



# City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center  
300 S. Church Street  
Jonesboro, AR 72401

## Meeting Minutes Public Works Council Committee

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Tuesday, September 1, 2020

5:00 PM

Municipal Center

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### 1. Call To Order

### 2. Roll Call by City Clerk Donna Jackson

**Present** 6 - Gene Vance; Mitch Johnson; John Street; Chris Moore; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

**Absent** 1 - LJ Bryant

### 3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-20:075](#)

Minutes for the Public Works Committee meeting on August 4, 2020.

**Attachments:** [MINUTES](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson Gene Vance, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Gene Vance; Mitch Johnson; Chris Moore; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

**Absent:** 1 - LJ Bryant

### 4. New Business

#### *RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED*

[RES-20:136](#)

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING FREE UTILITY SERVICES FROM CITY WATER AND LIGHT FOR TRAFFIC SIGNALS

**Sponsors:** Engineering

*Councilmember John Street abstained from discussion and voting on RES-20:136 due to serving on the Board of City Water and Light.*

**A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Gene Vance; Mitch Johnson; Chris Moore; Charles Coleman; LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

**Abstain:** 1 - John Street

[RES-20:137](#) A RESOLUTION REQUESTING FREE UTILITY SERVICE AT 9705 C.W. POST ROAD FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO

**Sponsors:** Engineering

*Councilmember John Street abstained from discussion and voting on RES-20:137 due to serving on the Board of City Water and Light.*

**A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Charles Coleman, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Gene Vance; Mitch Johnson; Chris Moore; Charles Coleman; LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

**Abstain:** 1 - John Street

[RES-20:138](#) A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AN INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT WITH CITY WATER AND LIGHT PLANT OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS (CWL)

**Sponsors:** Engineering

**Attachments:** [Agreement with CWL on Drop Box, 400 block, East Monroe Ave](#)

*Councilmember Chris Moore asked Chairman John Street if the drop box would be placed in the island where all of the mailboxes are. Chairman Street said that he was not sure, but that it would be logical if it was. Councilmember Moore said that Craig Light, Chief Engineer for the City is coming to the podium to speak, and yes, Mr. Light did confirm that that is where the box will be placed.*

*Patti Lack 4108 Forrest Hill Road, Jonesboro. What is a drop box for City Water and Light, is that just a payment box? Chairman John Street said, yes. It would be where you could drop off a payment or deposit.*

*Councilmember John Street abstained from discussion and voting on RES-20:138 due to serving on the Board of City Water and Light.*

**A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Ann Williams, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Gene Vance; Mitch Johnson; Chris Moore; Charles Coleman; LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

**Abstain:** 1 - John Street

[RES-20:139](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PURCHASE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 907 CONGRESS CIRCLE AND SELL CITY PROPERTY AT 215 E. ALLEN AVENUE AND 202 E. GORDON STREET TO TIM THRASHER AND TIM ALLISON IN ORDER TO RELOCATE THE OPERATIONS OF THE BUILDING MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

**Sponsors:** Building Maintenance and Mayor's Office

**Attachments:**     [Resolution, Building Maintenance Facility swap](#)  
[Real Estate Contract, 215 E. Allen and 202 E. Gordon](#)  
[Real Estate Contract, 907 Congress](#)  
[Appraisal, 215 Allen Ave and 202 E Gordon St](#)  
[Appraisal 907 Congress Circle](#)  
[907 Congress Cir, Jonesboro, AR 72401 - Industrial for Sale](#)   [LoopNet.com](#)  
[Mike Downing Email 09012020](#)

*Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Gene Vance, to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-20:139 to the agenda. All voted aye.*

*Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to amended Section 2 to reflect the sum of \$200,000 instead of \$550,000. All voted aye.*

*Councilmember Chris Moore stated that he has not been out to Congress Drive and wanted to know if there was a building on that property. Chairman John Street stated that it has a building on it. Councilmember Moore said the Chief of Staff Mike Downing has indicated that there is a mistake in the figure in section 1. The figure should be \$200,000, not \$550,000. Councilmember Gene Vance stated that we are selling ours for \$200,000, and buying the \$550,000 with the \$200,000, and the \$350,000 that is in the budget. Councilmember Moore stated for a total of \$550,000.*

*Councilmember Chris Moore said that he had another question regarding the property at Gordon and Allen. I know that currently there has been a committee searching diligently for property to construct a Homeless Shelter. Has that property that the city currently owns, has it been evaluated for use as a homeless shelter, it's in the right location and I know we have grant funding to cover the purchase and acquisition of property and build a building. Chairman Street said that Chief of Staff Mike Downing or the Mayor's office needs to answer that, I really don't know, but I doubt it. Councilmember Moore said, I am not opposed to buying the property on Congress Drive. But, before we trade in one piece of property that we own, it seems like it needs to be considered for the homeless shelter. Chairman John Street asked, are you mainly looking at it because of the location or because of the existing building? Councilmember Chris Moore said, the location seems to be what the committee was looking for. The Homeless Shelter Committee wanted something that was adjacent to down town, relatively large. There is not many properties adjacent to down town that could be remodeled or used to construct a homeless shelter on, and we already own that property.*

*Building Maintenance Director, Ronnie Shaver said that he spoke with Regina Burkett, Director of Community Development and she asked him the same thing. I explained to her that it was in the trade. Mr. Shaver went on to explain that the grant money could not be used to buy our property. Based on what I am understanding is that she can use that money to remodel, and do construction, But, she can't purchase our property with her money. It has to be a city owned property that we are more or less donating for the homeless shelter.*

*Councilmember Moore said, I know I asked today, the grant would cover purchasing of the property and construction of a building. What I don't know is if it would cover the purchase of property that we already owned, and reimburse the city. Either way before we get too far we need to have the answer to that question answered. Building Maintenance Director, Ronnie Shaver also stated that you should speak to Planning Director Derrel Smith about the rezoning. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I would*

*just ask that we have that re-evaluated before we swap, because there is very few properties left downtown that would be available for a homeless shelter. Mr. Shaver said, if we do it this way, we are going to have to go back and have more money budgeted. Councilmember Moore said, I understand that, and I am not arguing the purchase of the property on Congress. I am just asking for a two-week delay so that it can be discussed with the Mayor and the Homeless Shelter Committee to see if it's a possible property that they want to use for the Shelter.*

*Patti Lack 4108 Forrest Hill Road, Jonesboro. I kind of got wind of this earlier this afternoon. The thing that is disappointing in this, is that it is a large amount of money. I don't like that there is a lot of walk-ons. The citizens of Jonesboro need to be aware of this, and when looking at this form right here it says there was an appraisal done in May, and one in July. So, we knew about this land trade or swap by then. I looked at this resolution that we had for the \$3.4 million and I saw that there was \$350,000 going into the maintenance department. I don't have a problem with getting a new maintenance building. What I am really upset about, and I think the citizens are as well, is the walk-ons. This is a lot of money, we don't know about it, and it's being walked-on. The disappointment comes from we are told that there is transparency. There is nothing that was in the paper about this and that is the disappointment of this. I am glad that we can table it for the two-weeks, that way the public can get more information on this. The public needs to learn about this because it is a lot of money. I received a lot of calls, and people are disappointed because they did not know about this. Councilmember Gene Vance stated that this did go through the Building Maintenance Advisory Committee. It has been studied, we did not get to meet until last week. It has been researched to make sure it will take care of our needs.*

**A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Ann Williams, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 5 - Gene Vance; Mitch Johnson; Chris Moore; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

**Absent:** 1 - LJ Bryant

## **5. Pending Items**

## **6. Other Business**

## **7. Public Comments**

## **8. Adjournment**

**A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Gene Vance; Mitch Johnson; Chris Moore; Charles Coleman; LJ Bryant and Ann Williams