

City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center 300 S. Church Street Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, December 20, 2022

5:30 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

PUBLIC SERVICES COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING AT 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC SAFETY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:20 P.M.

Mayor Harold Copenhaver asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the public hearing regarding the abandonment of a portion of Right-of-Way along undeveloped Harlan Cove North of Jonathan Drive in Jonesboro, Arkansas as requested by Fisher & Arnold. No one spoke for or against the issue.

PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:25 P.M.

Mayor Harold Copenhaver asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the public hearing regarding the abandonment of a utility easement and drainage easement located within Lots 1 and 2 of the Cavenaugh Auto Group Minor Plat in Jonesboro, Arkansas as requested by Cavenaugh Properties, LLC. No one spoke for or against the issue.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR HAROLD COPENHAVER AT 5:30 P.M.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION
- 3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Present 16 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant;LJ Bryant;Mitch Johnson;John Street and John Street

- 4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
- 5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to adopt the Consent Agenda with RES-22:238 and RES-22:239 being removed. All voted aye.

Councilmember Ann Williams made a motion to remove RES-22:255. City Clerk April Leggett said RES:22-255 has already been removed from the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Moore, seconded by Councilperson Joe Hafner, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant;Mitch Johnson and John Street

MIN-22:108 MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 6, 2022

Attachments: CC Minutes 12062022

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

RES-22:237

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCEPT THE FY2022-2023 PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT GRANT.

<u>Attachments:</u> <u>Letter</u>

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This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-225-2022

RES-22:240

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 405 STATE STREET, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144171-03500, OWNED BY CHARLES E NOELL JR IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 405 State

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 405 State
Council Notice Letter 405 State

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-226-2022

RES-22:241

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 500 ALLEN, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144181-30100, OWNED BY KENNY COLEMAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 500 Allen

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 500 Allen
Council Notice Letter 500 Allen

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-227-2022

RES-22:242 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 500 WOODROW, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144073-18400, OWNED BY ANTHONY MGBODILE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

<u>Attachments:</u> 500 Woodrow

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 500 Woodrow
Council Notice Letter 500 Woodrow

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-228-2022

RES-22:243

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 600/602 N CHURCH, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144074-10300, OWNED BY JACQUELINE STANBACK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 600-602 N Church

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 600 N Church
Council Notice Letter 600 N Church

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-229-2022

RES-22:244

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1024 E CRAIGHEAD FOREST RD, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-134051-08200, OWNED BY LINDSEY M HARRISON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 1024 E Craighead Forest

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 1024 E Craighead Forest Rd
Council Notice Letter 1024 E Craighead Forest Rd

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-230-2022

RES-22:245

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1100 E WASHINGTON, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144173-13000, OWNED BY DOROTHY HESTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 1100 E Washington

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 1100 E Washington
Council Notice Letter 1100 E Washington

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-231-2022

RES-22:246

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1305 OAKHURST, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-143133-18700, OWNED BY DYLAN FRANKLIN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 1305 Oakhurst

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 1305 Oakhurst
Council Notice Letter 1305 Oak Hurst

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-232-2022

RES-22:247 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1313 PARDEW, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144212-20200, OWNED BY MICHELLE NUTT

IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 1313 Pardew

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 1313 Pardew
Council Notice Letter 1313 Pardew

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-233-2022

RES-22:248 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2501 MARY JANE, JONESBORO AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144272-24200, OWNED BY KENNETH L &

DENA BRADWAY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 2501 Mary Jane

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 2501 Mary Jane
Council Notice Letter 2501 Mary Jane

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-234-2022

RES-22:249 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3707 CATALINA, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144152-01000, OWNED BY DENE BARNETT

IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 3707 Catalina Cove

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 3707 Catalina
Council Notice Letter 3707 Catalina

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-235-2022

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4304 RACE,

JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144271-19900, OWNED BY CHARLES CRAIG

CONYERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: 4304 Race

Affidavit of Statutory Lien 4304 Race
Council Notice Letter 4304 Race

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-236-2022

RES-22:251 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT STADIUM/BUNTING,

JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-134044-02300, OWNED BY WEAVER

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES INC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$215.

Attachments: Stadium 01-134044-02300

Affidavit of Statutory Lien Stadium-Bunting
Council Notice Letter Stadium-Bunting

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-237-2022

RES-22:252 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT SUMMER PLACE, JONESBORO, AR 72404, PARCEL 01-134043-09800, OWNED BY CECILLA

REYNOLDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

Attachments: Summer Place (CE22-1582,1583)

Affidavit of Statutory Lien Summer Place 01-134043-09800 Council Notice Letter Summer Place 01-134043-09800

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-238-2022

RES-22:253 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT SUMMER PLACE, JONESBORO, AR 72404, PARCEL 01-134043-09900, OWNED BY CECILLA

REYNOLDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

<u>Attachments:</u> Summer Place (CE22-1582,1583)

Affidavit of Statutory Lien Summer Place 01-134043-09900 Council Notice Letter Summer Place 01-134043-09900

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-239-2022

RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

RES-22:238 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 204 WOODROW, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144073-23400, OWNED BY NEWEL COOTS

IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175

Attachments: Affidavit of Statutory Lien 204 Woodrow

Council Notice Letter 204 Woodrow

Woodrow 01-144073-23400

Councilmember Chris Moore asked Code Enforcement Director Scott Roper about the procedures for this lien and how the cost was conceived.

Councilmember Chris Moore said Mayor, with your permission, may I ask Code Enforcement Director Scott Roper, a couple of questions about this complaint? Mayor Harold Copenhaver asked Mr. Roper to approach the podium.

Councilmember Chris Moore said Officer Roper, I'm going to ask you a couple of questions about this and it's not particularly about this complaint. It is about the procedure. Could you tell me, did you send an officer to this location to look at this violation? Code Enforcement Director Scott Roper approached the podium and said. I did. No, let me rephrase that. We either received a complaint or an officer started a complaint regarding this property. Councilmember Moore asked, do you have any idea if he made more than one trip out there? Mr. Roper said, I'm sure he did. Our policy and procedure would indicate that he would. Councilmember Moore said, I assume he made an initial trip and then a follow up trip at the end of the time frame and then proceeded with action on this property. Director Roper said, without looking at the notes of the case, he probably made a number of trips out there. Councilmember Moore asked, would you then send it to the City Attorney to review? Director Roper said, no sir. Councilmember Moore said, the City Attorney did not review this municipal lien before it was filed? City Attorney Carol Duncan said, I review it once it enters Legistar. Councilmember Moore said ok, so at some point, you sent an officer for multiple trips to this location and the City Attorney, then at some point, reviewed it. Now, on this particular instance, it says that the City of Jonesboro expended \$175. Can you tell us what that was for? Mr. Roper said, I believe that is the total cost of the fine and fees. I believe \$175 is normally going to be a \$60 mowing fee and then there will be \$115 of additional fees. Councilmember Moore said, what I'm asking is, we spent multiple trips, the City Attorney reviewed this, we paid \$60 to a mowing service to correct the violation and we are filing a municipal lien for a total of \$175. Mr. Roper said, yes sir. Councilmember Moore said, so you're telling me our actual cost out of this was \$115 for the City Attorney's time, your multiple trips of your guy, and all the paperwork including filing it with the court? Mr. Roper said, yes sir. Councilmember Moore said, that ends my questions Mr. Mayor. I can't possibly imagine how that could be. Mr. Roper said, Councilmember Moore, I know that Brian Richardson and I have been in discussions about reviewing all of our fees and obviously some of them need to be raised. Councilmember Moore said I noticed it's not just this one, it's multiple ones all at \$175. Mr. Roper said, yes sir. If they are \$175, most are going to be for mowing. Councilmember Moore said, the only point that I'm going to make and I have made this point several times, and the City Attorney can confirm, we can only charge what we can justify. I just can't help but think that if we have made two or three trips with a city vehicle and a city employee and use the City Attorney's Office to review the complaint, and filed it, and hired a contractor and did a follow up trip to assure that the yard was cut, that our expense would be more than \$115. Mr. Roper said, yes sir.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Passed. The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant;Mitch Johnson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-240-2022

RES-22:239

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 339 N FISHER, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144181-13400, OWNED BY RODNEY CRANFORD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175.

339 N Fisher Attachments:

> Affidavit of Statutory Lien 339 N Fisher Council Notice Letter 339 N Fisher

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Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to postpone indefinitely RES-22:239. All voted aye. City Clerk April Leggett said, I was informed by the Finance Department that this lien has been paid.

A motion was made by Councilperson Moore, seconded by Councilperson John Street, that this matter be Postponed Indefinitely. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson; Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Chris Moore; Ann Williams; Chris Gibson; David McClain; Seth Speer; Joe Hafner; LJ Bryant; Mitch Johnson and John Street

RES-22:218

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 219 Miller St. Jonesboro, AR 72401 Parcel #: 01-144181-59600

Attachments: 219 Miller Updated Inspection Report

219 Miller Map

219 miller New Notice of Violation Returned

219 Miller new Notice of Violation

WIN 20220603 14 34 15 Pro

219 Miller New Pre-Condemnation Notice

WIN 20220603 14 34 18 Pro WIN 20220603 14 34 25 Pro WIN 20220603 14 34 27 Pro WIN 20220603 14 34 42 Pro WIN 20220603 14 34 50 Pro

WIN 20220603 14 35 02 Pro

WIN 20220603 14 35 12 Pro WIN 20220603 14 35 27 Pro

WIN 20220603 14 35 52 Pro

WIN 20220603 14 35 55 Pro

WIN 20220603 14 36 06 Pro

WIN 20220603 14 36 25 Pro

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

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson; Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Chris Moore; Ann Williams; Chris Gibson; David McClain; Seth Speer; Joe Hafner; LJ

Bryant; Mitch Johnson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-241-2022

RES-22:219

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 1301 Huntington Ave. Jonesboro, AR 72401 Parcel #: 01-143133-17100

Attachments: 1301 Huntington Inspection Report 1301 Huntington Map

1301 Huntington Cert Boarding & Securing

1301 Huntington Notice of Violation Cert

1301 Huntington Returned Cert Boarding & Securing

1301 Huntington Returned Cert Notice of Violation

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Passed. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

WIN 20220914 16 11 01 Pro WIN 20220914 16 12 22 Pro Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ

Bryant; Mitch Johnson and John Street

1607 Duncan Inspection Report

Enactment No: R-EN-242-2022

Attachments:

RES-22:220

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 1607 Duncan Rd. Jonesboro, AR 72401 Parcel #: 01-143121-03200

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Passed. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

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 WIN
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 Pro

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ

Bryant; Mitch Johnson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-243-2022

RES-22:221 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 2109 Brazos St. Jonesboro, AR 72401

Parcel #: 01-144281-49400

Attachments: 2109 Brazos Inspection Report

2109 Brazos Map

2109 Brazos Cert Board & Secure

2109 Brazos Cert Notice of Violation Returned Sig Card

2109 Brazos Cert Notice of Violation

WIN 20220622 14 21 35 Pro

WIN 20220622 14 21 45 Pro

WIN 20220622 14 21 57 Pro

WIN 20220622 14 25 52 Pro

WIN 20220622 14 25 55 Pro

WIN 20220622 14 26 00 Pro

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WIN 20220622 14 26 03 Pro

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WIN 20220622 14 37 21 Pro
WIN 20220622 14 37 27 Pro
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Code Enforcement Director Scott Roper stated that this property had just been recently purchased, so if possible, we would like to table this for six months.

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to postpone temporarily RES-22:221for six months. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Postponed Temporarily. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant;Mitch Johnson and John Street

RES-22:222 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 3206 Fairview Dr. Jonesboro, AR 72401 Parcel #: 01-144281-29000

<u>Attachments:</u> 3206 Fairview Inspection Report

3206 Fairview Map

3206 Fairview Cert Notice of Violation

3206 Fairview Returned Cert Notice of Violation

WIN 20220812 10 46 57 Pro

WIN 20220812 10 47 01 Pro

WIN 20220812 10 47 11 Pro

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WIN 20220812 10 50 19 Pro WIN 20220812 10 50 28 Pro

WIN 20220812 10 51 12 Pro

WIN 20220812 10 51 12 Pro

WIN 20220812 10 51 55 Pro

WIN 20220812 10 52 12 Pro

Code Enforcement Director Scott Roper approached the podium and said this property has had a permit pulled on it so we would like to table it for another six months.

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to postpone temporarily RES-22:222 for six months. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Postponed Temporarily. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant;Mitch Johnson and John Street

RES-22:254

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AMEND THE CITY SALARY AND ADMINISTRATION PLAN BY INCLUDING UPDATED PAY RANGES, JOB TITLES AND GRADES

Attachments: 2023 Job Titles by Grade

2023 Non-Uniformed Employee Pay Grades & Steps 2023 Uniformed Employee Pay Grades & Steps

Finance email to City Clerk

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

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann

Williams; Chris Gibson; David McClain; Seth Speer; Joe Hafner; LJ

Bryant; Mitch Johnson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-244-2022

RES-22:255

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, FOR THE TWELVE (12) MONTHS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023, APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR EACH ITEM OF EXPENDITURE THEREIN PROVIDED FOR; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Attachments: 2023 Draft Budget

Jonesboro Budget 2023 Presentation

Finance email to City Clerk

Mayor Harold Copenhaver approached the podium and said, Council I appreciate your time this evening and the citizens of the city of Jonesboro. It's amazing how fast a year passes. It's very quickly. I take great pride in what we are showing before you and it's taking a lot of due diligence to achieve and bring this budget to you. I think it accomplishes many things that you and I, Council, want to accomplish for our community. This budgeting process is not a short one. Many of you have been here a long time and you understand that, but to the citizens it is very important that they know that we work on this for months and we review projects, personnel and service evaluations, repeated finance calculations and adjustments, and prioritizing which projects best serves the common good of our community. Last year, we wanted to format the budget to where the public better understood how their money was allocated. This year, we continued that format. The letter hit, that I presented to Council and others, a two and a half page letter, the notable highlights. This budget included detailed expenditure list and comparison to last year's budget. In multiple meetings, we discussed budget specifics that have been available to the public nearly one month. I think it is important for those who want to know, it should be information that is easy to obtain, review and understand.

This budget is readable, fiscally responsible and accomplishes our goals for supporting our first responders, investing in our infrastructure, providing the best customer service and the best quality of place. And, I might add, to be competitive as well. This budget has a healthy slat of capital projects for 2023. We also continue to address overdue pay adjustments for employees, who are the heart and soul of the Jonesboro public servant sector. I might add as well, I believe they are the hand and feet of our community. This is an \$83 million proposed budget. We anticipate our local economy will continue to grow. This figure includes \$11 million in funds restricted for specific purposes, \$60 million in operating and maintenance, and \$12 million in capital

expenditures. Among some of the most noteworthy, there's more than \$3.5 million in pavement and sidewalk projects. This is up 42% from last year and 318% from 2020 and 2021. This budget includes funding for a long-needed public swimming pool in North Jonesboro. The swimming pool just highlights more than \$5 million in capital improvements to our first class parks system. Top priority in 2023 is to complete an A-State downtown trail link. This budget also sets aside more than \$1.6 million for the next phase, connecting Arkansas State to University Heights.

This administration continues to invest in our employees. Last year, we saw a 2% cost of living adjustment for full-time employees in addition to their step raises. This year's budget features a 3% COLA. This is in addition to the annual step raises. It will be fully awarded in the first pay period in 2023. That will be reflective then for the entire year. Full-time positions not eligible for step increases will be addressed as a straight 5% COLA. Specific to our uniformed personnel, this budget plans to adjust our pay for police and fire, to extend available steps for the U1 through U6 positions, specifically to aid in retention of experienced officers. This adjustment along with other pay adjustments over the last two years is a continued effort to keep experienced officer retention and stability at a high level. Being competitive with uniform pay is a priority and will continue to be during my administration.

I want to conclude by saying the strength of Jonesboro's economy in addition to this conscientious financial responsibilities of our chiefs, the directors, the staff, and the City Council proves that by working together we can accomplish great things for our residents through efficient use of our current revenue streams. I feel this budget is a direct reflection investing in our future and I thank you City Council, for your review and input during this process. I ask you for the passage of this budget to support our fire and police, increase investments in our infrastructure, investing in the city personnel that provide the important services we all appreciate, and showing your commitment and our commitment to making Jonesboro a better place to live and to raise a family. Thank you council.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, obviously budgets are always a challenging task because there's so many needs, wants, priorities, etc. and these can differ significantly depending on who you are. Overall, I believe this is a reasonable budget, but I want to bring up four areas that I kind of focused on in the budget and over the past year. I've stated these in finance meetings and in private conversations with the Mayor. Number one, the use franchise fees. Currently, these are in our general revenues as they have been in the past. Everybody knows that we have hired Crews and Associates to help us with items such as revenue bonds, which will be funded by these franchise fees. I want to make sure we move as fast as possible to get the revenue bonds into place, so that we can get some much needed projects done which could be funded by such bonds. The Mayor has assured me that this will be the case and that budget revisions will be brought back to the council at the appropriate time to get those franchise fees out of general revenue. One thing we have talked about, and I hate to use the term surplus revenues, but that's what they're called right now. We all know that money could be spent tomorrow on much needed items and projects.

One thing I have asked the Mayor is what projects we can complete by utilizing a portion of these surplus revenues. That's another thing that's our hope, that we can get projects moving in 2023. The Mayor mentioned the \$12 million in capital improvement projects. One thing I've talked about a lot is I wanted us to have a sense of urgency on getting these projects done. A lot of them look really good in the budget but we all want to see them done and we're not sitting here in five years talking about the pool on the north side of Jonesboro.

The Mayor has committed to giving us quarterly updates on these projects that have been ongoing or in the budget so that we can see what progress or lack of progress is being made and why. We all know there's going to be bumps along the way, but I think it will help all of us and the public know what's going on with these projects instead of us just approving something and then not hearing about it for a while.

The Mayor also mentioned pay raises. Uniformed pay is always on everyone's minds. They are our first responders, but we also have non-uniformed pay issues that need to be addressed. I believe the Mayor is showing a willingness to address these issues and he's done so by having COLA raises the last two budgets which are above the step raises, adding steps to some positions, and making significant changes to the entry-level uniform pay earlier this year, among other improvements. We all know we still have improvements to make and I believe the Mayor has committed to periodically reviewing how the financials are performing, how sales tax are performing and adjusting as finances allow. Thank you.

Councilmember David McClain said, in that same vein, one thing I would like to see go back to Johansen and maybe get them to do a study for us on the uniformed side so we know where we are and where we compare and going forward what would be the best step for us to make. We've had conversations where we feel like we are competitive, but I would love that data on paper. Again, I'm a visual learner, so I like seeing things in print. If we could do that sometime this year, I would love for us to reach out to them and get them to do a study for us.

Councilmember L.J. Bryant said, the Mayor and I had a great visit this week and much like what Joe said. I was thinking to myself, the Mayor was talking about how guick a year goes by, I've been on the council five years and five years ago we had a plan to build two fire stations and we've built zero. The Mayor and I had a great visit about that and I know the Mayor is committed to helping us with that. I also had a visit with the Fire Chief about that, so I feel confident there. The other two issues I talked about last week. I had a good visit with the Mayor as well, on bike lanes, and I'm excited about our new coordinator to be really thoughtful about that, and similar to what Joe said, hopefully we can find the right urgency there. I know we don't want to have to hazardously paint lines on the side of the road like a little kid but we still want to get it done and find that right person, so I'm glad to see that in the budget. I then visited with the Mayor on mosquitos and I know you're working with A-State on that, because I feel that's one of those issues were whether you play tennis or ride a bike or walk your dog. it's something that impacts everybody in the community. I'm not saying we're going to solve it. We would be geniuses if we absolutely solved it, but look at Walt Disney and others have done. I think it could have a significant impact. My father-in-law always says you have a lot of good things going in Jonesboro, but I will never live there until you get rid of those mosquitos. I'm not saying we'll get rid of them but maybe we'll make some progress. Thanks Mayor.

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, I will say, communication is key, and I want to say to the citizens of Jonesboro that the door is always open. Not only to the citizens but to the council and they do darken the doors in a positive way and it's good to have conversations. This is how we move and progress our community forward.

Councilmember Ann Williams said Mayor, I brought this up at the Finance Committee meeting, about the amount of money that is being allocated for pools. Parks Director Danny Kapales stated that was mid-range, but I do feel that, after looking at some of the cost and amounts spent by other cities in the last five to six years, I think that's a very low amount. I think as long as we have waited for an additional pool that is much

needed, I hate for us to do anything but a very good quality pool. I feel confident that amount being allocated is very low. I realize with the pool at the sports complex that's going to be a first rate pool, and therefore I think the residents of North Jonesboro deserve a first rate pool. I really would wish that amount would be increased and be sure that it is a good quality pool after waiting this long. Also, I have an issue with that as far as the location. I have concerns about the pedestrians crossing on Hwy 141 North. If we're going to have a pool in that location to attract children from the other side of 141 North, we need to be sure that we start planning for a pedestrian crossing. Hopefully, like the one we have requested on State Street on Johnson. I think that part of our planning should involve safe access by residence in that area.

James Elwin Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, approached the podium and said most everyone in here with the exception of Mr. Speer, have heard me on multiple occasions, speak out on our need for certain things. One of the big things I've probably spoke out on is sidewalks. Also, I have talked about the need for some improvements on the north side of town. In this budget, I do notice that sidewalks were given priority, also a big noticeable investment up at Parker Park. These are big steps in the right direction. I want to commend whoever thought to put them in there and the dedication of getting some money behind that. Hope that'll grow. This proposal isn't going to get us where we need to be, there's only so much money to go around. But, it is a step in the right direction. I do appreciate that and hopefully you will continue to move in that direction.

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

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant;Mitch Johnson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-245-2022

6. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

ORD-22:047

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON A PORTION OF STREET RIGHT OF WAY FOR UNDEVELOPED HARLAN COVE LOCATED NORTH OF JONATHON DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY FISHER & ARNOLD, INC.

Attachments: Harlan Cove

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-22:047 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

ORD-22:049

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON A UTILITY EASEMENT AND A DRAINAGE EASEMENT LOCATED WITHIN LOTS 1 AND 2 OF THE CAVENAUGH AUTO GROUP MINOR PLAT IN JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AS REQUESTED BY CAVENAUGH PROPERTIES, LLC.

Attachments: Plat

petition Letters

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CWL Letter 12012022

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-22:049 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to waive the second reading on ORD-22:049 due to the time of the year and the property owner needing to get work done before winter delays the work. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street said as per request the engineer in order for them to get building permits before the weather gets absolutely unworkable and due to the fact that the Cavenaugh's own every bit of the property that's affected by this, I would ask that we suspended the rules and wave the second reading. Councilmember Chris Moore seconded the motion. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Waived Second Reading. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ

Bryant; Mitch Johnson and John Street

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

ORD-22:048 AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR RIVERFRONT ASSOCIATION

<u>Attachments:</u> Riverfront Private Club Permit Application_Redacted

Held at second reading

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

ORD-22:046

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, ARTICLE III, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM I-1 LUO LIMITED INDUSTRIAL, LIMITED OVERLAY DISTRICT TO C-3 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5307 E. HIGHLAND DRIVE, JONESBORO, AR AS REQUESTED BY SAI REAL ESTATE, LLC.

<u>Attachments:</u> <u>Updated Application</u>

Staff Summary - C.C.

Rezoning Plat

Certified Mail Receipts

Receipt

Jim Gramling with the Gramling Law Firm for SAI Real Estate approached the podium and said this property is out on Hwy 18. The request is for I-1 to C-3. The staff report found that it's consistent with the purposes of the zoning code and the character that's the surrounding area because there is commercial and industrial out in the area. Two important considerations that I want to make sure you are aware of. Obviously, this is an overlay district, so whatever goes there the city is going to have some control over. And, that also, in my view, makes it a little less appropriate for your typical industrial uses. The second issue is that this is just three acres, and again that makes it less suitable for industrial use and more appropriate for commercial. I think if the guiding principle for our zoning is the highest and best use of the land, it is certainly C-3. If it remains I-1, then we're likely to have a vacant lot sitting out there for the foreseeable future, which isn't going to help anybody.

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

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant;Mitch Johnson and John Street

Enactment No: O-EN-052-2022

ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD IN COUNCIL

RES-22:147

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 3011, 3013, 3015, & 3017 N Church St. Jonesboro, AR 72401 Parcel #: 01-154312-01100; OWNER: Michael P. Davis

Attachments: 3017 N Church Inspection Report

3017 N Church Map

3017 N Church Supplemental Inspection Report

Notice of Violation Certified

Notice of Violation Returned Back

Notice of Violation Returned Front

Precondemnation Notice

3011 N. CHURCH

3013 N. CHURCH (1)

3013 N. CHURCH (2)

3013 N. CHURCH (3)

3013 N. CHURCH (4)

3015 N CHURCH (1)

3015 N CHURCH (2)

3015 N CHURCH (3)

3015 N CHURCH (4)

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3015 N CHURCH SHED 2 (9)

3017 N. CHURCH SHED 1 (1)

3017 N. CHURCH SHED 1 (2)

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3017 N. CHURCH SHED 1 (4)

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3017 N. CHURCH SHED 1 (11)

3017 N. CHURCH SHED 1 (12)

3017 N. CHURCH SHED 1 (13)

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to postpone temporarily for six months RES-22:147. All voted aye.

Code Enforcement Director Scott Roper stated the property owner is currently in the military and deployed and needs additional time.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Joe Hafner, that this matter be Postponed Temporarily. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant;Mitch Johnson and John Street

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Copenhaver reported on the following:

With the temperatures moving in, I hope everyone will have their pipes wrapped. I saw Councilmember Chris Moore was putting out good word and message to the community this week on what you needed to do for your home because it's going to be very cold. Keep your taps running, dripping, running, whatever you need to do.

Don't leave your pets outside. That's a no-no.

Stay home if you can. Our Streets and Sanitation are doing all they can to make the roads safe, but the safest place is indoors, stay there if you can.

It's still Christmas time so take care of your loved ones and check on your neighbors, especially the elderly and be careful out there.

Last week, I allocated an additional 1,000 hours of extended police shifts to deter crime in our parking centers and parking lots that's certainly been noticed and appreciated by a lot of residents and it appears to be helping deter crime. Hopefully, this is something that we'll do for years to come.

A lot of celebrations of the season and special events have been going on throughout the community in this coming week. I especially enjoyed the Delta Symphony Orchestra's Holiday Concert and the Foundation of Arts Nutcracker presentation. It's talented people like these that make our city all the more special and I want to thank those that go the extra mile to put them on.

I also thank the service organizations and non-profits who are so valuable this time of year. That includes our own Police and Fire Departments who do a lot to ensure that children receive gifts and make their holidays special this time of year.

I met with PROJECT Search which is very close to my heart. It provides interns working in our hospitals and right here in the city we have that going on. I see the

opportunity to those who sometimes are over looked and especially appreciated that they can make the best workers that you can ask for.

Friday, I attended the STAR Court graduation. It takes a strong person, literally, to turn their life around, and it takes people who can care to help to show them the way. I want to say thank you to our own Carol Duncan and her team, our judges, and our prosecutors for all they do to invest their time to bettering other people's lives. Thank you Carol.

Next time Council meets as a whole, we will see two new faces up here. I look forward to working with Mrs. Janice Porter and Dr. Anthony Coleman. But, that means tonight is Councilmember Seth Speers last meeting. Seth stepped in when Ward 6 needed to fill a void in their representation. He's done it admirably and with great integrity. Thank you Seth for your service.

We've finally celebrated it before but I want to mention it one last time that it is the last council meeting for Charles Frierson and his dedication to Jonesboro can't be understated. One last time, thank you Mr. Frierson for all the work and your commitment you have do for Jonesboro.

We do have a big public announcement tomorrow. I'm going to make that hopefully by noon, so we'll make you aware of an opportunity that we have been working on for over a year with one of our senators. It's a financial announcement so I'm looking forward to that.

COM-22:054

CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OVERVIEW, OCTOBER 2022

<u>Attachments:</u> October 2022 Financials

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember John Street said just like the Mayor had said, Charles, it's been a pleasure working with you and we will miss you. I can't wait to drive down Charles Frierson Boulevard. Mayor, I was going to ask you and you alluded to the deadly cold we're fixing to encounter. Do we have any provisions to open up any of our facilities to shelter any of the homeless? Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, yes, we actually met and Channel 8 came up and did a story this afternoon. We met preemptive of everything on Monday morning with our Department Heads and Directors and First Responders. We also met with Streets. We met with everybody with regards to planning for anything coming our way. We do have three facilities that will be open because they have generators. That will be Allen Park, Parker Park and Earl Bell. At that time, the Salvation Army, if they should become full, will notify us and then we will take into action at that point should our facility not be open at that current time. We are doing normal operating hours. We will not be closed Friday or Saturday for the cold weather availability. We also have a 211 number now that residents can call. It is a non-emergency call number that can put them in direct contact with the Salvation Army and their needs. I know the Police Department, Chief Rick Elliott and I both have discussed, and police officers are going to be well aware and will be looking for individuals that also need assistance. Councilmember Street said, I appreciate that very much. Also, CWL had our meeting today and I'm sure our Street Department is loaded up as well, but CWL has made every provision for every possible contingency

there is based on this weather. They are ready for it. Hopefully, we will get snow and not freezing rain, but in any event and there is a problem, be sure and have the numbers. They said it would help if people would put the lids on their water meters and close the metal lid. Closing that little metal lid makes a difference in it freezing or not freezing and if you have anything to cover it with they encourage that as well. Water meters seem to be a problem and they are working on that.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson said, Public Safety met earlier this evening. Mayor, the committee members felt we had an item we needed to bring forth due to time constraints in the verbiage. I would like to suspend the rules and walk on RES-22:257 for consideration. Councilmember John Street seconded the motion. All voted aye.

RES-22:257

A RESOLUTION FOR ENACTING A TEMPORARY HONORARY DESIGNATION OF A PORTION OF CERTAIN CITY STREET IN HONOR OF COUNCILMAN CHARLES FRIERSON

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-22:257 due to the timeliness of the matter. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 11 - Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Chris Moore; Ann Williams; Chris Gibson; David McClain; Seth Speer; Joe Hafner; LJ Bryant; Mitch Johnson and John Street

Recused: 1 - Charles Frierson

Enactment No: R-EN-246-2022

Councilmember Charles Frierson said, when I saw the list of signers of the resolution it really did catch my breath. I was so impressed with it, thank you. That's about all I can say to each of you by saying thank you.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson said always a pleasure Mr. Frierson. To echo the Mayor's comments as well, I appreciate Mr. Speers stepping up and filling the void that we needed. I wish everybody a very Merry Christmas.

Councilmember L.J. Bryant said, I always enjoyed Councilmember Frierson. You always knew where he stood and you always knew he was going to be honest. If you asked a stupid question you was always going to know. It didn't matter if you were the Mayor or a Councilmember or if Chris Barber was standing at the podium, everybody was going to know. To Councilmember Speer, he's gotten a great grasp in a couple of months so it's sad to see him go. He might have figured out more in a couple of months then I have in five years.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, thanks Mr. Frierson, whether it be City Council or YMCA, he always stepped up and served your community so we appreciate that. Seth, thank you for stepping up too.

Councilmember Seth Speer said, you all were right, by the time I got here, it took me longer to figure out what to do and I'm already on my way out. I can definitely say that I think the city is on the right track. I'm more than impressed and honored to have

gotten to serve with you all.

Councilmember David McClain said, I just echo what everybody says tonight. Mr. Frierson, we appreciate you and I always appreciated your comments. Seth, thank you again for stepping up. Wish everybody a Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, just real quick, as the Chair of the Public Services Committee, I just want to make a comment in regard to some of the capital improvement projects that we do have in the budget this year. I would like to see the Public Services Committee utilized in a more relevant fashion than we are currently. As of now, we are more of an ad-hoc committee that only meets four times a year to hear reports and I think we can be of better service to the City of Jonesboro. Secondly, do I need to remind Mr. McClain to call a Nominating and Rules meeting or what did we decide on the rules. City Attorney Carol Duncan said, I looked at the rules that we amended last year that it's automatic for January 3rd. So, I think he will call that meeting to order and then they will elect a Chair from your side.

Councilmember Ann Williams said, I wish everybody a happy holiday season and I look forward to next year. I think it will be a good one.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, I want to thank Seth also. Seth stepped up came to all the meetings. I don't think missed any. Not a lot of people volunteered. I think we had three out of 80,000 volunteer for that position. So, Seth I thank you. As far as Charles goes, I noticed the Mayor called the vote without discussion. We'll leave Charles at that. Mayor, I want to thank you and your staff and the council for the work they do. Most people don't appreciate the time and effort that goes in. We may have disagreements at times but I think we all have the cities best interest at heart. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and I look forward to next year.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, thank you Seth and Charles. Merry Christmas everybody.

Councilmember Brian Emison said, it's been another great year in the City of Jonesboro and closing a chapter on this one, I want to say thanks to my next door neighbor here, Mr. Frierson. It has been an amazing two years sitting next to him. I have gotten an education in two short years down here. It's been great and it's been an honor to serve with you. Seth, thank you for stepping up. You've done a great job. L.J. hit it on the head. I think you may have figured out more in two months then I have in two years sitting here. Thank you once again for serving your city. Just a note to everybody out there, I hope everyone has a Merry and safe Christmas. Be careful on the upcoming cold weather.

Councilmember Charles Frierson said, again, thank you very much council.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Code Enforcement Director Scott Roper approached the podium and said, I wanted to follow up briefly with something Councilmember Moore said. We are in the process of changing our reporting system. We will actually be going to the system that Engineering and Planning is using and that will allow us to document the hours that we spend at each residence. With that being said, I think that will help us if we get a legal challenge on our fees by having a little bit of basis behind that. Councilmember Chris Moore said, Scott, I appreciate your hard work and it wasn't personal. It's just the fact that I know people use the City as a Property Maintenance Company just for that

reason. It cost \$125 to mow my own yard, so I know if we have to send three people out and I just want you to have all the resources at your disposal. Increasing the fines and documenting the amounts is going to help you. Mr. Roper said, we have all been in discussions about that.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Moore, seconded by Councilperson Joe Hafner, that this matter be Adjourned. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Charles Frierson;Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Chris Moore;Ann Williams;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Seth Speer;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant;Mitch Johnson and John Street

Harold Copenhaver, Mayor	Date:	
Attest:		
April Leggett, City Clerk	Date:	