



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk April Leggett

Present 6 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; LJ Bryant; Joe Hafner and Brian Emison

Absent 1 - John Street

3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-21:024](#) Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on March 30, 2021

Attachments: [FINANCE MINUTES 03302021](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Ann Williams, seconded by Councilperson Brian Emison, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - John Street

4. New Business

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-21:061](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4506 JANICE, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144271-15500, OWNED BY CHARLES LANCE & AMY BETH SLOAN

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [04.13.2021 4506 Janice](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson David McClain, seconded by Councilperson Brian Emison, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - John Street

[RES-21:062](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 706 W. JEFFERSON, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-143134-16800, OWNED BY DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST CO

Attachments: [04.13.2021 706 W. Jefferson](#)

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

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - John Street

[RES-21:063](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONTRACT WITH FIRST SECURITY BANK FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE ATHLETIC FIELD AT THE JOE MACK CAMPBELL SPORTS COMPLEX

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation and Finance

Attachments: [FirstSecurity_Joe Mack21](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Brian Emison, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - John Street

[RES-21:064](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ACCEPT A STATE FARM MINI GRANT

Sponsors: Grants and Finance

A motion was made by Councilperson Brian Emison, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - John Street

[RES-21:065](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO APPLY FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FY21 LOW-NO EMISSIONS GRANT

Sponsors: Grants, Community Development and JETS

Attachments: [04.13.2021 Low No Applicaiton Budget](#)

Councilmember L.J. Bryant said, "I think I probably know the answer but it's for clarity. If we were to get this grant would this just replace some of the existing fleet or would this add, and then we would have to add staff?" Chief Operating Officer Tony Thomas

approached the podium to answer, "At this time there would be no addition of staff. It is to replace fleet on current routes."

A motion was made by Councilperson David McClain, seconded by Councilperson Brian Emison, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - John Street

5. Pending Items

6. Other Business

Chairman Joe Hafner said, "The only thing I wanted to mention is Finance Department Director, Steve Purtee, sent out the March financials and really things are looking pretty good so far this year. Revenue is up and sales tax is up about 7.5% right now compared to last year, and about 6% compared to budget. Reserves are still solid, always look at this, because there's a bit of guarded optimism because I know there's level of investments we need to make and several different items in Jonesboro. Still, when you're still performing good against the prior year and budget that's always a good thing. Nice job by everybody on this as far as controlling expenses."

7. Public Comments

Patti Lack, 4108 Forrest Hill Road, called in, "Hi to all of you. I just have a question because I need some information. Back on March 29th, I've gone up there a couple of times and asked about how much money that we charge for putting liens on the property. I just wanted to know how much money that we had collected so on March 29th I wrote Finance Director, Steve Purtee, an email and I asked him to give me a percentage of how many of the liens were paid and how much did we collect. Steve transferred that to Communications Director, Bill Campbell, and Bill wrote back to me and said that it was impractical to determine how much of a collection was collected with this. My question to you, and I wrote Bill back." Chairman Joe Hafner asked, "Who's the question to Patti?" Patti continued, "The question is, I wanted to know 2 weeks ago how much money, maybe, that we have collected in the year 2020 and my question was never answered. I know that we send off a lot of our portion to be collected by the county, but I wanted to know how much money that we collected, maybe, in 2020 by all of these liens that we have. So, my question is to you is who is the person I need to contact to find this information out because I haven't gotten it?" Chairman Joe Hafner responds, "Are you asking me the question, you said you?" Patti said, "Yeah, I guess I'm asking you and the committee because I haven't gotten a response back from Bill Campbell yet. So, who is the person I need to contact to find out how much we, the city, collected in property liens in the year 2020?" Chairman Joe Hafner said, "I'm going to make a general statement on the lien process." Patti said, "Chairman Joe Hafner, can you speak up just a little bit I can not hear you?" Chairman Joe Hafner responds, "Alright, I'm speaking into the microphone, so I don't know if it's easier if they put you on mute in here. Can you hear me better now? So, City Attorney Carol Duncan, if I'm correct, when there's a municipal lien, unless they go directly and pay it or the property's sold and it's settled then, it may take considerable time for us to collect any of these liens but the fact that we place the lien on these properties gives us a better chance of collecting the money if they're eventually sold because that has to be paid before they can sell the land." City Attorney Carol Duncan responds,

“Correct, yes essentially that’s correct. I mean it could be years before we collect on a lien depending on, like you said, whether they sell it. I know that in the collector’s office, they were, at one time, not allowing you to pay your property taxes if you had an outstanding lien. They were requiring those to be paid. I don’t know if that is still their practice, that was their policy nothing to do really with us. If it’s not paid in that fashion or paid when they find out about it then it would be whenever they try to sell the property, we would try to collect our lien. So, it could be years down the road.” Patti said, “Well, my question to you then is, since we have to close our books in the year 2020 would there not be an amount and a percentage that’s collected on that?” City Attorney Carol Duncan responds, “Well that not a question for me because I don’t do finance so let me see.” Patti said, “Who would the person be that I would contact for that?” Chairman Joe Hafner said, “I would think it goes back to the procedure. We should be able to look at the financials and see if there was some sort of revenue for municipal liens collected.” City Attorney Carol Duncan said, “Do we have a line item for liens?” Patti said, “I know that Jonathan use to be the one but he’s no longer there, so would it be Steve Purtee that would?” Chairman Joe Hafner said, “Well Patti, I think what we’re getting into here is who’s responsible for communicating and that goes back to Bill. Bill’s job, I believe, is to communicate with our public, so I think Bill would be the contact and then Bill should work with, should it be Steve Purtee or the collector or whoever, to get that information back to you. In my opinion, Bill’s the contact.” Patti asked, “So yeah, what do you recommend that I do?” Chairman Joe Hafner responds, “I would follow back up with Bill and I’ll see what I can find from my end, but like I said, you may have a lien that it may take years to get paid on. It’s not an automatic process that it takes less than a year. Some liens you may get paid pretty quickly if the person wants to settle up and some liens you may not get paid if the person doesn’t pay their property taxes. I remember looking in the paper every year and seeing delinquent property taxes year after year after year. So if people, with these municipal liens, also have delinquent personal property taxes then they didn’t pay their lien.” City Attorney Carol Duncan adds, “And if they have a mortgage that super exceeds our lien and it’s foreclosed on, we never get our lien because the mortgage took priority. So I mean some of them never get paid.” Patti said, “I understand all that and I understand that I would take that at the end of each year the books have to be closed. That’s some information that I just like to find out. So you’re saying to get back in touch with Bill Campbell now?” Chairman Joe Hafner answered, “I would, yes.” Patti said, “Ok, hopefully I will get a response from him then. I appreciate it, thank you.”

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilperson David McClain, seconded by Councilperson LJ Bryant, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - John Street