



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk April Leggett

Present 7 - Joe Hafner; Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain; Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-23:012](#)

Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on February 02, 2023

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

Aye: 6 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain; Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

4. New Business

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-23:016](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BRACKETT KENNERICH & ASSOCIATES, P.A. TO PROVIDE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE PARKER PARK COMMUNITY CENTER POOL AND RESTROOM FACILITY PROJECT

Sponsors: Engineering and Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [Parker Park Contract](#)

Councilmember David McClain said Mr. Chairman, I had just one quick question. Chairman Joe Hafner said who is it for? Councilmember David McClain said I guess if nobody from the Mayor's department is here, Craig, you're here from Engineering. And the main question I had, did we take other proposals, or was this the only one that we took for this facility? Director Craig Light approached the podium and said this is for professional services. Councilmember David McClain said so we have to bid that out. Director Craig Light said yes, what we did was we advertised. We got two firms that submitted letters of interest and qualification statements for it, and we reviewed those as a committee. There were four of us on the selection committee,

and then we negotiated a contract with Brackett & Kennerich.

Chairman Joe Hafner said Dr. Coleman? Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said yes, Mr. Chair, I sat in on that meeting. One of the things that I like that particular architect had already done was almost exactly like what we wanted to put over there at Parker Park, and I think they are going to do a good job. Of course, I asked for a 100% discount, but I don't think that's going to happen. But I'm going to make sure we get everything that we ask for, but I was particularly pushing that we make sure we get more lighting than the actual plan.

Chairman Joe Hafner said I will say that in reviewing the packet that was attached to this item on page 19, I guess it's basically the next to last page. You know, it has a picture of the Danville Aquatic Center. I really like the way that pool looked and the features that it had. The price tag on that one was, I mean obviously it was back in 2018, so cost will go up some I would expect, but it was \$1.4 million. So hopefully we end up somewhere in the neighborhood of the \$1.5 million. I expect to go over some probably, but I liked everything that this pool showed. Any other questions for Craig?

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said I do, and you just kind of mentioned something I wanted to ask. Did we actually discuss that in the meeting that it will stay within that 1.5? Director Craig Light said that is the current budget for the design. But that doesn't mean that the budget won't be modified through the process, but that's in the proposal. It's based on the \$1.5 million. That is the target. Councilmember David McClain said last thing. Will the city bid the project out as far as on the construction side or are we going to use a construction manager? Director Craig Light said it will be design bid build, so we will advertise for contractors once it's designed. There won't be a construction manager on it.

Chairman Joe Hafner said and just for the record, because some people may wonder why I always abstain, the chairman always abstains unless it's to break a tie. City Clerk April Leggett said yes, unless you're needed for a quorum. Chairman Joe Hafner said quorum purposes.

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

Aye: 6 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

[RES-23:017](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER WITH RITTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC. TO INCREASE STORAGE CAPACITY AND HOST THE CITY'S FIREWALL

Sponsors: Information Systems

Attachments: [Quote City of Jonesboro Increase Cloud Services Storage 02 03 23](#)
[Quote City of Jonesboro Palo Alto Firewall Solution 02 03 23](#)

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by John Street, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 6 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

[RES-23:034](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO A TWO YEAR LEASE CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ONE SANITATION REAR LOAD TRUCK

Sponsors: Sanitation and Finance

Attachments: [Arvest Proposal 2023 Freightliner 20 yd RL](#)

Councilmember Brian Emison said Mr. Chairman, the only thing that I have to say just looking at this tax exempt rate here and fed fund rate being at 4.75% today. I mean we're looking at a whopping six basis point difference between the two, so this is a great rate and these are good terms, so good job by everybody involved.

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

Aye: 6 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

[RES-23:035](#)

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE FY2023 RAISE GRANT FOR THE NORTH SECTION OF THE ONE JONESBORO QUALITY OF LIFE AND CONNECTIVITY MASTER PLAN

Sponsors: Grants and Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [new mou.docxFINAL](#)

Chairman Joe Hafner said I will say I really like the approach that we're taking on this grant application this time. I think it should help improve our chances of getting it because it's helping a bigger region instead of just Jonesboro. So Regina, I don't know if you want to come up and make any comments about it. I'm sure if anybody on the committee has any questions, you probably have to come up here anyway. But does anybody on the committee have any questions for Regina?

Councilmember David McClain said I do, Mr. Chairman. A couple of different things real quick, a couple of questions. So it talks about the bridge NEA partners. I was wondering who those partners were. Is that the different cities, counties? Director Regina Burkett said yes. Councilmember David McClain said okay, so will that be some type of board that will coordinate? I saw the city of Jonesboro will serve as the lead applicant for the bridge NEA funding project, so will we just disseminate those funds to each city once that comes in or how does that work? Director Regina Burkett said each city will be responsible for their own section of the trail, but we will take care of the financials and the reporting of what they're doing. We will work with those cities; and the reason we're the lead is because we're the most urban out of the areas and we have the highest population, therefore we have to be the lead. That's in the guidelines of the grant.

Chairman Joe Hafner said but the funds will be allocated based upon the request, right? The 18 million to Jonesboro. Director Regina Burkett said right. Everything will be based on that and we'll work with each community, which it is the city of Brookland, the city of Paragould, Craighead County and Greene County. It's my understanding that it went to the city council in Paragould last night and they had an overwhelming response of people in favor of this project. Councilmember David McClain said I think it's a great project. I was just trying to get some clarity on who all the partners, the NEA partners are and if they'll meet regularly and have meetings to update. Director Regina Burkett said yes, we've already started meeting; and there's an MOU there. The MOU that's attached had a couple of typos and there were a couple of misspelled names, therefore I had to send out a new one. And once those are signed, they will come back to you all on the MOU. And it states what everybody is responsible for, each section, what each city is responsible for once we move forward with the grant. But we've started meeting so we know what everybody is

responsible for now just on applying for the grant. Councilmember David McClain said this is strictly the three mayors and the two county judges, correct? Director Regina Burkett said exactly. Councilmember David McClain said so that's all that's on that committee right now? Director Regina Burkett said well, we've got the Paragould Chamber of Commerce, Allison also. She's meeting with us, with the mayor. She's coming with the Paragould mayor. And Mark Young was in the meeting we had yesterday. Councilmember David McClain said okay, anybody from cycling or pedestrian friendly? Ms. Burkett said not yet.

Chairman Joe Hafner said which I don't think that is really necessary at this point because the connectivity trail in the master plan is already laid out. Councilmember David McClain said the reason I am asking that, is this a group that will help in terms of identifying new areas or is this strictly for the areas that we applied for, the one Jonesboro connectivity plan? Is that all we're applying for? Director Regina Burkett said yes, that's what we applied for in the past is that north section of that one Jonesboro connectivity plan; and the only thing that is different is we pulled out the flyover pedestrian walkway because we applied for another grant that we should hear about here in a couple of months, a reconnecting communities grant for the pedestrian flyover. Therefore, if we get that grant, we won't have to apply for the entire \$25 million for our portion.

Chairman Joe Hafner said and to Mr. McClain's point, hopefully we get this grant and we're able to move forward on getting the trails constructed. We did have a group that included some cyclists and stuff, but I mean obviously it's going to be pedestrians, joggers, cyclists using these trails. It will be good to keep them informed of the process and get any key input from them that needs to be gotten from them. Director Regina Burkett said exactly. Allison, who is with Paragould, she had the privilege to go through a transportation academy in Northwest Arkansas. I'm not sure if it's through Laneshift or it's just through the Northwest Arkansas Council. So she did a lot of research. She was there a week, and everything you did, you did on a bike and you rode through the city. So therefore she had a lot of knowledge of what she had learned up there with them on that; because there were people all over the state and other states attending that academy.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said Regina, I have no doubt and have all the confidence that you'll be able to get this grant this time. So with that being said, in the resolution, it said a 20% match. And so is that match, have we already incorporated that in our budget? Director Regina Burkett said we have. We're doing it a little bit different this year than what we have in the past; because I think once they see what the city has already spent, probably we're trying to go back to like 2015 or something like that and show what we have spent already. And when we also go in and show what the counties and other cities have spent for trails, I think that will put us over the top. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said what's the maturity? Once this is submitted, how long does it usually take? Ms. Burkett said it will probably be late fall and it's due at the end of the month, February 28th; so we've been working very hard in my office.

Councilmember Ann Williams said I just want to mention that at one of the municipal league conferences, I think John was there. There were representatives there from the chamber of commerce, Springdale and Fayetteville and Rogers, Bentonville. And they had discussed the fact that the key to success in that sector was that they had joined together and had worked together. Isn't that right? Do you remember that, John? Councilmember John Street said yes, and when you do partner with an area like that, you do have a lot greater chance of success. I think this is a great partnership here. Director Regina Burkett said they love regional. I mean, it's really about regional, regionalism. Councilmember Ann Williams said Jeff Hawkins who

used to be the city planner here was at the chamber of commerce there and talked about that. He said that has been the key to a lot of success there. Director Regina Burkett said yes, it has. And I want to let you all know, next Tuesday, before city council from three to four, we're going to have a public common hearing at the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce that will be open to the public to come in about this project. We will have posters of what it will look like and what we can expect if we receive the funding.

Councilmember David McClain said one last question. Does the likelihood of us getting this grant help if we've already had, I mean, you say we can go back to 2015 to look at what we've spent on trails? Does it help that we've invested more, or does that really have a role? Director Regina Burkett said I think that plays a role. From the ones that we've looked at that have been awarded, and they went back and put what they've invested in their communities, it was quite a bit of money and I think that was very good. And when we've had our debriefings, they told me that it would be wise to put that in there, because they want to be sure you're invested in this also.

Harold Carter, 902 Tony Drive, said when was the Chamber of Commerce meeting on this again? Director Regina Burkett said it's going to be next Tuesday, February 21st from three to four. And we'll have the posters up in the lobby of the chamber, and we'll be taking comments on what people think. Harold Carter said that should be interesting. I haven't been really paying much attention to it.

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

Aye: 6 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

5. Pending Items

6. Other Business

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Brian Emison, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 6 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman