



# City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center  
300 S. Church Street  
Jonesboro, AR 72401

## Meeting Minutes City Council

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Tuesday, February 16, 2021

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

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### **NOTE: TIME CHANGE DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER**

#### **PUBLIC HEARING AT 3:55 P.M.**

*Mayor Harold Copenhaver asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the public hearing regarding vacating and abandoning a utility easement in Lot 1, Red Wolf Corner Replat as requested by Erving Ridge Consulting & Development, LLC. No one spoke for or in opposition.*

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR HAROLD COPENHAVER AT 4:00 P.M.**

#### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION**

#### **3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT**

**Present** 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

**Absent** 1 - Chris Moore

#### **4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

#### **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

##### *Approval of the Consent Agenda*

**A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Bobby Long, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED**

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

[MIN-21:008](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 2, 2021

**Attachments:** [CC Minutes 02022021](#)

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

[RES-21:016](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO APPROVE SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. 2 WITH FISHER ARNOLD TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING SERVICES FOR THE JONESBORO DOWNTOWN TO ASU CONNECTION PROJECT (JOB 100971)

**Attachments:** [Supplemental Agreement No. 2](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-022-2021

[RES-21:017](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE LOW BID AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TATE GENERAL CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR THE ANIMAL CONTROL RENOVATIONS PROJECT (2021:02)

**Attachments:** [Agreement](#)  
[Bid Tab Certified](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-023-2021

[RES-21:018](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR HAROLD COPENHAVER WHICH INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENTS

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

Enactment No: R-EN-024-2021

[RES-21:019](#) A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PICKERING FIRM, INC. TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO SOUTH CARAWAY WIDENING

**Attachments:** [Agreement - South Caraway Widening](#)  
[Ranking - RFP](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-025-2021

[RES-21:020](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH W. WILLIAM GRAHAM JR., INC. TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE JONESBORO INDUSTRIAL LEAD RAIL SPUR (NESTLE ROAD RAIL YARD CAR STORAGE EXPANSION) PROJECT

**Attachments:** [Agreement 2020 97 Railspur](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-026-2021

[RES-21:022](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1904 IRBY, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144223-02700, OWNED BY ARTURO GONZALEZ

**Attachments:**     [1904 Irby](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-027-2021

[RES-21:024](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2203 GLENWOOD, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144302-17900, OWNED BY ERIC GRIGGS

**Attachments:**     [2203 Glenwood](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-028-2021

[RES-21:025](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1014 S CULBERHOUSE, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144192-21300, OWNED BY CHARLES E. NOELL JR.

**Attachments:**     [1014 S. Culberhouse](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-029-2021

[RES-21:026](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 915 W. OAK, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-143241-13800, OWNED BY DEGRICK EVANS

**Attachments:**     [915 W. Oak](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-030-2021

[RES-21:027](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 800 E WASHINGTON, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144184-10400, OWNED BY ROBERT LIGGONS

**Attachments:**     [800 E. Washington](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-031-2021

[RES-21:028](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ARDOT) FOR MODIFICATION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO RAIL CROSSING (DOT #917584G) AT HWY. 18 SPUR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DRIVE WIDENING

PROJECT (JOB 100657)

**Attachments:** [Agreement - ARDOT - 100657](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-032-2021

[RES-21:030](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH W. WILLIAM GRAHAM JR., INC. TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO INDUSTRIAL LEAD RAIL SPUR (DOT #917584G) AT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DRIVE PROJECT (2020:96)

**Attachments:** [Agreement - W William Graham Jr. Inc.](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-033-2021

#### *RESOLUTIONS NOT ON THE CONSENT AGENDA*

[RES-21:029](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR HAROLD COPENHAVER

*Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to amend RES-21:029 to reflect the leap year date of February 29, 2024. All voted aye.*

*Councilmember John Street requested to abstain on any discussions or voting due to his membership on the City Water & Light Board.*

*Councilmember Charles Frierson requested to abstain on any discussions or voting due to his representation as the Attorney for City Water & Light.*

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

**Aye:** 9 - Ann Williams; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

**Abstain:** 2 - Charles Frierson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-034-2021

[RES-21:031](#)

RESOLUTION TO SET JUDGES, CLERKS AND ALTERNATE WORKERS FOR THE 2021 CITY, WATER AND LIGHT ELECTION

**Attachments:** [2021 candidates](#)

*Councilmember John Street requested to abstain on any discussions or voting due to his membership on the City Water & Light Board.*

*Councilmember Charles Frierson requested to abstain on any discussions or voting due to his representation as the Attorney for City Water & Light.*

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

**Aye:** 9 - Ann Williams; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

**Abstain:** 2 - Charles Frierson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-035-2021

[RES-21:032](#)

A RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING ABANDONING AND VACATING A PORTION OF A DRAINAGE EASEMENT ACROSS PART OF LOT 1R OF P & H INVESTMENTS, LLC REPLAT, LOCATED AT 2303 E. PARKER ROAD AS REQUESTED BY P & H INVESTMENTS, LLC

- Attachments:**
- [2303 E Parker Petition Signed](#)
  - [2303 E Parker Rd-Abandonment Plat](#)
  - [Engineering and Planning Concurrence - Parker](#)
  - [ATT - Utility Release Form](#)
  - [CenterPoint Letter and Plat](#)
  - [CWL Letter](#)
  - [Ritter - Utility Release](#)
  - [Suddenlink - Utility Release Form](#)

*City Attorney Carol Duncan requested that City Clerk April Leggett look up the correct statute for the abandonment. She said she did not think it was the correct one. Ms. Leggett looked it up and amended RES-21:032 to reflect the correct ACA which is Arkansas Statute Annotated 14-301-110.*

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: R-EN-036-2021

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

*ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING*

[ORD-20:027](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO PERMIT THE SELECTION OF THE POSITION 1 COUNCIL MEMBER FROM EACH WARD TO BE VOTED ON BY ONLY THE CITIZENS OF THE WARD IN WHICH THEY SERVE

**Attachments:** [Casteel Email 07262020](#)  
[Casteel 07262020](#)  
[Dougan 07272020](#)  
[craill 07282020](#)  
[Ivener email 08042020](#)  
[Pradeep email 08042020](#)  
[Taylor email 08042020](#)  
[Radin email 08042020](#)  
[Pradeep 2 email 08042020](#)  
[Citizen Comments on Ward Voting](#)  
[Bryant Amendment 01192021](#)

*Councilmember Charles Frierson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Mitch Johnson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-20:027 by title only. All voted aye.*

**Held at one reading**

[ORD-21:004](#)

AN ORDINANCE VACATING AND ABANDONING A UTILITY EASEMENT IN LOT 1, RED WOLF CORNER REPLAT AS REQUESTED BY ERVING RIDGE CONSULTING & DEVELOPMENT, LLC

**Attachments:** [Petitions](#)  
[Plat](#)  
[Engineering and Planning Letter](#)  
[Utility Letters](#)

*Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Charles Frierson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-21:004 by title only. All voted aye.*

**Held at one reading**

[ORD-21:008](#)

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 R-1 SINGLE FAMILY MEDIUM DENSITY DISTRICT TO C-3 LUO, GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT LIMITED USE OVERLAY FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3506 SOUTHWEST DRIVE, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS REQUESTED BY JEREMY BEVILL OF FISHER & ARNOLD ON BEHALF OF JOHN HARDIN.

**Attachments:** [City Council Staff Summary](#)  
[Application](#)  
[Rezoning Plat](#)  
[Aerial View of Location](#)  
[Cover Letter](#)  
[Overall Vicinity Map](#)  
[Rezoning Concept](#)  
[Rezoning Signs Pictures](#)  
[School Notification Signature](#)  
[Traffic Volume Letter](#)

*Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-21:008 by title only. All voted aye.*

Held at one reading

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-21:002](#) AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

Held at second reading

[ORD-21:005](#) AN ORDINANCE FOR THE TRANSFER OF LOCATION OF A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR NORTH HILLS SOCIAL CLUB

**Attachments:** [Application](#)  
[Option to SubLease to Social Club - signed](#)  
[Citizen Comments North Hills Transfer](#)

Held at second reading

[ORD-21:006](#) AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE COTTAGE HOUSING STANDARDS TO ENCOURAGE AN ALTERNATIVE TYPE OF DETACHED HOUSING BY PROVIDING RESIDENCES FOR HOUSEHOLDS OF TYPICALLY ONE TO TWO INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT UNDERGOING THE SUBDIVISION PROCESS AND TO PROMOTE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE FOR THE CITIZENS OF JONESBORO

**Attachments:** [Cottage Housing Ordinance - COJ - Final](#)  
[Citizen Comments Regarding Cottage Housing](#)

*Councilmember Joe Hafner said, I don't need an answer tonight but I know that we have gotten a couple of emails about whether or not the ordinance and the attachment to the ordinance contains enough specifics to get this sort of development how we want it and not let people take advantage of it. So, I don't know if Planning Director Derrel Smith can comment tonight, but definitely before the third reading, I would like Derrel's input as to whether or not our ordinance is detailed enough. Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, Derrel is on the line and we have discussed that and I know that he will be happy to answer. I think we should go ahead and address that at this point, that would be good. Councilmember Hafner said, thank you. Mr. Smith said, this ordinance is not going to, the questions that we have had brought up about sidewalks, landscaping, green space, we already have ordinances in place that address all of those things. Even though this will not go through the subdivision process, it will still go through the site review process and all of those other ordinances come into play during that time. So, any time that they do submit for a housing cottage development, they will be required to install sidewalks. They will be required to landscape the property. They do have green space requirements. Everything that we have got on file now, we will maintain and we will still continue to have those ordinances in place to protect this development from not being built to those standards. Mayor Copenhaver said, Councilmember Hafner, I concur with you. We can put that in writing as well for you just to follow up with that. Councilmember Hafner said, thank you. I thought they would. I just wanted to make sure that Derrel went on record as saying that those items would have to be looked at even though it wasn't a "subdivision."*

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, I just read those emails late this afternoon from a few citizens, so I really haven't had a chance to review them. I haven't had the time to make the comparisons to the ones that they reference in Fayetteville and such. I know the ones that they referenced in Fayetteville and such is longer and I know that can be good and bad because I know we want to achieve change without putting too many handcuffs on somebody so could you comment any about the length of ours versus the length of Fayetteville or some of the other ones. Mr. Smith said, yes sir, Mr. Bryant. I did not try to copy this after the Fayetteville ordinance. I made this specifically for Jonesboro. I have not read theirs so I don't know exactly what they have got in it. I don't expect it has anything a lot different than what we have. It may have a few more requirements, but I think the requirements that we have in other ordinances will cover that. The developments that they talk about, those developments aren't even in Fayetteville anyway. The Black Apple is in Bentonville. When that was built, they didn't have an ordinance. They did it through variances. A lot of times we hear that we don't want to be like Fayetteville and I think this is one of the times we want to stand on our own. Councilmember Bryant said, thanks Derrel. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you councilmember. Keep in mind too and like we mentioned two weeks ago, the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission also reviewed this and looked at it with their due diligence and experience as well and passed it unanimously. So, again, thank you for their dedication in moving it onto council.

Councilmember Bobby Long said, I have another question. Derrel, you had mentioned all the other ordinances pertaining to subdivisions would still be in effect and the cottage ordinance would still be subject to those. Is there anything in the cottage ordinance that would indicate that or is that just an understood type of thing because if we are holding it to the requirements of the subdivision code, but then it is sort of outside of it, what is there in the cottage ordinance that ties those together, that ties those requirements back to that cottage ordinance? Mr. Smith said, Councilmember Long, it is not tied to the subdivision ordinance. It would be tied to our development schedule and any time that we have a development. A subdivision is just a dividing of lots and platting of streets. There won't be any dividing of lots or platting of streets in this ordinance. But, any time that you do a development in the City of Jonesboro, you are still are required to abide by the drainage requirements, the landscaping requirements, the sidewalk requirements, green space, all of those are required and they just tie into development. We can always put another sentence in here. We could amend this to say that by doing this cottage housing development, you will still have to develop to all other city codes and ordinances. But, I think that is just repetitive and it wouldn't be necessary. Councilmember Long asked, are there any city ordinances or codes that maybe this cottage ordinance would be applicable to it but it would be something that wouldn't be real conducive to what we are trying to do with the cottage ordinance? For instance, setback requirements or distance between houses or sidewalk ordinances? Mr. Smith said, the sidewalk ordinance stands on its own. The distance between the houses is in the ordinance. Setbacks are in the cottage ordinance. All of that is already in the ordinance that we are reviewing. Councilmember Long said, thank you Derrel. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you Councilmember. Thank you Derrel for your comments.

Director of Communications Bill Campbell said, I have an email comment from Billy Brown at 814 Mays Road. It says, I am requesting the second reading of the above noted ordinance regarding cottage housing be postponed. The early start time due to weather conditions and the restrictions due to COVID-19 precludes participation by concerned citizens. Thank you. Billy Brown. Mayor Copenhaver said, so noted Mr. Brown. I appreciate your email and comment.

*Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, and I was wondering if you all got the email that I sent to you. I think with this ordinance that is written up on just three pages, I think if you take the time to look at the ordinance, the Fayetteville one, and I know that we say that we don't want to compare ourselves to Fayetteville, but we often do. I think that you will find in their cottage ordinance that was passed years ago back in 2011, they are real specific about the details and everything. I think what we have now and believe me, I think this is a great thing for our city to have, but we need to have our policies, our procedures, our ordinances, and all of that followed and what codes do we follow because I think what is going to happen since this is going to be available in all types of zonings from R-2 to R-3 to PDRM's and stuff like that, there are some builders that are going to do a really good job with this, but if we don't have those standards and if we don't have them written down, is that we are always going to keep on amending and we are not going to be able to make this perfect ordinance that we have. I think when Derrel says to write the ordinances that have to be followed that we have into this, that needs to happen because we want to make this something good and we want to make it the best that we can, but we need to follow those and we need to specific and I think what is written right now on those three pages is that it is not enough and it is not specific enough and we need that for our city. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you Ms. Lack for your comments. They are duly noted.*

**Held at second reading**

## **8. MAYOR'S REPORTS**

*Mayor Harold Copenhagen reported on the following:*

*As you well know, we are going through a different time in our community, but it is always how we progress and move forward. So, I would like to read a few notes. Number one I am going to reach out and say thank you to our Street Department for their tireless work in keeping our streets clean in and around this city during this extended cold spell. Obviously, other departments are working long hours and many are in the background. Of course our Fire and Police Departments, our E911 response have been going non-stop and our street workers have been for a week now. Not all of our directors had much of a weekend, much less a holiday weekend.*

*I want to thank Danny Kapales and his team in Parks for their work in maintaining all of their buildings, checking on the facilities. The same with Ronnie Shaver in Buildings and Maintenance and so many of our other workers who have spent time seeking out and helping to provide safety and services to our homeless that are at risk. Speaking of homeless, we have opened the warming centers as normal, keeping in mind no one has come to use them, but this is not unprecedented. We will continue to offer this service because we never know when it might be needed. Various staff have been in daily contact with the Salvation Army including myself. It has been opened 24/7 and it has yet to reach capacity during this extended cold snap. We want to thank the Lawrences who are over the center as well as the office administrator Sue Webster and the volunteers who take care of our needy.*

*Brian Richardson, Tony Thomas, Regina Burkett, and I went to Little Rock two weeks ago to meet with the Secretary of Education, Johnny Key, ADFA Director Brian Scroggins, and the entire Arkansas Municipal League leadership, as well as, Governor Asa Hutchison. He gave us almost an hour to talk about Jonesboro and its needs. These contacts are critical to continuing progress in our city and we will continue to forage partnerships that serve Jonesboro.*

*You saw last week our report that the mall has told us that they are going to start demolition and cleanup on March 15th, that is step one and it is good to know that they are making progress. We will monitor this closely to ensure that they continue as promised. I met the past two weeks with Mayors from all around our county individually and as well as the new mayor of Paragould. I have met with our area Superintendents. This is key that you know what I am doing as your Mayor.*

*As Covid persists, even during Snowvid, we can't take our eye off of the pandemic. Our medical leadership is working on a mass vaccination event that we hope we can announce soon.*

*But, one final announcement that I would like to make to all city employees working through this extreme cold weather, they are invited to eat breakfast at Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center from 6-9 a.m. for the rest of the week. We appreciate Kraig Pomrenke and his kind gesture. Additionally, Sonic Drive-In, Marco's Pizza, and Steak-n-Shake have provided free meals this past week for those staying at the Salvation Army and their workers and the Street Department which have been working 12 hour shifts the past week and will continue to do so for the next few days. So, I want to say thank you to everybody because this is a concerted effort among all of the employees and the community. I must commend the community for staying at home and doing due diligence as well. Let us try to stay warm and take care of those that are not as fortunate. Thank you.*

## **9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

*Councilmember John Street said, Mayor, I would like to echo what you said as far as the excellent work done by the city staff. Steve Tippitt and his crew, Street, and Fire and everybody, I applaud them for their efforts. I would like to ask you, I know the demolition, I was very interested in that, and that it was going to start March 15th? Have they indicated to you how they will proceed with any redevelopment or if they are going to redevelop? Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, Councilmember that is something that we have on-going discussions with, but it is at a phased. When we initially visited with them, they are a Phase One, Phase Two and Phase Three. So, partially, on Phase One, is the portion from Target down to the food court, that would be the first part to open due to the fact that it has less damage, but more importantly, we wanted to make sure that Phase Three, which is part of the facility that is still structurally not sound and dangerous to our community and an eyesore which will be handled initially, and that is what they are doing. So, we are staying up on that and will provide you with additional information as we have additional progress. Thank you. Councilmember Street said, okay, thank you Mayor. I absolutely agree that is an eyesore and needs to come down. I applaud you for the progress you made and for getting that to be forthcoming. So, thank you sir you have been doing too. I know you have been busy. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you Councilmember.*

*Councilmember Joe Hafner said, I will be brief, I would just like to echo the thanks to the Street Department. I know what we have been going through the past week or so probably more tomorrow is kind of unprecedented with our 81 square miles and 400-500 miles of roads, I know the Street Department has their hands full, especially since we are not prepared and for good reason since this hardly ever happens for situations like this. So, just hats off and thank the citizens for being as patient as they can on providing services that are kind of behind. I know that we will get caught up as soon as we can. So, thanks everybody.*

*Councilmember Chris Gibson said, at the last council meeting, I was having a little bit*

*of audio difficulty and you couldn't understand me, but is Michael Tyner available? I would like to get an update on Overhill. Mayor Copenhagen said, we don't see him online. Councilmember Gibson asked, Mayor, do you know where we are at on that issue on Overhill? I believe the address is 1521 Overhill. That is the instance where the neighbors were alleging that they were pumping sewage into the street because the sewer lines had collapsed. Mayor Copenhagen said, I will get back with you on that. Yes sir, Councilmember. Councilmember Gibson said, okay, thank you. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you.*

*Councilmember Brian Emison said, I just want to echo what everybody was previously saying, a big thank you to all of the city employees that are out there. Also, the patience that comes from all of the citizens of Jonesboro. These are definitely some of the very times that we don't see very often. But, just to give a little bit of an update on the previous week, I wanted to say thank you to the Jonesboro High School National Honor Society. I received an invitation from Ms. Ella Heath and Ms. Katie Hamilton's class. She is the chair of that and discussing the local municipal governments and being able to reach out and have that discussion with some high school seniors. It was very great to hear a lot of their questions, some very high level questions that were very impressive. Hopefully, with these bright, young minds, we will be able to retain them and keep them here in Jonesboro. If either of them ever make it to City Council, we are definitely in good hands. So, always trying to raise the next generation. Also, we had a couple of other people on that telephone call. We had Councilmember McClain and Mr. Kapales. I think Joe tried to join on, but had some technical difficulties there. I wanted to say thank you to everybody that joined in on that. And, just to wrap up and to also let everybody know that when we have cold and the weather that we have been having here recently, a lot of people are going to end up needing medical help as well. I just want to remind those out there that may not have insurance, the Jonesboro Church Health Center is available to them and no kind of insurance is required. We just want to keep everybody healthy and keep Jonesboro moving forward. Thank you. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you Councilmember for the comments.*

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Communications Director Bill Campbell said, we have got one email. It is from Aniefiok Jacobs. It says, Dear Honorable Council Members, I just want to follow up with you all to see if any considerations to sponsor a motion has been made in respect to my letter that I sent to all of you through your official emails. In my letter, I explained in details how the change of ordinances will help save jobs and allow the small businesses like taxi cabs to thrive and contribute to the economic development of our beloved City of Jonesboro. Thanks to Mayor for leading the City in the right direction within his short space of time in his new job. May God continue to help all of us. Thanks. Bishop Ani Jacob.*

*Mayor Harold Copenhagen said, thank you Mr. Jacobs for your comments and duly noted.*

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Councilperson Joe Hafner, seconded by Councilperson John Street, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Harold Copenhaver, Mayor**

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**April Leggett, City Clerk**