



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, October 29, 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 5 - Joe Hafner; Charles Coleman; John Street; Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent 2 - Ann Williams and David McClain

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[MIN-24:098](#)

Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on October 08, 2024

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and David McClain

4. NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-24:144](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 612 W. ALLEN, PARCEL #01-144182-01610, OWNED BY OSCAR MENDOZA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$365

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: [1. 612 W Allen Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 612 W Allen Billing Request](#)
[3. 612 W Allen Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 612 W Allen 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 - Charles Coleman;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and David McClain

[RES-24:145](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 735 W. OAK, PARCEL #01-143241-07800, OWNED BY MICHELLE ELLINGTON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

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](#)

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 - Charles Coleman;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and David McClain

[RES-24:146](#)

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 \$315

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](#)

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 - Charles Coleman;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and David McClain

[RES-24:147](#)

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 and Finance

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](#)

Councilmember Brian Emison said, just want to say thank you to Code Enforcement for doing a great job and keeping Jonesboro looking beautiful.

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 - Charles Coleman;John Street;Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and David McClain

5. PENDING ITEMS

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Joe Hafner said, any updates worth giving while we're here? Brian? Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium and said, just a couple of things. If you'll notice outside, there is a new shiny bus there that was part of a little over \$2,000,000 worth of grants we received starting two years ago. I know that Director Lee Wells is really excited about it. Truthfully, they're replacing buses that we were going to have to replace anyway, and so our Grants Department and Jets Department worked together to secure us some funding for new stock that we got at one heck of a discount. When you couple that with the, probably, \$750,000 bus shelter grant that we're working through, the systems going to look a whole lot different in the next few months. We're finally getting somewhere with that. I know grants take a long time to play their way through the system, especially when they're federal grants and especially when they're federal grants with limited people that do the things that federal grants fund. Then you've got to work through all those hurdles, but they've been ever vigilant to make sure that they stayed on it and stayed on it and stayed on it. I think we're supposed to have one more here by the end of the week. Five total and then you couple that with a couple new cutaway buses that we've got in recently, and I think it's at least two new paratransit vans, it's been a big last month, month and a half for Jets. And we're going to just keep investing in that program. They opened up to four routes and we'll be going to five early next year. So, full steam ahead on that.

And we are going close to completion of the Creath Street project. We still have not taking possession of that. There's a few retaining wall issues and stuff that are being kind of worked out and finished up by the contractor. We're trying to kind of circle a day around when to officially open that. We'll let council know whenever that comes. We were trying to shoot for the end of this week, there's some weather concerns so we kind of pushed that off. But it may be Friday, we'll know something in the morning on that, depending on the weather, or maybe next week. Other than that, just business as usual. Anything from the committee that you need me to look into?

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, you just mentioned...the first point you were making about the bus, first of all, the bus is nice. I got a chance to look at it, and Brian and I went...it's a beautiful bus, so I definitely want to ask all my colleagues to go and see it, because it's a beautiful bus and I think it's going to service Jonesboro great. And thank you, finance, all y'all and director for doing that. But I haven't heard much about the shelter things, the bus shelters. Haven't heard a lot about that lately, and so, we don't have to talk about it today, but I just want, at least when we do the next presentation during the subcommittee, that we kind of hear where we are on that. Brian Richardson said, yeah and Lee might be able to directly address some of that right now and just go ahead and get that out of the way. I know that the vendor we were working with went out of business, so we had to find a new vendor, but I think we've got some significant progress on that. Jets Department Director Lee Wells approached the podium and said, we do have, in the process of trying to get all

of that nailed down to be able to get that going. We're hoping to be able to finalize everything to get that out to bid, to be able to get those rolling. We do have some interest already that kind of know what they're getting into, that, hopefully it can be a quick turnaround. But along those same lines, we are also investing in those bus stops as well. We have added two new shelters here in the downtown area. We had two, actually three stops, that were not of the best positioning. We did remove one and we are currently closing two and adding two sheltered stops. Because the locations where they were, they were not accessible with a shelter. These two locations will allow us to open that up. We're continuing to refurbish what we can with the shelters to be able to get them looking better, and to find good solutions to be able to make it meaningful impact for the city. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, thank you. And I don't mean to be premature in asking that, because I know it's usually Public Services. But thank you for indulging. Director Lee Wells said, yes.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, do elderly people get free passes? Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium and said, define elderly. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, 80 years old. Jets Department Director Lee Wells approached the podium and said, all of our services, we do have an entire pay scale as far as the cost for them. You can find that online. But we do offer a senior adult discount. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, senior plus? Director Lee Wells said, yes, it is 60 cents, is what it is for a trip. And then you also, if you were to get a one day, a week or even a 30-month pass, you also get a discount on that as well. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, plus the VA discount. So, it will be 30 cents after the VA. I mean I'm a veteran and I'm 80 years old. I've got to get something. Councilmember John Street said, he just asked that question because he just turned 80. Brian Richardson said, we'll supply you with excellent modes of transportation for less than a dollar. How about that? You know, you actually do bring up a good point, that we often do get asked, well, why can't you just make it free. And there are some federal guidelines that require that you do collect a fare on a lot of these things. And it's a good revenue source, a lot of people don't know it, but Jets had over 100,000 rides last year. That's 100,000riders, that's a lot. I mean this is not just a check mark system anymore; it really has evolved into a very real people mover. It's helpful for medical services and businesses alike, so we're really proud of that. Thank the Finance Committee and Public Services and City Council for the funding for that. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I do have a serious question though. Most of the related industry. Is there a stop within a quarter of a mile, half a mile? Is that happening? Brian Richardson said, so, we have been in conversations with some of the industrial partners about a dedicated route that kind of runs through there. The challenge with that is, our bus system works on loops and so frequent stops every 30 minutes, every 45 minutes. The Craighead Technology Park really works more off of a shift schedule, so we've been looking at, and Director Lee Wells can probably better pontificate this than I can, but we're looking at ways to kind of schedule a special access around their shifts. So, yeah, it's definitely a challenge because ultimately, picking people up is the easiest part, getting them back home is the hard part, and different hours, I mean, after hours services. I know that they are diligently looking at some of those options and like an on-demand type of service. But ultimately, it's we can either get people to work, that work second or third shift or get them home from work but trying to figure out that balance to be able to get second and third shift workers, both there and back, is a challenge. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I agree with that because I've had an actual lady stop by my house, seriously no joke, ask me, and I've already talked to him, and I gave him information because we were a couple of buses short. But at the same time, I hope that you all work on it because there's more people getting asked about that shift part of it, that they don't have a way home and it's dark at night, especially women. I think it's really important

and that we need to look at it. Brian Richardson said, I agree.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; Brian Emison and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and David McClain