



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Public Works Council Committee

Tuesday, November 1, 2016

5:00 PM

Municipal Center

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk Donna Jackson

Present 6 - Gene Vance; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Darrel Dover; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

Absent 1 - Chris Moore

3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-16:125](#)

Minutes for the Public Works Committee Meeting on October 4, 2016

Attachments: [Minutes10042016.pdf](#)

Councilman Vance asked about the discussion in our minutes regarding the Caterpillar excavator. Mayor Perrin asked Street Superintendent Steve Tippitt to give an update on the excavator. Mr. Tippitt stated that it is ordered. Councilman Vance asked if the ordinance had been passed because the minutes reflect there wasn't a number on the ordinance and it wasn't in Legistar. Mr. Tippitt said it went through the last council meeting. Chairman Street said we did. Mr. Tippitt said that we got everything and got approved last council meeting.

Councilman Vance asked where the minutes are that reflect the action taken on the excavator. Chairman Street said he didn't know and asked the City Clerk Donna Jackson if she knew. Mr. Tippitt stated that it was approved last council meeting. Ms. Jackson asked if he knew the ordinance number. Mr. Tippitt said he would have to get it for her. Ms. Jackson asked if the approval process had gone through Legistar because her office cannot do anything if it has not been through that process. She said she will have to look it up. Mr. Tippitt stated that Chrystal Glisson had entered it into Legistar. Ms. Jackson stated that it has to go through the approval process in Legistar. Mr. Tippitt stated it was approved at the last council meeting. Ms. Jackson stated it has to go through an approval process in Legistar before it can be brought before the committee and council. She said she will have to look it up and see. Mayor Perrin said it is on the agenda. Ms. Jackson stated it was a walk on.

Councilman Vance stated that the minutes are not clear as to what happened. Councilman Dover said he was right. Councilman Vance asked if we needed to make a note of that. Councilman Dover stated that it should be on the minutes from our last council meeting. He asked what the minutes show there. Councilman Vance stated that was what he was about to look at. Councilman Dover asked if anyone had a copy of the minutes from the last council meeting. He asked if it showed anything on the council minutes about it. Ms. Jackson stated that it would not be on there if you had not gone through the approval process in Legistar. Councilman Dover stated it

wouldn't be there if you hadn't gotten the approval. Ms. Jackson said it may have been missed because it did not have a number. Councilman Dover stated he thought they had it on the last council agenda, but he wasn't sure. Councilman Vance said he didn't remember it going to council, but that was two weeks ago.

Mr. Tippitt said it was delayed because it didn't have a number on it when we brought it in before. Councilman Johnson said that we had it on the last council meeting. Chairman Street said that we did. Mr. Tippitt stated that Councilman Street walked it on. Councilman Johnson said he thought it was walked on after it had a number. Councilman Dover said it should reflect that in the minutes. Mayor Perrin stated that in the minutes for the last council meeting on October 18, 2016 stated that ORD-16:074, an ordinance to approve the purchase of a Caterpillar excavator from the Street Department funds and declaring an emergency. He said the motion to approve was made by Councilman Street, seconded by Councilman Gibson and it was passed unanimously. Mayor Perrin stated that it was ORD-16:074. Ms. Jackson said that it was in the minutes. Mayor Perrin said yes. Mr. Tippitt said we did have some disturbance before the last Public Works meeting.

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

Aye: 5 - Gene Vance; Mitch Johnson; Darrel Dover; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

4. New Business

Chairman Street asked if the Mayor could give an update on the roundabout. Mayor Perrin stated that it is going slow and the penalties on the contractor started today, November 1, 2016. He said he thought the penalties on that are \$1,700 per day that the Highway Department will be assessing the contractor. He said he hasn't seen a whole lot of movement than he did before the assessment of that. He said he hopes they go ahead and get this project done before the winter weather comes in. He said they have the concrete poured only on one side and they have some chat and a roller out there. The contractor told the Highway Department that they kept having problems with CWL moving utilities and that was not the case. All of that was done right away so there were many days they could have worked on the project and they did not.

Mayor Perrin said he has written and called Ms. Tudor about it and the best thing that can be done is what is being done now which is just let it go into the penalty phase. If the contractor defaults, the Highway Department will just take the bond and they will get a new contractor in there to get it finished. Mayor Perrin stated they he would keep everyone posted on it. Councilman Street stated that he thought Nettleton Schools is looking forward to that project being completed. Mayor Perrin said that it was embarrassing to him because he promised the Nettleton School District that the project would take one school year plus the beginning of another one to be completed and it is still not done. Councilman Street stated that was out of the Mayor's control because he has done everything he can do and the contractor will just have to suffer the penalties.

City Clerk Donna Jackson stated on the previous item regarding the excavator, it didn't have a number, but it is listed under Other Business in your Public Works minutes. She said it did go to full council and is on the minutes, but it is also in the minutes for Public Works that we didn't have a number.

NOTE: ORD-16:074 was incorrectly walked onto the Finance agenda during the October 11, 2016 Finance Committee meeting where Councilman Street motioned and Councilman Burton seconded to waive the rules and walk on ORD-16:074. All voted aye. Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Woods to Recommend it to Council. All voted aye. ORD-16:074 was on the October 18, 2016 City Council agenda where Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Gibson to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye. Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Gibson to pass the ordinance. After passage of the ordinance, Councilman Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilman Moore, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

5. Pending Items

Councilman Dover asked City Engineer Craig Light if he could give them a brief summary of where they are at on the ditches, the contractor work, plus what we are doing.

City Engineer Craig Light said that Mr. Tippitt may need to give an update on what his crews are doing. He said the contractor has finished Higginbottom Creek portion and they have started on the project on the South Bend subdivision. They are supposed to start placing some rock on the bad places this week. We have three more ditches as part of the projects. He thinks they are going to move to Murray Creek on the next one. There is a section of Murray Creek that we are still working on getting the Corps of Engineers permit for. We talked with them earlier this week and we are still waiting for some comments back from some of the federal agencies. We met with all of the federal agencies at the job site a couple of weeks ago and everybody was good with it so we are just waiting to get the final sign off letters. Councilman Dover asked if they hope to get this done before the winter weather sets in. Mr. Light said their plan is to get into the section of Murray Creek that still needs the rock put in and then work on the other dredging projects during the winter season.

Street Superintendent Steve Tippitt stated that on the ones they are maintaining on our main channels, they like two. They are on the last two channels now which are Lost Creek and Christian Creek. We started on them the last part of last week. It will take us a couple of weeks and then we will be starting over and doing all of the laterals.

Mayor Perrin stated that it is amazing what they have done on Neil Road. Councilman Dover stated the one behind Nettleton School System really looks good. He asked if that was our people that did that or the contractor. Mr. Tippitt said it was us. Councilman Dover said it really looks good and the one at Turtle Creek was really cleaned out good. Mayor Perrin stated that he has never seen Neil that cleaned and how wide that ditch is.

Councilman Dover asked how we were with cooperation with the counties on the ditch projects because whatever work we do here, if they don't do anything, it's not going to have the impact we want. Mayor Perrin stated that they met with the Colonel with the Corps of Engineers and at that meeting were a majority of the people who are over the drainage districts. They do have some funds that possibly can be used to do that. The County's position right now is that they are not in the ditch business. The City had to clean on one side of the County's ditch out by Sage Meadows. You have to clean both sides or it's going to flood the people. Mayor Perrin said at the next meeting that will be brought up as far as the County and the City.

Councilman Dover said he was confused when Mayor Perrin stated they are not in the ditch business. Mayor Perrin said he thinks what they are saying is that they don't

clean any ditches out. Councilman Dover asked why they were collecting money for that. Mayor Perrin said they don't, that is the Drainage Districts. He said the Drainage Districts last year collected \$654,000. He said he asked if they could give him an accounting of where that money went. He asked if they hired contractors to clean out the ditches. Some said they did and some didn't. Councilman Dover asked if we could do the work and they pay us. Mayor Perrin said that was an option. Councilman Street said the County is not going to pay us.

Mayor Perrin said that many years ago, the City and the County worked as a bartering system and an example of that is Matthews Bridge. The County did almost all the work on that bridge after we prepared certain parts. We also did a joint effort to clean the road on Kathleen. They did most of the work on that. We need to sit down with the County Judge before the beginning of next year and work on some issues that have been brought up and how we want to handle those issues. Mayor Perrin said I will or someone will bring it back to you.

Councilman Dover asked if the money collected went into the County coffers. Mayor Perrin said the money goes to the County, but then the Treasurer cuts a check and sends it back to the Drainage Districts.

Councilman Dover asked if the Drainage Districts could pay us to do the work. Mayor Perrin said yes. He said that Donn Mixon said he would be glad to work with us on reimbursing those funds to do some of that stuff. Mayor Perrin said we are trying to get a contract of how and who is going to do what and who is going to be reimbursed by what funds. Councilman Dover asked how many miles would have to be done to actually impact us to the positive in the county. Mayor Perrin said he couldn't answer that question. City Engineer Craig Light said he wasn't sure how many miles the drainage districts have in their systems. He said he knows we have a little over 100 miles of the big ditches in our system that we are trying to get into our maintenance program. Councilman Dover asked if it would be feasible if they paid us or is it too big of a job. Mr. Light said if they have the money to hire someone to do it. However, it would be better if the Drainage Districts handle their own ditch work so we can maintain our 100 miles of ditches.

Chairman Street said that Alec has put the Eastern District together and they do clean the ditches. Mayor Perrin said that was right and he was at one of the meetings. He said you have several people who are over those drainage districts. He said he would ask them for what they have done in their drainage district over the last year. They are getting reports and coming back on that. If Big Bay Ditch gets cleaned up, that will stop a lot of the drainage problems. There was more discussion on Big Bay Ditch than anything else. The Corps of Engineers in Memphis only gets so much money and the majority of that money goes to Mississippi and Oklahoma City. We are trying to get Senator Boozman to allocate more money to the Memphis District so we, in turn, will get more money.

Chairman Street said he thought they said by the time they get that ditch to where it will affect us is two years. Mayor Perrin said he thought they said at least two years. He said they are talking about widening Big Bay Ditch and it is huge. We don't want to pull the Street Department off to do some of that and not get reimbursed. He said what we learned our lesson by was when Hurricane Alberta came and we took the Street Department off their normal work for the whole year, the city did nothing for the roads, etc. and we lost an excavator and some other things. He said that one year cost us about 24 months of work, and that is what we are trying to fight now. Chairman Dover stated that it would be preferable for them to hire an outside contractor to do their ditch work with the money they collect. Mayor Perrin stated they will have to allocate more money off their road improvements for the ditch work if they don't have the equipment. Chairman Street said he didn't think they wanted to do that. They don't even want to talk about it. The county says it's not our job and

unless there is a change in policy, we are not going to get anything from them unless you legally make them do it. Mayor Perrin said the best thing would be for us to get money from the Drainage Districts and get the Big Bay Ditch done as soon as we can.

6. Other Business

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

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

Aye: 5 - Gene Vance; Mitch Johnson; Darrel Dover; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore