



# City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center  
300 S. Church Street  
Jonesboro, AR 72401

## Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

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Tuesday, April 8, 2025

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

**Present** 5 - Joe Hafner; Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[MIN-25:028](#)

Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday, March 25, 2025.

**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:** 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

### 4. NEW BUSINESS

#### RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-25:031](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL SERVICES FOR THE PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS GRANT (PSN)

**Sponsors:** Grants, Finance and Police Department

**Attachments:** [PSN Award Info.pdf](#)

*Chairman Joe Hafner said, I believe this is for a skycam. Councilmember David McClain said, the only question I have, chief. You know, you and I emailed a little bit. Do we know of any other grants for like maybe the license plate stuff that I emailed you about, or do you think that maybe there's something else we could find, grant wise? Police Department Chief Rick Elliot approached the podium and said, from time*

*to time there's technology grants out there. It's just one of those ongoing processes that coordinating with BJA and the Grants Department is to find them and apply for them. We're constantly, and when I say we, us and Grants, are looking for those opportunities. As I had mentioned in the email, our current camera system does have license plate reader technology built in but it's about \$80,000 to turn that technology on per year. So, in our Axon contract right now it's well over \$1,000,000 a year so that would be an additional expense to that contract. So, the short answer to your question is yes, we're always looking for any opportunities to fund what we do day in and day out. We never try to miss those opportunities. The PSN grant, we've been successful in the past several years and getting it, and then of course the JAG grant that comes up, we've always gotten it. And then the bulletproof vest grant when it comes around, we've been successful in it. So, there's a few federal grants that every year we apply, and we've always been successful in getting that money. But again, we're always looking for the bigger dollar amounts to offset what we're trying to do.*

*Chairman Joe Hafner said, hey chief, is that \$80,000 for each camera to turn it on or is that just the system? Chief Rick Elliot said, that would be all the patrol cars. Chairman Joe Hafner said, ok.*

*Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I have a question. The intersection on Johnson, where they put that light, can a camera be put there? Chief Rick Elliot said, you talking about Main and Johnson? Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, yeah. Chief Rick Elliot said, there is cameras there. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, no right by the quick stop there. Chief Rick Elliot said, oh the HAWK? Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, yeah. Chief Rick Elliot said, there's cameras there. Just down the road from it. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, there's a camera there? Chief Rick Elliot said, yes. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, ok, but also, is there one on Caraway down there by the university? At that intersection by Kum and Go? Chief Rick Elliot said, on Caraway and Johnson? Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, yeah. Chief Rick Elliot said, yes. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, ok. Chief Rick Elliot said, we try to have them at our major intersections, so yes there and then U Loop and then close to the apartments there at State and Johnson, Main and Johnson. So, we try to have Johnson pretty much covered but we're always looking to expand. We take our priorities and high accident areas, high crime areas, that's where we dedicate... Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, that was going to be part of my second question. Have we enough cameras to put in what you call all the main arteries that... Chief Rick Elliot said, well that's a loaded question. If you ever ask me, do we ever have enough of anything, my answer is always going to be no. Isn't that right, Mr. Purtee? We could always do more, obviously, but trying to work within budgetary concerns, we track what our priority areas are and as resources become available or budgeted, we put those cameras in those locations. Now, all these cameras can be moved, and if I have a location where the activity is not, may not get as much use, we'll relocate that camera. So, it's always in a steady flow of moving back and forth in acquisition. So, like I said, this grant and I think there's some additional money that may be coming our way. And then, let's get back on working with the mayor and some of our private partnership with some businesses. Get that going again. In the past, we've secured money from some of our businesses that have pledged yearly sums to support the cameras. That's with some of our banks. We're looking forward to starting that partnership back up and see more funding there also.*

*Councilmember John Street said, how many cameras will this buy chief? Chief Rick Elliot said, this? Councilmember John Street said, yeah. Chief Rick Elliot said, four or five at best. It depends if we do an enclosure or not an enclosure. Some of these*

*cameras are just stand only. We don't have the blue light and all that, because it's not needed in some of these areas. Some of these areas we want the camera to really stand out and be able to be a deterrence, others we just need the camera for monitoring purposes. So, without the enclosure, we can probably do more.*

*Councilmember Brian Emison said, Mr. Chairman just one if you don't mind. This \$80,000 price tag that we're talking about to be able to turn the LPR side of it on, do we already have all the other infrastructure in place as far as the data connections and all that? Chief Rick Elliot said, it is. Everything's there, everything's in place. That would be every time, be the whole system gathering that license plate information. If we needed to search for a tag, we'll be able to pull it up just like we do the regular system. So, at the end of the day would it be beneficial, absolutely. Councilmember Brian Emison said, gotcha. Thank you chief.*

**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;David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

[RES-25:032](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1305 ROSEMOND, PARCEL 01-143243-10300, OWNED BY MARCUS & STORMIE SWAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$665

**Attachments:**     [01. 1305 Rosemond Notice of Violation.pdf](#)  
[02. 1305 Rosemond Clean-Up Invoice.pdf](#)  
[03. 1305 Rosemond Billing Request.pdf](#)  
[04. 1305 Rosemond Council Notice.pdf](#)

**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;David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

[RES-25:033](#)

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF JONESBORO'S GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR A SPARKGOOD GRANT FROM WALMART SUPERCENTER #128

**Sponsors:**     Grants

**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;David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

[RES-25:034](#)

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AUTHORIZE THE GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA), FY2022-2024 49 U.S.C SECTION 5339 FORMULA GRANTS FOR THE JONESBORO ECONOMICAL TRANSPORTATION (JET) SYSTEM

Sponsors: Grants

Councilmember David McClain said, it says for capital projects. What capital projects are we using this for? Jets Department Director Lee Wells approached the podium and said, so we have a number of projects that we are looking forward to with this funding. We're evaluating with the funds that we do have in order to make the best decisions with those fundings that have been provided for. I know some of the items are the upgrading of our software, continued upgrading of our software. Which would allow us to have the app that so many people have asked about. To be able to have those notifications to the public both through an app that's available to us and then also just on standard website. So, for example, with our upgraded software, they'll be able to look on google and see where the buses are and when they'll be there next. Also, for integrating our fare collection, updating that a little bit and getting it in a little more friendly user way for the public to be able to utilize. And then also possibly looking at other areas where we may need to expand or look at what's needed for the service. Councilmember David McClain said, I didn't know if this included any covered stops or anything like that. Director Lee Wells said, that is one thing that we hope to supplement. We do also have a grant that we're working for with the shelters, and there are some implementations that are already in place that we're hoping to get executed soon for that. But this capital funding would allow us to be able to have that additional funds to look at additional shelters, additional upgrades, if needed, based upon what's not available on that previous shelter grant.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I have a question. Maybe not so much related to grants but part of this question. On those stops where people are sitting, do you have a primary person that operates the software to look at those? Is that what you're talking about? Director Lee Wells said, so what this software upgrade specifically that I was talking about, it would allow for the customer to be able to utilize the software to see where the buses are. It's an automated program that is relayed from the service that we get for our routing software that relays that to an app and then also through a feed to implement online like through Google Maps and things like that. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, ok, I guess maybe I need to explain it a different way. Is there somebody at your office or station, able to view each one of these? It's kind of like what the police have where they can scan and see each one of the cameras. Director Lee Wells said, we do not have anything currently at our stops other than what systems are already prevalent in the city. There's not something that is specifically Jets to look at each individual bus stop in order to monitor those. That is, however, part of the wording in the shelter grant of looking at adding those and implementing those types of technologies into the shelters. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, so we still need to apply for grants for software to be able to monitor those... Director Lee Wells said, it would be just the technology aspect of getting the cameras and then the correct access to where they needed to be. And then also looking at is that a feasible... Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, for some safety and security, it seems like it would be good to have something like that. So that you could see that in case incidents because the uprise of incidents, you know, you have some kind of focus on each one of those places.

Councilmember John Street said, Lee, this software, will it allow the people to purchase their fares online? Director Lee Wells said, that is a part of what we're looking to do with this. It's a multi-process thing, but yes that is something we are currently engaged in looking at. And this is going to give us the opportunity to be able to move on that.

Director Lee Wells said, yes, we do have cameras on all of our buses, Dr. Coleman.

*We do have cameras on our buses already and not only... Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, that's fine, but you know some things happen before they get on. This is not you so it's not a personal issue, because you're new and I think you're doing a great job. I'm not being funny, but I still think we need that type of software. The city needs to back you and get in that type of software where you can actually see that hub, I call them hubs, around the city, because of security. And I guess I don't want Jonesboro to be in a place where they're always trying to catch up. It's kind of like the railroad, they've got those kind of things where they can see those stations. Director Lee Wells said, yes sir. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, and I know that software is out there somewhere. Director Lee Wells said, yes sir, and just to... Chief and I, we have worked in getting products that we do have connected. As chief was saying earlier with the cameras, we do have cameras in a lot of the high density areas already, and that is a part of what they monitor. They do look at those things. I know firsthand that they are specifically looking at the transit areas, because that tends to be some place where people congregate and things like that. But I do agree wholeheartedly and that's why it is in that shelter agreement, that shelter grant, is to look at those technologies and find where's that need at, where can we put this and how do we need to do it, and this is just one more item to help us get those things implemented. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, that's great.*

**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; David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

[RES-25:035](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, AN OPERATING ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FOR FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED BY 49 U.S.C. CHAPTER 53; TITLE 23, UNITED STATES CODE, OR OTHER FEDERAL STATUTES ADMINISTERED BY THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

**Sponsors:** JETS, Community Development and Grants

**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; David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

[RES-25:036](#)

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AUTHORIZE THE GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA), FY 2022 AND 2024 49 U.S.C SECTION 5307 FORMULA GRANTS FOR THE JONESBORO ECONOMICAL TRANSPORTATION (JET) SYSTEM

**Sponsors:** JETS, Community Development and Grants

*Councilmember David McClain said, is this similar to what you guys are applying for in terms of the other grant? It says capital projects so I'm assuming. Software, facilities, etc. Grants Department Alejandra Morales approached the podium and said, yeah, so Jets gets money from two different pots of money through FTA. The difference between 5339 and 5307 is that this one allows for operating assistance, so payroll and things like that. But capitol projects is kind of the overall between the both. And yeah,*

*some of the projects Lee mentioned before.*

**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; David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

[RES-25:037](#)

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO UTILIZE FEDERAL-AID RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) FUNDS; AND, AUTHORIZING THE CITY'S GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR AN FY25 RTP GRANT

**Sponsors:** Engineering, Grants, Community Development and Finance

**Attachments:** [Higginbottom Soft Surface.pdf](#)

*Councilmember David McClain said, this is the one, if I'm not mistaken, is this out by Home Depot? Chairman Joe Hafner said, yeah. Very exciting.*

**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; David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

[RES-25:038](#)

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO UTILIZE FEDERAL-AID TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) FUNDS; AND, AUTHORIZING THE CITY'S GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR A FY25 TAP GRANT

**Sponsors:** Engineering, Community Development, Grants and Finance

*Councilmember David McClain said, I just asked Brian the same thing. Can we get a layout showing us what this looks like? You can email it, that's fine. Chairman Joe Hafner said, yeah. We had a Connectivity Committee meeting today, and they had kind of a very rough layout of it. But basically, what it is, is y'all know we voted to spend some dollars improving that Culberhouse, Southwest Drive intersection that Mr. Hinds always likes to reference is a very dangerous intersection. But this should basically take the side path would come down Culberhouse, it would basically take it to that intersection. And since the pedestrian infrastructure is being improved and that bridge is about to be worked on it would tie into that project and build just a layout from Culberhouse down Southwest Drive to Parker. Councilmember David McClain said, so they'll be heading south down Southwest Drive? Chairman Joe Hafner said, my understanding is to be on the east side of Southwest Drive heading south to Parker Road. Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium and said, yes. You know, currently we have the multiuse path that goes down Culberhouse and dead ends right there before you get to Southwest Drive. The idea is to use this grant, once you jump on the highway system there on Southwest Drive, since anything that we do there would have to go through the highway department approvals process anyways, and that's a whole new layer than just the city doing it. We decided this was a good target since TAP's grants got to go through that approval process anyway, and this will go down the... Right now, there are currently no pedestrian accommodation at Southwest Drive and Culberhouse, and so this would provide a pathway all the way up the east side. And there are currently people that are crossing those overpasses with no pedestrian accommodation or protection. And we're hoping that if we can get this*

*grant and work with ARDOT on a layout for an overpass pedestrian infrastructure that's something we can kind of mirror on down across the interstate there on each of the overpasses, because people are absolutely crossing those overpasses and our hope is that we can work together on a solution on how to protect those people. Chairman Joe Hafner said, and this is not unheard of. I mean, there's already state highway bridges that have pedestrian infrastructure on them. And this would just be another way to help get out there to Craighead Forest too. Brian Richardson said, you know, one of the options that it could potentially look like, the council approved Marion Berry project that we're sharing with ASU, you know maybe this looks like that, maybe it doesn't. But the bottom line is we need to establish some sort of acceptable blueprint to how we can add pedestrian accommodations to our existing overpasses.*

**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; David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman

## **5. PENDING ITEMS**

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Councilmember David McClain said, Aggie Road, where are we in terms of getting that project side path or whatever? Where are we at in that process? Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium and said, we're currently negotiating right-of-way acquisitions. I think there's a total of 17 rights-of-way's that need to be acquired on that Aggie Road section up to, is that Bowman? The school, right there when you get to University Heights. And of course, a couple of those are Arkansas State University. A couple of them are really small parcels. When you look at 17 that sounds like a lot, but I believe Creath Street was 64 or 70. It was a lot that we had to work through for that project. It'll take a minute. There will be offers that get rejected and come back and some negotiation back and forth. But yeah, the project it is funded as of today's dollars. The plans are basically complete. I believe they're at 90% which allows us to begin purchasing right-of-way's. So, once those right-of-way's acquisitions are done we'll have to let that project abid and go from there. But it's closer now than it was yesterday, and it's a lot closer than it was a year or two ago. Hopefully, that's something that we can get to actually working pretty soon, and as we move forward we've got to not only create plans but also fund pushing that farther east. Which would take us out, obviously, deeper into that side of town where there's a lot of houses. We obviously, once we get this going, we hope to be able to just keep on extending it. Councilmember David McClain said, what side of the road, north or south? Sounds like north if you go... Brian Richardson said, do you remember Joe? I can check that. Councilmember David McClain said, that's fine. You can just shoot me an email. Brian Richardson said, I think it's on the north side. Chairman Joe Hafner said, I'm thinking north. Brian Richardson said, I think it's on the north side, because it's also going to tie in with the side path on the new ASU road that's coming through the farm there. I think. South side. I'm sorry. I think but don't quote me on that. Let me find out. Councilmember David McClain said, alright. Thank you.*

## **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; David McClain and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Anthony Coleman