



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

5:30 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR PERRIN AT 5:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Present 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, we have some distinguished guests here tonight so I am going to change the order of the agenda. The next item that we are going to consider will be agenda item #9 and it will be Council Reports.

Councilmember Gene Vance said, I would like to take a moment to say and I have been joking and everybody knows that I like to pop a good joke every now and then, maybe more than every now and then. But, I have really enjoyed the last twelve years serving on this council. I know our end sometimes enjoy each other and I do enjoy being between Charles and Charles. I have enjoyed serving with every member of this council. Not too many know, but I actually started on the council 32 years ago and served two 2-year terms and was elected at the same time that Ms. Jackson and Mayor Perrin were elected. Had I not been transient and moving all over the city, I would be finalizing my 32nd year on the council tonight. I did not get off the council because I felt that I needed to. I left because we are entering our retirement years and I think or I hope that we will be transient again and I actually do not know which area of town that I might land in. So, again, I just say thank you to all of the councilmembers. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Mr. Vance. We enjoyed working with you also.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, the only thing I have to say is that on December 21st from 10-12 or 1 o'clock we will still be giving gifts to the community. I have had plenty of calls of bringing gifts. We know that there are a lot of people out of work. We just hope that folks show up. This is a drive-thru event, even with your mask still on. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Dr. Coleman.

Councilmember Ann Williams said, I know that I have really benefited from the knowledge and expertise of Mr. Vance, Ms. Jackson, and the Mayor Harold Perrin. I think we have all had a great asset as far as benefiting from their knowledge and great

expertise and dedication to their work and they have really served this community well and I appreciate them. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Ms. Williams.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, well said Ms. Williams and I just echo your sentiment. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Mr. Gibson.

Councilmember David McClain said, Gene, congratulations on your retirement. I know you guys are probably looking forward for time to slow down and just smell the roses, right. I appreciate you and all you have been and meant to this city, not only through our council but through our community. And to Mayor and Donna, I appreciate everything you guys have done. We have not always agreed on things, but at the same time, I think we have always wanted what was best for the community and I think that is shown and so I truly appreciate everything you guys have done. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Mr. McClain.

Councilmember Bobby Long said, I just want to echo those sentiments to Gene and Donna and Mayor. The only thing that I would add is that my prayer is that the Lord would continue to bless you and keep you and that he would make you the head and not the tail and that he would bless the work of your hands and that he would continue to give you favor with God and man. That is my prayer for you and that is not only my prayer for you guys, but for the city and for those of you who are coming into office. I just respect you all, value your opinions, and I pray that this season of your life be richly blessed. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Mr. Long.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, I will be real brief. I just want to remind everybody that the Finance Committee is having a working session next Tuesday, 12/22 at 3:00 p.m. I know Steve Purtee and his staff are working on several different kind of schedules to help us with the budget review. If anybody on the committee has any questions, I ask that they email Steve beforehand so he has time to work on the answers and make sure that is answered in the session. I envision this session being a back and forth between the committee members and the city staff. I have invited Mayor Perrin and Mayor Elect Copenhaver to both participate in the meeting. Obviously, no votes will be taken next Tuesday. It is a working session. The meeting that we have on the 29th where we are actually voting on whether or not to send it to full council, the public will be invited to make comments at that point. Like I said, if you have any questions, please get them to Steve and them so they can get the answers ready. And, besides that, I would just like to echo everybody else's comments. You know, Gene and Mayor Perrin and Donna, I have learned and had good conversations with each of you. We haven't always agreed, but we have always respected each other and conducted ourselves in that manner. I wish yall the best retirements possible and thanks for everything yall have done for the city over the last several years. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Mr. Hafner.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, I will be brief. I will probably say somewhat similar things about Councilman Vance and Mayor Perrin that they brought a lot of government expertise and business expertise to every decision and they both uniquely took years of experience and were still very forward thinking and modern thinking so they really brought a great combination of things together. I have been the new guy on the council. Brian Emison will be the new guy on the council. I won't wear that badge anymore, but I'll say when I was new on the council, Donna was very helpful to me and played a very important role in developing that office over decades for our city. I appreciate all three for their service to our city. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Mr. Bryant.

Councilmember John Street said, yeah, Donna Jackson has been, how can you even say, the innumerable services she has provided to the council over the years, so I thank her for all of her help and leadership. Gene, I have served with you in a number of capacities. I served with you in the military, MAPC, City Council, it has always been an honor to serve with you. I also wish you well. And, Harold, I have served with you on the Council or as a Mayor-Council relationship over the last 18 years. It has been a great pleasure. You have provided an additional amount of leadership. You put the city on a real good path. We are doing well and a lot of it is attributable to your leadership. So, thanks to all of you and good luck with your retirement and health. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Mr. Street.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson said, earlier tonight the Public Safety Committee met. We had an item that we felt needed to move forward to the council this evening. So, I would like to suspend the rules and ask that we walk on RES-20:242 onto the agenda tonight for the council's consideration. Councilmember Chris Gibson and Councilmember John Street seconded the motion. All voted aye.

[RES-20:242](#)

A RESOLUTION FOR ENACTING A TEMPORARY HONORARY DESIGNATION OF A PORTION OF CERTAIN CITY STREETS IN HONOR OF MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN, COUNCILMAN GENE VANCE, AND CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Passed

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: R-EN-219-2020

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-20:076](#)

RECOGNITION BY MAYOR PRO-TEM CHRIS MOORE TO HONOR MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER GENE VANCE AND CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, Ms. Donna Jackson and Honorable Harold Perrin, if you will come up here. We have got several items we are going to present. Ms. Jackson, for your 30 years of service, I am personally glad to present you with a key to the city. Thank you very much.

Donna K. Jackson, 303 University Drive, said, there is not enough that I could say. I heard a politician say one time that every elected official brings joy to your life, some by leaving and others by staying. I am going to let you decide that. I wouldn't change the people I have met, the lessons I have learned, the fights I have fought, because it is one of those things that you have to determine what is worth fighting for. You all do a great job. I am proud that I know you. I would say that I am going to miss you, but I will not because I am only going to be down the road. Feel free to call me if you need me. You are in good hands with Ms. City Clerk-Elect April Leggett. I am proud of her. Thank you.

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, it my esteem pleasure to present the Honorable Mayor Harold Perrin with a key to the city also. Harold, thank you very much for your service. I also want to mention the fact that Mr. Gene Vance will be receiving the same key to the city. His daughter will be presenting that to him. Gene, did you have any comments that you would like to express to the council? Councilmember

Gene Vance said, I want to say our current Mayor's version of the key to the city is lacking just a little bit from former Mayor Hubert Brodell's key to the city. That is part of this item that is really missed and for those of you who might not have remembered, Mayor Brodell, his key had a bottle opener built into it. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you very much Mr. Vance for that.

The next part of the presentation will be caricatures, as drawn by Cameron Robinson in the Communications Department. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, Cameron, thank you very much. Councilmember Joe Hafner said, that is awesome Gene. It has you at your favorite place. Councilmember Vance said, that is my pastime.

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, the third item under special presentations will be the street signs for the honorary street naming. The signs are to be on Main Street. Matthews Avenue, I wanted to reiterate, will be named City Clerk Donna Jackson Avenue. Washington Avenue will be renamed Gene Vance Avenue and Huntington Avenue will be named Mayor Harold Perrin Avenue. So, congratulations on that honor also. I believe we have some other assorted gifts. Mr. Mayor, in addition to your other gifts, we have an acrylic award honoring your years of service also I would like to present on behalf of the city. Mayor Perrin said, thank you very much. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, Ms. Jackson, there is one for you also.

We are privileged to have in attendance tonight, Mr. Alec Farmer. I believe he has a presentation on behalf of ARDOT for the Mayor. Mr. Alec Farmer said, before I make the presentation, on a personal note, I want to congratulate both Mayor Perrin and Ms. Jackson. I served with both of them when I was on the City Council about 15 years ago. It was an honor to serve with you. The reason I am here today is that we have a proclamation that the Highway Commission, the State Highway Commission and ARDOT had adopted at its meeting last week. It says several things in it, but the important stuff here is, "WHEREAS, Mayor Perrin has provided excellent leadership, guidance, and partnership to the Arkansas State Highway Commission and the Department of Transportation and our shared goal of providing the best highway system possible for motorists of Arkansas. WHEREAS, the Highway Commission and Department wish to commend and thank Mayor Perrin for his tireless efforts and contributions over the last 12 years and improving the mobility and safety of Jonesboro's transportation system. NOW, THEREFORE, we wish to convey special recognition for his distinguished accomplishments and HEREBY, appoint Harold Perrin, a goodwill ambassador for the Arkansas Department of Transportation." I just want to highlight a couple of things. Harold was on the City Council back in 1994, I think, when the first partnering agreement between the city and the Highway Department was done in the old MATA plan. That was the first one in the state to ever be done between a city and a department. Since then, once Harold became Mayor, he had the foresight to leverage Jonesboro dollars to speed up Highway projects in Jonesboro. He was able to put about \$8 million up that created \$32 million in additional funds, federal funds, that allowed projects to start early such as the Highland Railroad Overpass and the east bypass in Jonesboro. So, Mayor, thank you for everything you have done. You have been a wonderful public servant and I have enjoyed working with you. Mayor Perrin said, thank you very much.

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, the next item we have will be a presentation and a proclamation honoring Harold Perrin for 12 years as Mayor of Jonesboro. "WHEREAS, Harold Perrin has served as Mayor of the City of Jonesboro for 12 years without a single vacation; and, WHEREAS, the city has grown and improved in almost every measurable function during his three terms in office; and, WHEREAS, the administration that began by prioritizing fiscal management built a reserve that at one

point topped \$32 million and created opportunities for significant improvements in infrastructure, safety and quality of life; and, WHEREAS among the tremendous number of accomplishments achieved during his administration, a few stand out as hallmarks of the Perrin Legacy. Those include: Harold Perrin Miracle League, a 3.2 mile pedestrian bicycle trail at Craighead Forest, both of which were created with negligible Jonesboro tax dollars, a new shooting sports complex, and upgrades at Joe Mack Campbell and Southside Softball Parks, Earl Bell Community Center, Parker and Allen Parks and the Forum; WHEREAS, Perrin's mantra of "Customer Service is our only business." became the directive of each of the city's 21 departments embraced in his charismatic ability to create connections and allegiance's with public/private partnerships has been used as a model throughout the state of Arkansas; and, WHEREAS Harold Perrin is a skilled businessman whose perseverance and leadership has provided a high level of service to its residents and created a city that regularly scores high in city rankings not only in Arkansas, but nationally. NOW, THEREFORE, we the City Council of the City of Jonesboro by virtue of the authority vested in us by the laws of the state of Arkansas do hereby proclaim today, Harold Perrin Day in the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas." Thank you very much Mr. Mayor.

Read

[COM-20:077](#)

PRESENTATION BY MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN

Mayor Harold Perrin said, thank you all very much for all of the accolades and things that you all just presented, not only to me, but to Donna Jackson, City Clerk, as well as, Gene Vance this evening. Tonight, what I basically wanted to do is say thanks to several individuals and I have broke those down and just a few comments about some of the things that we have done, but also some things that I think that the city may want to continue to look at on their project list for 2021 and years to come. Mr. President Pro-Tempore, first of all, let me say thank you for taking the time to conduct these meetings when I became a little ill, the last three to three and one-half months, and I do appreciate that very much because I know it takes a lot of time to go through and get prepared for those meetings so I want to say thank you very much publically. Madam City Attorney, I want to say thank you for keeping me legal if you will. I am pretty fast at some of the moves I make and I know that Carol has slowed me down quite a bit on contracts and on some of the things that we have had to do. But, I do appreciate very much you doing that as well as the lawsuits and other things that we have to deal with. So, thank you so much. Madam City Clerk, Donna Jackson, Donna, thank you so much. I have enjoyed the last 12 years working with you. More importantly, I think that is what you have done is show the people of Jonesboro the transparency of all of our city affairs. Every action we do or whatever, you make sure that you get that out and on the website and things of that nature. And, I have heard that more than one time from a lot of people. So, I want to say thank you very much, particularly on transparency. Also, members of the Jonesboro City Council, I can't say enough. I always considered you my Board of Directors just like when I was in the banking business. You set the policy and then I take that and make sure that policy is put in place. But, also, more than that is that your friendship all along the way. Many of you I have served with this whole entire 12 years, some of you I have not. It is a shorter period like LJ, but I have known LJ for many years and he is a good businessman and coming on the council was, I think, a great contribution to the city, as well as Brian Emison who will be coming on shortly and he is already serving on two organizations within the city now. Our city directors, I can't say enough for our city directors. Those folks do a hard days work every day. They do not even buy a bolt for their department unless they need that bolt. They are the ones who have helped me and the administration increase our reserves back up to where it is today and I will share that

in just a moment. But, they have done an incredible job of training their people, making sure they have the right people in the right place and has done a great job reporting that to the administration. I think that is the most successful thing I think in business today if I could sum it up would be one word and that is communication. You have to have good communication from the top to the bottom and from the bottom to the top. If you don't do that, then you will not be successful at all. So, I want to say thanks again to all of my city directors for the hard work that they do and how they take care of their people. Also, is our city staff. The folks that we have here, well over 525 LTE full-time employees. These folks, I think, love their job and we have tried to make sure that we provide good benefits to our employees in our health insurance and dental and all other benefits as well as our pension plan that we changed many years ago. I think around five or six years ago. Because the old pension plan, you could be here for a long time and not receive very little money to go along with your social security benefits. So, again, I want to say thanks to them. They are the ones that are on the front line every day. I wish I could visit with them more. But, sometimes, my job will not allow me to get out much in the field.

Also, I want to say thanks to the group. And, I call them the group because actually we have 40 city boards, commissions, committees, and authorities. And, that is a large number. Many of those will have anywhere from 6 to 10 to 20 members on each one of them. And, they have done a great job. They do the work that brings the stuff to us which in turn comes to you for your approval and we will implement what they have chosen or the direction that they have chosen to go in. Also, I want to say to our numerous partners and affiliate organizations, someone mentioned that a while ago, in public-private partnerships. We have been highly successful and I know that our new Mayor-Elect Harold Copenhaver will continue that, but the organizations in this town have given back to the city in many ways whether it be monetary or just helped us on certain projects. I usually throw that up there every year at the State of the City address. There is federal, there is state as well as local companies in this town that have done an absolutely incredible job. When we started the Miracle League Field, they didn't think that could ever happen with a \$3 million project and then we put \$100,000 in that at the beginning. Actually, I think we got it up to about \$400,000, but all of that money above that was given or donated by people either in the City of Jonesboro or also in the State of Arkansas. And, I am extremely pleased for that facility. And, most importantly, the citizens of Jonesboro who have backed our City Council and this administration. Again, as someone said a while ago, we don't always agree, but we agree to disagree. And, I think that is something that you have to do. It has been a privilege, an honor, as well as being humble to serve you for the last 12 years as your Mayor and 14 years on the City Council. You have given me support. You have given me your collaboration and also you have kept me updating on what is going on within the city. My family has been very important to me and they have supported me since I began public service in 1993. Without them, I couldn't be able to do what I could do at work. And, I love to work and I think you all know that. I want to say to my lovely wife of 52 years tonight and I hope she is watching, thank you very much. There were many nights you had dinner by yourself and also the trips that I have had to take out of town for the city. But, I want to say thank you Susan for understanding and supporting me all of that time. I also want to congratulate my good friend Gene for his 16 years on the City Council, actually, more than that after this last time. He has really been a rock. I am going to say this of good judgement and advice. Gene will tell you exactly what he believes in. He will not stutter. He will tell you whether you want to be on his side or not. So, I always have enjoyed visiting with Gene. Gene, thank you very much for your service on the City Council during these times. I also want to thank again Donna Jackson for her contributions and again going back on the transparency for the city affairs. I would also like to congratulate Mayor-Elect Harold Copenhaver

who is with us tonight and I appreciate that and I am very pleased and humbled that he is here. We will be working. We have met several times and we will continue. In fact, we have a meeting tomorrow to go over some things. I think that is good and Harold is trying to soak up as much knowledge as he possibly can before January 1, 2021 when he will take over the reigns of this city. Also, he was instrumental in working with us on the budget. I felt it only fair as outgoing Mayor because he will have to live with that budget next year. And, so, I made sure that Harold was very much involved in the very beginning on the budget. As you heard Mr. Councilmember Hafner a while ago, say that he and I both will be attending the working session on the 22nd of this month. And, please if you have your questions, send those into Steve Purtee ahead of time so that our meeting will be ran well and we will get all of your answers to all of your questions. Again, I want to say congratulations to April. April will be our new City Clerk and having set beside her and watch her run those two machines, I know that she will do an incredible job. And, also, I have had the pleasure of having to call and ask for forgiveness if I can and try to put something on the agenda that we had to get out. It was usually a contract for the federal government. Usually, you get those on a Monday and they want it back on a Friday and it is hard to execute that. They don't work that way when we go up the other stream. Anyway, enough said on that. I also want to say congratulations and best wishes to your newest Councilmember Brian Emison. Brian has been involved and is serving now on two city organizations on the Housing and Residential Board which just did the big bond issue for the former Methodist Hospital. He also serves on another committee.

I am very proud of our accomplishments in fundamental economic and financial as positive image transformation that we have achieved together. And, today, Jonesboro is a cleaner, safer, more effective, more desirable and a more prosperous city I think. I have also held true to the promises that I made in every election and never waived on those principles. And, my focus has always been on doing the right thing for our community. Jonesboro is not only business friendly, but also has a streamlined regulations and permitting processes. It also has a hardworking, dependable workforce who will give you a full day's work for a fair wage. We have invested our funds wisely I think in projects and improved the quality of life, again, such as Joe Mack Campbell Park, the Miracle League Complex, Southside Park, the Forum, the Earl Bell Community Center, the shooting range, and many others. Now, we have been able to make improvements to many city facilities for our people to work in as you all know. Mitch Johnson took a big lead on this and that was that we had our sanitation, our street department, trying to work out of an old building on the landfill. And, today, they have one of the most modern, in my opinion, Public Works facilities in the State of Arkansas. Mayor Rick Elumbaugh from Batesville just came in last week. He brought his engineering firm that he had hired and they are trying to duplicate basically what we have here in Batesville, Arkansas. So, that just goes to show you when you when the word got out and the way that we did that was the Engineers worked with our Directors and everything is very efficient and effective on movement as you do your job every day starting from the administration building to the warehouse from the warehouse, it goes right on down. And, so, we are very pleased with that. We also have generators at every facility that was paid for by FEMA and it didn't cost the taxpayers one dime to do that. And, we are very pleased with that. I would also want to say that I think that we have maintained our class one ISO rating for the City of Jonesboro. We have done that by investing in new equipment and also putting in two new fire stations in the last 12 years. We have also made significant improvements in our streets and highways which again will facilitate, I think, a traffic flow and improve safety. I was telling someone today that I was driving down Red Wolf last night and it was the first time I have been on it probably in about 60 days. I did not know it was overlaid thanks to our Commissioner I am sure. It was all striped and lit up. It was incredible going down Red

Wolf Boulevard last night. If you will remember, when I became Mayor, we did not have what I call decelerated lanes and we have added decelerated lanes not only into the mall, but also into the major intersections throughout. I think that is a big safety deal that we have done for our people to get people out of that and let the traffic go on through.

Our total revenue projected in the 2008 budget was \$31.1 million. And, ladies and gentlemen, the 2021 budget, if passed, is projected to be \$65.3 million. That is a growth of 91%. Our reserve fund in 2008 was \$9.2 million which would barely take care of a month and a half of operations of this city. Today, your excess reserves is \$21.5 million which is an increase of 134% in the budget for this year.

Together, I think we have accomplished a lot of things, but I think there are some things that also need to be done. After many numerous attempts several years ago, I was informed and again, we got very close, but now, I was told that the Citizens Bank building may have an announcement in the next coming months. A developer team has been put together. Also, the land has been acquired which is the big hang up if you will remember when we hired our attorney Price Gardner to come and look at that. It was co-mingled and now, the developers own all of that property, the land where the building sits on as well as all of the parking lot next to it. And, also, there is an institution, financial institution that owns a lot that will be used in that too as well. In that development, probably will be asked from you all I am sure, a parking garage on the development that I have seen the blueprints on. But, again, the confidentiality, I can't explain all of the project to you tonight. But, the point is this, once that happens in my opinion, with Jetton as well as Citizens Bank, moving the salvage yard, that being all done up here, your downtown area, in my opinion, is absolutely going to explode in the next two to three years. There is no question about that. It is also an enterprise zone that Mark Young got. We got three of them in Jonesboro, the only city to get three of the enterprise zones, the Industrial Park, the area around Arkansas State University, and the downtown area. So, again, I think that is something that we need to relook at. We also just got notified this week that we again were awarded the TAP grant from ARDOT, the highway department, for \$415,000. This money will be used to add to our bike trail which will start directly here on the corner and go towards Arkansas State University. This \$415,000 will help us get around Creath Street to get us on over to Marion Berry where we can go over the overpass with the bike deal and redo some of the Marion Berry. So, I was very pleased and want to say thanks to Mr. Farmer who is here tonight on us getting that. We just got word on that this week. And, there will be more work that needs to be done, but again, just let me talk just about a few things.

I would conclude with three thoughts about our city in the future. First of all, I think you need to be guided by what I call excellence. And what that means is to look well into the future and then also invest in what you think what the city needs to make it an excellent city. The second would be talented people and that is the basis for the city's future growth. And, we have been very fortunate to have the best workers in my opinion for the City of Jonesboro. There is no question in my mind that will continue. And, third, is just be willing to be innovative and change if you want to grow and thrive. Now, Jonesboro today, is obviously very proud. We are diverse. We are a vibrant city with a small town feel, but yet we have a big city charm. We are also the regional engine for this area. Just this last year, the Jonesboro Metro area was number six in the country for employment growth. And, that speaks a lot for our whole city and our area. We are also a welcoming place to live, to do business, to visit, or to even raise a family. I am honored to be a part of Jonesboro's success. As your Mayor for the last 12 years, I have also been inspired by the value that made America a great country. A conviction driven by a Christian values of tolerance, understanding, respect, and love. This is a

city of churches and I am greatly appreciative of your prayers, especially in the last ten months. Having to deal with a devastating tornado, a crippling pandemic, and my cancer treatment, the support that I have received on all three of these have been inspirational and I could not have dealt with all of this without your support and your prayers. I have also had the opportunity to hear from people from our city, many ways, letters, emails, phone calls, city council meetings, people in their offices, neighborhood association meetings that I have attended, going to the grocery store, coming out of church, walking down the street, so many encounters that I have listened. Now, in this process, is the most wonderful thing that happened to me, through those thousand ways of communicating, I got to know you, feel and appreciate your goodness and get to understand your hearts wishes. And, that has been a priceless treasure for me. It has inspired me to work harder, to do more, to do better, and to ever give up. So, in the totality of my work, it never became remote nor was it a statistic, but it was always personal. It was for the happiness and well-being of each of you, every citizen in our city. So, thank you Jonesboro for support for the last 12 years. It has been an honor of my life to serve you. I am privileged, humbled, and proud and grateful to be the Mayor of a city that I deeply love and care much for. So, God bless our city and God bless the great people of Jonesboro. Thank you so much. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you very much Mr. Mayor.

Read

5. CONSENT AGENDA

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, we need a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda without RES-20:235 which has been requested to be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, RES-20:236 needs to be pulled from the Consent Agenda because it is a donation from the Frierson Corporation.

Councilmember Gene Vance abstained from voting on RES-20:238.

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to adopt the consent agenda without RES-20:235 and RES-20:236. All voted aye.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson John Street, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

[MIN-20:114](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 1, 2020

Attachments: [CC Minutes 12012020](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

[RES-20:231](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONTINUE A JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, UNITED

STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF TWO STREAMGAGES IN JONESBORO

Attachments: [USGA Agreement 2021](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-220-2020

[RES-20:232](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH SAFE HAVEN BABY BOXES, INC. FOR THE PLACEMENT OF A NEWBORN SAFETY DEVICE ON A CITY FACILITY

Attachments: [Agreement, Safe Haven Baby Boxes](#)
[RWilliams email 12142020](#)
[PVellozo email 12142020](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-221-2020

[RES-20:233](#)

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING FREE UTILITY SERVICES FROM CITY WATER AND LIGHT FOR A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT 2301 E. HIGHLAND DRIVE

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-222-2020

[RES-20:234](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS ACCEPTING A DONATION OF LAND AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FARMER ENTERPRISES, INC.

Attachments: [Farmer Enterprises Donation - Parker Road 2.08 acres](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-223-2020

[RES-20:239](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH SCRUB TRENDS AS A COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS EMERGENCY GRANT SUBRECIPIENT OF THE 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG).

Attachments: [Agreement Scrub Trends](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-224-2020

[RES-20:240](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-225-2020

[RES-20:238](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONTRACT WITH JONESBORO OVERHEAD DOOR FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE ATHLETIC FIELD AT THE JOE MACK CAMPBELL SPORTS COMPLEX

Attachments: [Jonesboro Overhead Door -JMCP 2020 - Soccer Field 13](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Bobby Long, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Abstain: 1 - Gene Vance

Enactment No: R-EN-226-2020

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

[RES-20:235](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A CHANGE ORDER NO. 4 WITH RAMSONS, INC.FOR THE JONESBORO SHOOTING SPORTS COMPLEX PHASE 1C (2020:07)

Attachments: [Change Order #4, Shooting Sports Complex ArchDWGs](#)
[Lack email 12012020](#)
[Response from CLight to PLack 12152020 CC](#)

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, said, thank you Chris for pulling this. My question is to Craig Light. I know that I had talked to Craig a couple of weeks ago or it must have been last week about the cost of the restrooms and I don't have an objection with the restrooms. But, on the budget for the Shooting Range, it was that it was \$2.5 million and this is just a little bit over with of \$47,000. So, my question to Craig is that where are those extra funds coming from because it was given that it was \$2.5 million that was given to the Shooting Range in this project. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, alright Patti, I don't think that we will have a direct answer on the particularly for you. We will have to have someone from the city answer that question for you. City Attorney Carol Duncan asked, is he on zoom? Ms. Lack asked, okay, should I get in touch with Craig then tomorrow? President Pro-Tempore Moore said, that would probably be right, but I will have someone from the city call you tomorrow. It may not be Craig. Ms. Lack said, okay, I appreciate it. Thank you. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, thank you very much Patti. Madam Clerk, let the record reflect that someone from the city needs to contact her tomorrow.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: R-EN-227-2020

[RES-20:236](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT LOT 7 OF

SYLVAN HILLS ESTATES 2ND ADDITION FROM THE FRIERSON CORPORATION

Attachments: [Frierson Land Donation Map](#)
 [Frierson Land Donation Documents](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson John Street, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Abstain: 1 - Charles Frierson

Enactment No: R-EN-228-2020

6. NEW BUSINESS

[RES-20:237](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENTRY INTO AN AGREEMENT TO ISSUE BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING IN THE FINANCING OF INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO BE LEASED TO NICE-PAK PRODUCTS, INC. OR ITS AFFILIATE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, INCLUDING PARTICULARLY AMENDMENT 65 TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION AND THE MUNICIPALITIES AND COUNTIES INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BOND LAW.

Attachments: [Agreement to Issue Bonds \(Nice-Pak\)](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Chris Gibson, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: R-EN-229-2020

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-20:053](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON A 15' UTILITY EASEMENT ACROSS PARCEL Number: 01-144154-00910 OWNED BY JONESBORO 2015, LLC; BEING LOCATED WEST OF THE PROSPECT FARMS SUBDIVISION AND EAST OF WOLF MEADOWS SUBDIVISION IN JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AS REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF JONESBORO 2015, LLC

Attachments: [Notice](#)
 [Abandonment concurrence Marshall - Wolf Meadow - Prospect Farms](#)
 [Petition_Executed\[29203\]](#)
 [Jonesboro 2015 parcel](#)
 [Utility Letters](#)

Held at second reading**ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING**[ORD-20:043](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I have a comment. I am not against putting the signs up. I want to make that clear with the city, but I am still against any signs close to school areas where kids are walking. I am going to vote for it, but at the same time, I still think they need to look at it a little bit more closely. Anytime you put signs close to schools up in signs for a little bit more speeding because I talked to Dr. Wilbanks and I have talked to a lot of other officials. I talked to Judy Casteel who lives over in that area and that is still going to be an issue, but anyway that is my only comment. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, alright Dr. Coleman, thank you.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: O-EN-052-2020

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said the Mayor wanted me to mention a few items.

The Red Cross Blood Drive in honor of Mayor Perrin will be held Monday, December 28, 2020 from 1-6 p.m. at the St. Bernards Auditorium at 505 E. Washington. Donors will get a complimentary long sleeve t-shirt.

Corporal Adam Hampton, who has served with the Jonesboro Police Department for 19 years, was recently presented with the Crimestoppers Officer of the Year award for 2020 from Crimestoppers of Jonesboro.

E911 Dispatcher Linda Gann retired on December 4, 2020 after 24 years of service.

JoyFest is being held downtown on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It has been busy, but social distancing is in place.

[COM-20:078](#)

NOVEMBER 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS

- Attachments:** [Financial Overview November 2020](#)
[Observations Regarding November 2020 Financial Statements](#)
[Statement of Changes in FB, Required Reserve and STIP Balance Novembe](#)
[Deposit Collateralization Report November 2020](#)
[Revenue Report November 2020](#)
[Expenditure Report November 2020](#)
[Sales Tax Report \(Combined\) November 2020](#)
[State Turnback Report \(Combined\) November 2020](#)

Filed

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Gene Vance said, I would like to take a few seconds and say once again, that it has been a real privilege of mine to be able to serve with everyone on this council. Thank you again. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, Gene, thank you for your service also. Councilmember John Street said, it has been a pleasure Gene. Councilmember Vance said, well let me make one last motion. I move to adjourn. Councilmember Mitch Johnson seconded the motion. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

_____ **Date:** _____
Harold Copenhaver, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____
April Leggett, City Clerk