second. After a thorough discussion, **Chairperson Aaron Banks**, who stated that said item would remain in committee to allow further research.

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There came for consideration Agenda Item No. 6:

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-64 OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECONCILING THE ORDER OF BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL WITH SECTION 2-71(B) AND SECTION 2-71(C) OF THE CITY OF JACKSON CODE OF ORDINANCES. Said item would remain in committee to allow further research.

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There came for consideration Agenda Item No. 7:

Ordinance amending Section 2-71 (c) of the City of Jackson Code of Ordinances. Said item would remain in committee to allow further research.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:28 p.m.