



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, May 19, 2015

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

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 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent 1 - Rennell Woods

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-15:030](#)

Carol Johnson with the Fair Housing Commission presentation "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing"

Sponsors: Grants

Ms. Johnson discussed the Fair Housing Act. She noted we're all protected by the act. The City of Jonesboro is an entitlement city that receives HUD funding to sustain communities and build open access to housing. She commended Jonesboro on revising the familial status section of the city code and looking at impediments to fair housing and open access in Jonesboro. HUD requires that the cities who receive funds look at ways to affirmatively further fair housing. Ms. Johnson then discussed the recent moratorium on multi-family housing. She noted moratoriums can be helpful, but can also be dangerous so they have to be instituted in a way that the goals will be furthered. They need to be in compliance with the Fair Housing Act.

Ms. Johnson stated they get a lot of requests concerning reasonable accommodations, which are accommodations for people with physical or mental disabilities. She explained that would come into play in the city is when a housing providers wants to look at housing for people with disabilities. That may include group home requests and variances to ordinances to allow group homes in certain areas of the city. She recommended the city look at the totality of a request when deciding on variances in order to have a nexus between the request that's being asked for and the disability of the tenants. If the accommodation is beneficial to the persons with disability, the law says the city "shall" provide the reasonable accommodation.

Councilman Moore asked if they provide a pamphlet or documentation discussing those issues. Ms. Johnson answered yes and she would be happy to provide that to the Council members. They also have a website at www.fairhousing.arkansas.gov

that details the Fair Housing Act.

This item was Filed.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Chris Gibson, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Rennell Woods

MIN-15:047

Minutes for the City Council meeting on May 5, 2015

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

RES-15:073

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO CONDEMN CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF JONESBORO AT 916 HOPE AVENUE, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Appraisal](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-073-2015

RES-15:074

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO CONDEMN CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF JONESBORO AT TRACT 2, HWY 351/AGGIE ROAD INTERSECTION (AHTD 100790 - TRACT 2), JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Appraisal - Tract 2](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-074-2015

RES-15:076

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OF JONESBORO MAYOR TO RELEASE THE LIEN ON PROPERTY AS DESCRIBED: LOT 4 of Beacons and Bridges First Addition to the City of Jonesboro, Craighead County, Arkansas, Replat of Lots 6, 7, and 8 of Watkins Subdivision of a part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 8, Township 14 North, Range 4 East, as shown by Plat recorded in Plat Cabinet "C" page 193 and subject to easements and rights of way of record.

Sponsors: Grants

Attachments: [Commitment \(AR\).pdf](#)
JBcopier@lenderstitle.com [20150422_132008.pdf](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-075-2015

RES-15:083

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ABILITIES UNLIMITED OF JONESBORO, INC. TO PERFORM RECYCLING SERVICES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY

Sponsors: Finance

Attachments: [Abilities Unlimited Recycling Contract](#)
[Bid 2015-15 Blue Bag Recycle pickup specs](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-076-2015

6. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

ORD-15:029

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM R-1 TO C-3 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2814 WOOD STREET AS REQUESTED BY JET PROPERTIES

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[MAPC Report](#)
[Letter from Cathedral Baptist Church](#)

Councilman Street offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

City Planner Otis Spriggs explained there was a lot of discussion from the general public between the Planning Commission and city staff. There were concerns about the district being requested and the possible uses. There were also some concerns from the nearby residents, which the Planning Commission then placed restrictions on the property.

A representative from Cathedral Baptist Church stated they appreciate the limitations and offered their help if needed.

Mr. Eric Kriner, 819 Amberwood Cove, spoke in opposition to the rezoning. He expressed concern that they do not know what will be on the property He stated this is a residential area that is a nice neighborhood. They don't want their property values to be negatively affected by commercial development. He asked that if the city does approve the rezoning that there won't be a Wood Street access point. He further discussed the neighborhood and stated a buffer zone may not be enough for all of the residents. He asked the Council to also consider the future implications of what may go on the property once there's a new owner.

Mr. Gary Rogers, 2815 Wood Street, also spoke in opposition to the rezoning. He

stated he wants the neighborhood to remain a great place to live. While they don't know what is going to be built there, many of the approved uses under the C-3 LUO could be detrimental to the neighborhood. They requested something in writing that further restricts the uses of the property, but he has not agreed to any further restrictions. He asked the Council to consider further restrictions and added they would give the Council a list of what they think is detrimental. Mr. Rogers also expressed concern about the access off Wood Street.

Ms. Robin Crisp, 821 Amberwood, spoke in opposition to the rezoning. She discussed her property and the impact the development may have on it. She expressed concern about noise and light pollution. She asked that the Council take those concerns into consideration and not zone it commercial.

Mr. Michael Boggs with Tralan Engineering represented the firm rezoning the property. They are working with the city and will continue to work with the city. They will work with the city to ensure the buffer is adequate and won't spill light onto surrounding properties. They are leaving trees along the fence line to help with the buffer. Regarding a drive on Wood Street, Mr. Boggs stated they are requesting the drive be on Alexander but if the Highway Department denies it then they would like to the ability to put it on Wood Street. They believe the project will be beneficial and meets all criteria including the Land Use Plan.

A motion was made by Councilman Darrel Dover, seconded by Councilman John Street, that this matter be Held at one reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Rennell Woods

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

ORD-15:020

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2014 BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Sponsors: Finance

After adoption of the ordinance, Councilman Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilman Vance, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilman Gene Vance, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Rennell Woods

Enactment No: O-EN-024-2015

ORD-15:023

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL R-1 TO RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY RM-8 LUO FOR PROPERTY

LOCATED AT 3905 HILL DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY ERIC BURCH

Attachments: [Plat](#)
 [MAPC Report](#)

Councilman Moore asked if there was any opposition. Mayor Perrin stated he didn't know of any.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Rennell Woods

Enactment No: O-EN-025-2015

ORD-15:027

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM R-1 AND I-2 TO C-3 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 7310 EAST HIGHLAND DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY TINA COOTS

Attachments: [Plat](#)
 [MAPC Report](#)

Councilman Dover questioned whether there was any opposition. Mr. Spriggs answered no.

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

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Rennell Woods

Enactment No: O-EN-026-2015

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Perrin reported on the following items:

All department heads attended Freedom of Information training through the Attorney General's Office at the Municipal Center.

Jonesboro's 6th Annual Special Needs Concert was held at the Fowler Center to a large crowd. People from Louisiana were in attendance.

He performed the State of the City Address at the Rotary Club. They were impressed with the progress made in 2014.

The Homeless Initiative Committee met last week and had a full house. The homeless issue needs to be addressed in the city. The beds at the Salvation Army are almost always full. Walnut Street Baptist Church is in the process of purchasing property for homelessness.

This past Saturday was the Kids and Family Expo. He thanked E-911 Director Jeff Presley for his work. They fingerprinted over 1,200 kids at the event.

The Citizens Bank building did not sell. He met with the City Attorney today and some other people concerning other opportunities.

Tomorrow he will be attending the Municipal League Executive Committee meeting in Little Rock.

The city's Salary and Longevity Committee will be meeting this Thursday.

About two years ago Fisher & Arnold drafted parking spaces for Joe Mack Campbell Park. At the time, the expenses were over \$300,000. They are looking at the project again due to the additional need because of soccer events. The city can use the Street Department and the annual bid on contracts, such as concrete, and get it built for \$250,000. City Water & Light donated the lighting. They would like to go ahead and build the parking lot and amend the budget at the end of the year. They will be adding 260 parking spots.

Last month building permits totaled over \$5.5 million in commercial and \$6.1 million in residential. Growth is continuing and is showing no signs of slowing down.

At the Public Safety Committee meeting the Property Maintenance Code was discussed. It will be held at three separate meetings at Council. He will also be holding a public hearing on June 11, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the code. It's only for three doors or more. He will be appointing a committee to add other things, such as rental homes, industrial and commercial.

He received a letter commending the Street Department for work they recently did.

COM-15:031

Jonesboro Airport Commission financial statement for April 30, 2015

Sponsors: Municipal Airport Commission

Attachments: [Financial Statement](#)

This item was Filed.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Street asked when the mosquito spraying will begin. Mayor Perrin stated he thinks they've already started working with their trucks. They will have an aerial spray on July 4th.

Councilman Gibson reminded everyone that changes to the Council rules and procedures need to be submitted to City Clerk Donna Jackson by Wednesday at 5 p.m. She will put together a working document so they can move forward.

Councilman Moore also stated the City Clerk will need three copies of the property maintenance code for her files. City Clerk Jackson explained her office will have to run a two week public notice prior to hearing the ordinance, but she hasn't been provided the three copies. Mayor Perrin stated he will get the copies to her tomorrow.

Councilman Coleman informed the Council the Fisher Street Community in Action will have a cleanup event on June 27th. The event will be Patrick Street to Fourth Street and Belt Street to Front Street. They will start at 8 a.m. and go until 1 p.m.

Councilman Coleman stated he met with someone from Wendy's on Matthews Avenue. He asked if the city has any agreement with the railroad regarding cleaning up the ditch in that area. Mayor Perrin answered the city has done it because they have tried to discuss it with the railroad, but it was quicker for the city to do it. He added once the ditch dries up they will contact the railroad to clean up the ditch.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Bill Smith, 314 S. Main Street, thanked the Mayor and staff for their work with the report concerning bicycle connectivity between downtown and Arkansas State. He asked for a status update. Mayor Perrin explained they met with the company about three weeks ago and will meet again after other decisions are made. He added he will check on it. Mr. Smith stated some of the things will help with connectivity and public safety for the Arkansas State students as well.

Director of Communications Fritz Gisler made announcements concerning city business. The city pool will be opening Saturday, May 23rd, at 1 p.m. The Parks Department has openings for lifeguards. Trash collection will not take place on Monday, May 25th, due to the Memorial Day Holiday. Monday routes will be picked up on Tuesday along with Tuesday routes. The rest of the week will be on regular schedule.

Mr. Eugene Holloway, 408 Marshall Street, asked about RES-15:083 regarding Abilities Unlimited doing recycling for the city. The North Jonesboro Initiative is about to discuss commercial recycling with some companies along Johnson, so he would like to know when the Abilities Unlimited services will start. Mayor Perrin stated the resolution was just approved, so it will be about three to four weeks before the services start. He noted the city will continue to pick up the recycling until Abilities Unlimited takes over.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilman Chris Moore, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Rennell Woods

_____ Date: _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk