



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL (ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE) CONFIRMED BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Present 4 - Joe Hafner; Ann Williams; John Street and Brian Emison

Absent 3 - Charles Coleman; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[MIN-24:087](#)

MINUTES FOR THE FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COUNCIL COMMITTEE
MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

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: 3 - Ann Williams; John Street and Brian Emison

Absent: 3 - Charles Coleman; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

4. NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-24:116](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,
TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 215 PECAN, PARCEL
01-144074-16800, OWNED BY AMIT CHAWLA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 215 Pecan Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 215 Pecan Billing Request](#)
[3. 215 Pecan Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 215 Pecan Council Notice](#)

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: 4 - Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and David McClain

[RES-24:117](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 212 PECAN, PARCEL 01-144074-08400, OWNED BY AMIT CHAWLA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 212 Pecan Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 212 Pecan Billing Request](#)
[3. 212 Pecan Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 212 Pecan Council Notice](#)
[212 Pecan New Council Date Notice](#)

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: 4 - Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and David McClain

[RES-24:118](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 204 & 206 OLIVE, PARCEL 01-143134-20700, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$335

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 204 & 206 Olive Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 204 & 206 Olive Biling Request](#)
[3. 204 & 206 Olive Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 204 & 206 Olive Council Notice](#)

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: 4 - Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and David McClain

[RES-24:119](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE JONESBORO CITY COUNCIL TO APPROPRIATE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS AND PARTNER WITH THE ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION COMMISSION FOR OUTDOOR AQUATICS ENHANCEMENTS AT THE JONESBORO SPORTS COMPLEX

Attachments: [Aquatic Pic 1](#)

Chairman Joe Hafner said, I would like to say I think this is a very good investment on the city's part, and for the city to just invest in \$3,200,000 to about a \$75,000,000 to \$80,000,000 sport complex, I feel is a pretty good return on that money for us so. Does anybody else on the committee have any comments or questions. I know Mr. Kevin Hodges and Craig Rickert are here from A&P and from The Steering Committee.

Councilmember John Street said, I think it's a plus. The only concern I ever heard

from people was when they weren't looking at not building something outside like that, heard a lot of complaints about that, but I think this would make a good addition to it.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, I have a question, really for Steve if he could help me. So, this is part of the appropriations of ARPA? And then, how much of the ARPA do we have left? And kind of, if you have an overview of what we have, this going to this and potentially where others are going. Finance Department Director Steve Purtee approached the podium and said, yes sir. The August reports that were submitted to Council a few weeks back, had a report in there, it was on page 24, excuse me, 23 of that report. It shows an appropriated ARPA funding of \$8,459,456. Again, the fund balance begins at \$15,579,000, earned about \$800,000 on it since then, there is about \$8,500,000 left to appropriate. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, OK great. So, a part of this... when you're saying a few weeks ago, this was part of that improvement plan that we pulled out? Director Steve Purtee said, the financial packet that was submitted to council. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, ok I just wanted to make sure that we had a understanding, that's why asked the question. I knew what it was, but I just wanted to make sure others because people are asking. And so, the... and I do realize that in a little while we'll go over this other one. This other ARPA fund request or resolution. That was originally a part of this Capital Improvement Plan, but this is something separate, right? Director Steve Purtee said, I believe both of those items were on the Capital Improvement Plan. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, thank you. Director Steve Purtee said, yes sir.

City Clerk April Leggett said, I would like to recognize Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman... Chairman Joe Hafner said, yeah, Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman is now here too.

Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium and said, I just want to kind of what give just a little brief background on this, and also to thank the A&P Commission for all that they've done towards this complex. You know they were working on some outdoor water features as well, it just seems like a good opportunity to provide a Aquatics Park type recreation facility for people that we get ask about every day, I'm sure that each of y'all do to too. And this couple with working with the A&P Commission just as a natural fit to help improve that facility kind of a centralized location, and we just feel like this is a good investment for the city. Both our residents and to make that complex even more attractive, it going to be quite a facility whenever that things done. The Chairman Joe Hafner said, thank you.

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, approached the podium and said, I guess, myself and a whole bunch of other citizens disagreed about the usage of this funds. You know I am so so pro sport complex, I have not a problem with it and these two gentlemen behind me have done a fantastic job for it. But when you're looking at \$3,200,000 in a fund that we have that is supposed to be specific for, you know, when where you say American Rescue it's not to add slides and driving boards and all that to a sport center. I guess everybody has a different view of it. I don't have a problem, once again, I do not have a problem with this sport center. But I have a problem with the usages. And I think if we look at what just happened to the hurricane, you know, how do we know that were not going to have a tornado in the next week or something and we need those funds, if that is what these funds are supposed to be going towards. So, I don't know, you know it's not saying we're not going to have a water facility in there, we're just enhancing it. So, I don't know why we can't look at, have them build it and then keep on adding on to it. It doesn't have to be perfect the moment that we build everything, we can keep on adding on. I think \$3,200,000 that is

set aside for a different reason, is not a good reason to put to enchaining a water park or around the slides and stuff like that, and I think there's a lot of citizens that will be disappointed that this money is being used for that. So, I just want to share that, thanks.

Chairman Joe Hafner said, Brain did you want to clarify? Chief Administrative Officer Brain Richardson approached the podium and said, just that a point of clarification for Mrs. Lack comments. The American Rescue Plan Act Funding isn't funding that you suppose to set aside for a natural disaster particularly. It is to reinvest in the community to help spur economic development and tourism to help recover from the long term effects of COVID that it's had on tourism and development, and we feel like this fits perfectly in that category to help enhance tourism and to generate economic development for the City of Jonesboro. So, a respectfully disagree and point out that this is the type of funding mechanism and the type of projects that are specifically listed on the American Rescue Plan Act recommend projects. City Attorney Carol Duncan said, can I also add Brain that you're required to spend this money by the end of the year or allocate it by the end of the year. You can't hold on to it. Is it the end of this year? Chief Administrative Officer Brain Richardson said, correct. City Attorney Carol Duncan said, It is the end of this year that you have to have it allocated by. Chief Administrative Officer Brain Richardson said, yes. And obviously this was in the Capital Improvement Project Plan that has been widely distributed at this point and talked about in the media also. A Aquatics usage of this funding has long been a part of that discussion. So again, it a applicable, legal, and what we help the council agree with, a logical an beneficial use to the City Of Jonesboro, to apply these funds for a Aquatics Park in Jonesboro.

Councilmember Ann Williams said, and it's not the reserve funds for it? It's fund that's for emergency like natural disasters, right? Does it reserve funds that we are required to have or keep? It's for a type of emergency like a tornado, right? Chief Administrative Officer Brain Richardson said, correct, yes, the city carries emergency reserves. I believe it is a... the state laws a minimum requirement of four months of complete insolvency. Obviously, we have that, plus plenty to handle a disaster of, hopefully, a manageable magnitude. But again, the American Rescue Plan Act Funds are not funds dedicated only to rescuing through a natural disaster. They're for helping rebuild and reinvigorate and revitalize the city's economy from the loss of COVID. Councilmember Ann Williams said, that's what the reserved fund is for. Chief Administrative Officer Brain Richardson said, correct. Councilmember Ann Williams said, for that purpose, right?

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I guess, I'm late because I was at the doctor, but every time we get to something like this, I think the only thing that bothers me is we keep kicking the can down the road, you know, the things that we need for people to stay here, for our children, our grandchildren. You know, past our death or whatever. But I think if we look at it, I'll use the term globally, Jonesboro's growing but it's also, people are moving in that have had these types of, you know, places that they need for their children to stay. Right now, if we don't keep up with, not with so much of keep with the Joneses down the road. But if we don't keep adding to the things that we need, that's going to keep our children here, we're going to have a problem. Because the tax flow is going to be somewhere else and still not here. So sometimes you, to me, you have to bite the bullet, you have to invest, and you have to use a way of investment in order to have these types of things. But we have been talking about this for years. So, I guess that's the problem I have, is that we talk about, talk about it. It's kind of like the same thing with the Police Department, you know, build a building, get it done and be through with it. You know, so basically that's where I'm at.

Kevin Hodges, 4101 Wetherfield Cove, approached the podium and said, I have the honor and privilege to serve as the chairman of the subcommittee that's been working on this project for a couple years now, as you are well aware. I would just like to response to a couple things. Number one, we have had multiple, probably up to 50 community meetings in the last two years. And my response is, there's lot of people that come to those meetings every time and talk about the Aquatics Center and the Aquatics Park. And so, it was our up most desire to have that. And these funds will help us have something that you're going to be pleased with. This is an investment in our community of the future. Last thing I want to respond to is, we can build something and add to it. So, when you're building something of this level from a construction standpoint. If you don't do today's work behind the scenes, the pumps, the water returns, all of those things that go into building something like this, you're going to pay a lot more to add on to something like this. So, now's the time, it's an investment, it's a great investment for the city. The Sportsplex is going to be run running it and operating it. It's no cost, it's there. So, that's my comments, thank you.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, the last thing is, back to the funds, and I know we all need to be, as far as council and commission, careful with our funds. But it seems like, mostly, you haven't been on the council as long as I have been, except for some people. It seems like we always want to band-aid something, you know, get it done. You know quit band-aiding and get it done, because the price is going to go up and I guarantee what we are paying now, I guarantee next year if we try to do the same thing it is going to be almost double the money. So, we need to get it done. Chairman Joe Hafner said, and do it right, make it an attraction, don't just do something and say you have it, make it an attraction.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, I do have a question. Just to follow up Mr. Hodges, and y'all are doing a great job and I appreciate it. And I'm all for moving Jonesboro forward, hey I'm all for it, the question is, where are we exactly? Cause I haven't heard much as far as where are with the Aquatics Center. And I think it's good that we're talking about it, because if we're going to add this to the Aquatics Center, then we just kind of need to know and the public needs to know where we are in that process. Kevin Hodges approached the podium and said, so yeah that's a great question, and we had our subcommittee meeting today, where we offered a guaranteed maximum price for the entire facility. Which is what our A&P Commissioners the bonding company is required. So, I think I came, I don't know if I came before you, at least A&P which there's a couple of aldermen that serve on that. We were expecting about \$66,000,000 for the facility, just the facility construction, and right now we're in the neighborhood of \$64,000,000. So, with the construction management, with how we work together as a team, with our engineering, our architects, this subcommittee, the community, we really put together a nice efficient facility and came under what was projected in the numbers. So, we give that guarantee maximum price to them. And then that will go to A&P which would ultimately come to you all. But I'm very excited to tell you the numbers are really good. This gives us that next investment that we need. To be able to do the outdoor side of that. The natatorium is not. That's the indoor side of it. Yeah, Olympic size, eight lane, double bulkhead, double diving board, one meter, three meter. I can sit here and talk about it all day. I appreciate your question.

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:120](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 218 SOUTH CULBERHOUSE, PARCEL 01-144183-18600, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 218 S Culberhouse Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 218 S Culberhouse Billing Request](#)
[3. 218 S Culberhouse Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 218 S Culberhouse Council Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:121](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 221 SOUTH CULBERHOUSE, PARCEL 01-143134-20200, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 221 S Culberhouse Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 221 S Culberhouse Billing Request](#)
[3. 221 S Culberhouse Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 221 S Culberhouse Council Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:122](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 227 SOUTH CULBERHOUSE, PARCEL 01-143134-19600, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 227 S Culberhouse Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 227 S Culberhouse Billing Request](#)
[3. 227 S Culberhouse Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 227 S Culberhouse Council Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:123](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 308 EAST ALLEN AVENUE, PARCEL 01-144181-22600, OWNED BY SPENCER WILLIAM MONROE OR BETTY SPENCER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 308 E Allen Ave. Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 308 E Allen Billing Request](#)
[3. 308 E Allen Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 308 E Allen Coucil Notice](#)
[308 E Allen Ave New Council Date Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:124](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 405 NORTH ROGERS STREET, PARCEL 01-144172-09200, OWNED BY AMIT CHAWLA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 405 N Rogers St Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 405 N Rogers St Billing Request](#)
[3. 405 N Rogers Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 405 N Rogers Council Notice](#)
[405 N Rogers New Council Date Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:125](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 642 WEST MATTHEWS AVENUE, PARCEL 01-144183-14600, OWNED BY MICHAEL J SUTHERLAND SMITH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

- Attachments:** [1. 642 W Matthews Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 642 W Matthews Billing Request](#)
[3. 642 W Matthews Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 642 W Matthews Council Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:126](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 725 BURKE, PARCEL 01-143134-20600, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

- Attachments:** [1. 725 Burke Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 725 Burke Billing Request](#)
[3. 725 Burke Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 725 Burke Council Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:127](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 735 WEST OAK, PARCEL 01-143241-07800, OWNED BY MICHELLE ELLINGTON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$315

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

- Attachments:** [1. 735 W Oak Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 735 W Oak Billing Request](#)
[3. 735 W Oak Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 735 W Oak Council Notice](#)
[735 W Oak New Council Date Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:128](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 900 HOOVER, PARCEL 01-144181-15700, OWNED BY CLEOPHUS BRYANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,460.46

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 900 Hoover Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 900 Hoover Billing Request](#)
[3. 900 Hoover Demolition invoice](#)
[4. 900 Hoover Council Notice](#)

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, I do have a question. When we get these does it mean that it's already been demolished. Chairman Joe Hafner said, yes. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, ok. Chairman Joe Hafner said, that's my understanding.

Councilmember Brian Emison said, only comment that I have, this is probably the largest one we have here, but just want to say thanks to Scott Roper and the Code Enforcement Department for keeping Jonesboro beautiful, and everything that we're seeing here today is just making the town a little bit better, one agenda item at a time. So, I just want to say thanks for their hard work.

Chairman Joe Hafner said, I do hate seeing us being the lawn people for so many different properties in the city, but at least we're getting the grass mowed.

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:129](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1500 SALLY LANE, PARCEL 01-144214-15700, OWNED BY ARTHUR RAY OSBORNE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 1500 Sally Ln Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 1500 Sally Ln Mowing Billing Request](#)
[3. 1500 Sally Ln Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 1500 Sally Lane Council Notice](#)
[1500 Sally Ln New Council Date Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:130](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1617 RICH ROAD, PARCEL 01-143252-25000, OWNED BY RANDOLPH & JUDITH REYNOLDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 1617 Rich Road Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 1617 Rich Rd Billing Request](#)
 [3. 1617 Rich Rd Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 1617 Rich Rd Council Notice](#)
 [1617 Rich Rd New Council Date Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:131](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1620 CINDY CIRCLE, PARCEL 01-143242-27600, OWNED BY JAMES LEMAR DIXON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$365

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 1620 Cindy Cir Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 1620 Cindy Cir Billing Request](#)
 [3. 1620 Cindy Cir Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 1620 Cindy Cir Council Notice](#)
 [1620 Cindy Cir New Council Date Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:132](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1712 NATIONAL DRIVE, PARCEL 01-144223-18200, OWNED BY RODNEY CRANFORD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 1712 National Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 1712 National Billing Request](#)
 [3. 1712 National Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 1712 National Council Notice](#)
 [1712 National Dr New Council Notice Date](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:133](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1905 BELT, PARCEL 01-144171-12000, OWNED BY BEST FLIPPING FRIENDS, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$315

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 1905 Belt Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 1905 Belt Billing Request](#)
[3. 1905 Belt Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 1905 Belt Council Notice](#)
[1905 Belt New Council Date](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:134](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2612 CRAWFORD, PARCEL 01-144273-02300, OWNED BY RANDY & ALEY CRAWFORD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 2612 Crawford Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 2612 Crawford Billing Request](#)
[3. Crawford Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 2612 Crawford Council Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:135](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3806 SCHOOL STREET, PARCEL 01-144272-16500, OWNED BY OLGA HERNANDEZ IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Sponsors: Code Enforcement

Attachments: [1. 3806 School St Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 3806 School St Billing Request](#)
[3. 3806 School St Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 3806 School St Council Notice](#)
[3806 School New Council Date Notice](#)

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:136](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO LEVY A 1 MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Sponsors: Finance

Chairman Joe Hafner said, just to clarify this is not a new tax. This is just a procedural matter that we have to do each year for these types of taxes. City Attorney Carol Duncan said, for this and the next two. I think there was some media coverage this morning that it was a new property tax, and it's not, it's the existing.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, so Carol, and I'm just for clarity, I just don't understand so, I understand this is just something that we've already done. Should it not be an ordinance, or should be a resolution? City Attorney Carol Duncan said, it's always a resolution. So, the citizens voted on it and then we are just required to pass a resolution every year, to ask the collector to collect it. So, we have to do it around this time of year every year, we do this, police and fire pension. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, sorry for my ignorance. City Attorney Carol Duncan said, no it's okay. It's just, it confuses people every single time, and I know some people are confused because the library thing, did it make the ballot or not. Yeah, it's on the ballot to vote on how much a millage will be for the library. So, this doesn't affect that ether, something new would have to happen if it changes after this election.

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:137](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO LEVY A ONE-HALF (.5) MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE LOCAL FIRE PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

Sponsors: Finance

Chairman Joe Hafner said, as stated previously, this is not a new tax.

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:138](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO LEVY A ONE-HALF (.5) MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE LOCAL POLICE PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

Sponsors: Finance

Chairman Joe Hafner said, this is not a new tax.

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

[RES-24:140](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE JONESBORO CITY COUNCIL TO APPROPRIATE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS FOR HUMANITARIAN OUTREACH

Sponsors: Grants

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, I do have a question and a couple comments. But my question first is, I do realize that this was a part of the Improvement Plan, and we even talk about that in the previous resolution. But with this, how do we get this out to those nonprofits and the others, for them to be aware of these funds? Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs approached the podium and said, great question. Sorry I just got here from off the golf course. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, yeah, I see. Chairman Joe Hafner said, ruff day huh? Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs said, I was working through, I was helping a nonprofit out. Chairman Joe Hafner said, was they aware of this? Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs said, yes, they will be aware of this I hope so, as will all nonprofits in the city. But this will work just the same way that our CDBG program currently works. So, we have a Public Services Board, Citizen Advisory Board, so it's made up of independent citizen. They will review applications for funding, just as they currently do, and they'll make recommendations on who to fund. And then we will disperse those funds once those expense are incurred by the nonprofit. So, they've spent the money, so if they have a \$4,500 expense, they will send us an invoice, then we'll write them a check to reimburse them for that \$4,500 expense. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, so is this a way, you share this through, how will a nonprofit know? Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs said, we'll use all of our outlets that we have, that we currently do. So, we send it out through the United Way, email blast, The Chamber will blast sometimes. Of course it's all over our Facebook page, all the city accounts, social media pages. We'll get the word out, we will run ads in the Jonesboro Sun, we're required to by HUD guidelines. We'll just follow all those same publication guidelines and get that across as many media outlets as we currently do, and we'll look to expand.

Chief Administrative Officer Brain Richardson approached the podium and said, just wanted to add to what Mr. Biggs had to say. What this will actually do is, we don't intend for this to be a one-time allocation, but to also set up an actually account within the city. To where we can ether seek contributions or continue funding some of these projects through non tax payer means. Or if some point in the future that council would like to consider, maybe like, a partial diversion of non tax payer funds through whatever kind of fees the city might have. That could go toward this protected account to ensure that, we have alternative ways to help support nonprofits and people in need here.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I have a question. I'm on a couple committees that do, sending funds to 5013c. Do we ask for a letter at the end of whatever project that they do, of money that was disbursed of a letter of how they have actual accomplished what the money's for? Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs approached the podium and said, yeah, so not even at the end, we don't wait for that.

They must submit quarterly Programmatic Reports, quarterly Expense Reports, the financial side so we see those reports every three months. Then Maddie, in my office, conducts semiannual site visits and checks in on each program to make sure they are carrying out the program that they said they would. And then we verify on the expenses their Financial Reports that those expense are what they applied for the funding to go towards. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I guess the second question is to, we just had this on the board the other day. Are these disbursements to the individual 5013c, that are doing the same thing or is that part of the recommendations when your board is approving those? What I'm saying, is 5013c, we gave a lot of 5013c that are doing the same thing. Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs said, right. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, ok and I guess it bothers me that, not saying that you're doing it, but I know this one committee I'm on, we've kind of changed our load, because if there's five 5013c, why are they not trying to get together doing exactly the same thing. You know. Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs said, everybody is open to apply for CDBG Funds, that qualifies as a nonprofit, but that's where the Citizens Advisory Council, the Public Services Board, comes into play a vital role there, because they review every application, they see how many clients they serving, what impact they are having in the community, and if they are continuing to grow services and serve more clients, and there's a need. Then they are very interested in continuing to help fund those programs to where they can grow. But they do look at the duplication of services, like you mentioned and keep that in mind when their making recommendations for funding. That's a great point.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, this brings a great question, and really come to mind I'm thinking about the CDBG Board. Do they have, and I don't know what their mission is, I don't know who they are if they walked in, so I don't know. Whatever their vision and mission is, and I say that because I know one issue has, we've been talking about this homeless issue, and I know Dr. Coleman has been very adamant about not just trying to just give, give, give to these homeless, and then they have other issues going on, like mental health issues and things like that. Which is so important and imperative. But do we have, or does that board have a mission or vision to see some of those things that we see as an administration and others, that we need to really focus in on? Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs said, sure. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, is there a vision or. Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs said, by HUD guidelines they have to stick within the CDBG Program, so it's only to assist low to moderate clients, low to moderate income clients or households. So, just for example, like Hope Found, is one of the organizations. So, they don't have to verify the income because their clients, they're victims of Human Trafficking, are automatically qualified by HUD as being low to moderate income. Does that make sense? Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, sure. Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs said, but in other organizations that do provide funding directly into to individuals, like the Hispanic Center, provides scholarships to students for, to learn other languages. So, they do provide us with the household income data on their Financial and Programmatic Reports. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, sure but can we strongly encourage, certain areas? Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs said, sure and Salvation Army applies and sometimes their program qualifies for funding, and sometimes it hasn't.

Chief Operating Officer Tony Thomas approached the podium and said, and just let me add, because I think we've dialoged about this prior. The issue is not that we don't give them the information to apply, the issues is getting them to submit the application to receive the funds. So yeah, the committee will keep in mind all of these goals and all of these a thrust, related to issues in our community. That's what we're here to try to do. Solve issues that our community face. But one of the things that we have learned

is, we talk, we talk, and we talk, we get organizations, and they are interest, and they come to the table. But when it's time to submit an application for funding, rather that's to the City of Jonesboro or rather that's to some other state agencies or some federal agencies, there's just been a lack of follow through, with the application process. So, as Jeremy indicated, we are going to ensure that every organization in town is aware of the funding that's out there and we're going to work hard to get them to the table, by provide as much flexibility as guidelines will allow. But at the same time, they have to take that additional step and make the application and submit a program that supports the thrust of the funding. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I think one of the things, and I won't hold us to long. One of the things we are finding out, that when people are filling out the applications the literacy rate of how they fill out or what they know to fill out on the application. So, I'm wondering if there should be possibly some type of class, some type of gathering to speak to those people, because some of those applications information is hard. They don't know, they've never done it and so they might not be getting part of the money, if they want the money. Maybe because they don't know really how to fill that application outright. It sounds like they should, but I'm telling you illiterate rates in this community is higher than you think. Chief Operating Officer Tony Thomas said, and that is a valid point. Grant writing is not the forte of everybody in these spaces. Sometimes that additional assistance is needed. I do think our department provides a significant amount of assistance with individual that will reach out and assist with completing those applications. But again, the issue is not, those that want to come and complete the application. The issue is getting them to the table to begin with. And I know Jeremy has been working with outside consultants. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, but that might be the reason getting them to the table, is because of the literacy part and that's what I'm still harping on. Maybe, I don't know if you have any classes or open-door classes to do that. And I'm not putting it down, I think you're doing a great job, and I think he is, and I'm very serious about that. Chief Operation Officer said, no no I with you. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, but I think sometimes we possibly, sometimes we that have a little education don't understand that those people, are having problems with even my organization filing out. People fill out because they found out the illiterate rate is a little bit harder than what I thought it was. So, we have tried to individually help groups talk about what those words mean. What that application word means and so that's, I want to make sure this is a clear statement, it's not put in your organization. Chief Operating Officer Tony Thomas said, oh no sir, no sir, I don't think were taking it that way. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, it's just that I think a lot of them would be better suited if there's maybe some classes to over, to talk about what those applications say. What those words really mean, to different those individuals. Chief Operating Officer Tony Thomas said, I appreciate those comments, and we can definitely work with, we're willing to work with anyone that comes to the table. I know Jeremy had has been working with a consultant who wants to come in and provide some training, as well as some site consulting for us, in regards to those entities and agencies that are there to kind of help with this process. I'll also add that you know, there's a lot of reporting and other requirements that come along as a part of this process. So, there are some concerns that come to table when, you can't or don't have the ability to do some of that basic paperwork it also gives us pause in regards to your ability to manage and implement the project that you have before you. And that is one of the criteria's that we strongly look at, with the organization. Their financial capacity and the staff's ability, in order to manage. And I know a lot of organizations don't have full time staff, they're volunteers that are working hard to do the work. And again, we work with those individuals as much as possible. And then as we move forward, we are, in our next CDBG Plan, we are looking at a consultation consultant that could provide some on the ground training and not tie up city staff all the time and allowing them to do the things that they need to do. So, I

think that's something that will be address as we move forward doctor.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, That's good. I wanted to ask, because this is a significant amount of money from my understand. I think the mayor told us, this the first time we've done something like this, and this significant. So a kudos to you mayor and the administration. I think this is a significant amount that people need to know and take advantage of. The question I have is, what if they don't come, what happens, what are the plans with the funds? Chief Operating Officer Tony Thomas said, someone will come, I can ensure you. When you start talking about the mission and the goals that are out there, I'm not saying that we're going to hit all of those. But I can ensure you, they shall be at the door. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, well you said that they don't follow up. So, I'm saying if they don't follow up and we still have this money here. Chief Operating Officer Tony Thomas said, they don't follow up with those specific areas that we desire. But we'll get, I can ensure you, we'll get more than enough funding request for a variety of different organizations. Whereas homelessness is a thrust, we may not get someone from that particular sector that comes to the table. We will have sufficient amount of request from other areas in order to take care of these funds. I can assure you that. We work with a group of nonprofits here at the city, and have a, probably have 3 three or four times a year, we meet with them. So, they're going to be at the table, I can ensure you that. The Heart Committee met this morning, here, they're working on a variety of issues for the homeless population, the mental health issues, as well as the recidivism in our jail system. I can ensure you all, it will be announced in those meetings and those nonprofits will come to the table. On Thursday, we have the Balance of the State, which is organizations in Craighead County that are focused on homelessness, and there's probably 18 organizations that meet once a month for that. We're going to be able to relay this information to them and some of them will be at the table. So, I don't think any concern, this is a little drip in the faucet in regards to the needs that are out there. It's just a matter of working to get those organizations to the table. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, so I can't get my national organization. Chief Operation Officer Tony Thomas said, no sir, don't even try it. Grants Department Director Jeremy Biggs approached the podium and said, now that Tony's done. Dr. Anthony Coleman, you asked earlier about, we were talking about, and Tony mentioned the application. But, three years ago I was at a nonprofit organization, I was one of two in the whole City of Jonesboro that applied for CDBG Funding. Since then, three years ago when there was only two, last year we had nine applicants. So, we are getting the word out there. We're hitting radio morning shows, we're going to do mid-day, we're doing the talk Jonesboro shows, we're using social media. So, we will continue to use that and if anybody knows of any groups, that have regular meetings please let me know, and we'd love to get in front of them and let them know that this funding is available. But the demand is rising over the last two or three years, so this will just satisfy that demand.

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: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain

5. PENDING ITEMS

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Joe Hafner said, although this was on the council last week, if there's a quick update, we can get on Citizens Bank building this week, because I know that may eventually come back in front of the Finance. So are there any, it's been almost a week since we've had our last update so. Mayor Harold Copenhaver approached the podium and said, well it seems like yesterday to me. Chairman Joe Hafner said, yeah. Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, you know as far as we go, legal counselor for the city, is actively working. We've engaged both parties and Carol can help me out here. The balance is, we want that safety issues initiated quickly. And so, the building of the wall, I call it the wall, should be close to being completed, right, and we're getting to that. I think the barrier of the wall is, we're waiting on the final report, which we should have hopefully by the end of the week, on how to secure the facility. Because my main concern at this point is getting Main Street back opened up for the community downtown. We need that traffic flow; we need that influx. So, I think we have a opportunity here to do so, but I'll keep y'all actively engaged and well aware of the progress. So were right there on this. The other engineers that council has approved for us to go through, they're going to be doing more of the interior structure itself, on the long-term stamina of the building and facility. But right now, the safety of that building so we're engaging that, you've seen the wall going up across the street. But more importantly is how can we maintain that fascia on the outside and make it safe so we can have vehicle traffic, that's where we are. Chairman Joe Hafner said, thank you. Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, you bet. Chairman Joe Hafner said, Maybe, before too long you'll be able to say tear down that wall.

Councilmember Ann Williams said, I was just going to ask about the new grant for Parks that was indicated on the City Facebook page, that's a very new item, right? It's going to go, I guess before, Public Services. Chairman Joe Hafner said, on Thursday. Mayor Harold Copenhaver approached the podium and said, we're actually calling a meeting, I think Councilmember Gibson called a meeting for Thursday. And this is obviously something we've been working on a long time, and I've tried to keep. And I apologize if I didn't keep y'all engaged, throughout the process but the announcement came quickly. We've had a lot of community partners involved from multiply years and they've all come together, and this is the largest award that the City of Jonesboro ever received, from Arkansas Parks and Tourisms a \$1,000,000 grant. It'll be for 13 plus five acres, 13 acres comes from Cornerstone United Methodist Church, in their agreeance to sell the property to the city, which the money from the grant can be used to purchase that. As well as Journey Campus has agreed on five acres. So were looking at 18 acres and then the possibility of another five acres in addition to a private entity on the south side might be interested making a donation to the city as well. This is something that, that ward has need for years, and this is a connecting piece but more importantly it's going to provide many activities, and the churches are very pleased. Junior Auxiliary, they committed over \$100,000, two and a half years ago, toward this project. And so again, it takes time, but we got there and we're very proud of the announcement that went out today. You will be finding out more about it as we do as well. But again, thank you for council for allowing us to work on this project, and I can't say enough on the multiple departments that work together to make this happen. So, thank you councilmen.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patti Lack, 4108 Forrest Hill Road, approached the podium and said, I was wondering if Steve could give the balances now of the American Rescue Plan, if we take away the \$3,200,000 and the \$500,000. What is the balance, now that the city has left that, I guess, apparently, has to spend by the end of the year?

Finance Department Director Steve Purtee approached the podium and said, as I indicated earlier, the funds started at \$15,700,000, we've earned about \$800,000 in interest. We have about \$16,500,000. We've appropriated \$8,000,000 of that. We have \$8,500,000 remaining. This \$3,500,000 would bring that down to about \$5,000,000.

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: 5 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 1 - David McClain