



Meeting Minutes  
City Council

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Thursday, September 4, 2008

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

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**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:15 P.M.**

**PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:15 P.M.**

*Regarding the abandonment of a 15' drainage easement located on Lot 4 in Casey Cove Subdivision as requested by P&J Development*

*Mr. Patrick Lemley from Associated Engineering discussed the easement. City Engineer Craig Light stated he is aware of the easement and has no problem with it.*

*No opposition was voiced.*

**1. Call to order by the Mayor at 6:30 P.M.**

**2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

**3. Roll Call by the City Clerk**

**Present** 11 - Judy Furr; Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Cecil Province; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; Harold Perrin; John Street; Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

**Absent** 1 - Faye McCall

**4. Special Presentations**

**COM-08:113** Tornado Siren Presentations from Bid Tabulations  
Bid #2008:30

**Sponsors:** City Council

**Attachments:** [Bid 2008-30 Tabulation](#)  
[Public Safety additional information](#)  
[American Signal](#)  
[SafetyCom](#)  
[Federal Signal](#)  
[Moark](#)  
[PublicSafety](#)

*Mayor Formon discussed the bids that were received for the tornado siren system. He stated the bid went to Safety Com with a bid price of \$479,058. He explained MorArk's bid did not show any sirens placed in northeast Jonesboro, north of 351 which would include Sage Meadows. Councilman Johnson stated he looked at the documents, but noticed the low bidder only bid 34 sirens while three others bid 38 sirens and one other bidding 37. Mayor Formon explained the bid stated coverage for the city, but did not state a certain number of sirens. He noted the map Safety Com*

submitted showed full coverage of the City. He stated Safety Com is a reputable company doing work for Oklahoma City and other cities around tornado alley. He further explained the company is from Little Rock.

Councilman Frierson questioned whether the bids were discussed and approved at the committee level. Mayor Formon answered no, it was not taken to a committee because the topic has been discussed in the past at the City Council meetings.

Mr. Nicki Arnold from Public Safety discussed the bids and presented the Council with comparisons. He recommended going with a motorized siren over electronic sirens because of outdoor activity. He added 123 more miles will be covered over the electronic system. He stated they recommended not moving any of the siren locations so sound levels don't drop from what neighborhoods are currently used to.

Councilman Dover questioned whether the City could hire a consultant to help look at the bid to find which is best for the City. Councilman Moore suggested asking the Office of Emergency Management for help. Councilman Johnson stated he's not comfortable just going with the low bid for the safety system; rather, he'd like to go with the best system for the City. He added he would like to know about the ongoing maintenance needed for all of the siren systems. Police Chief Michael Yates stated he, Fire Chief Leonard Jadrich and OEM could find a neutral party to make a recommendation to the City Council.

Councilman Dover motioned, seconded by Councilman Perrin, for Chief Yates and Chief Jadrich to get a recommendation concerning the siren system and come back with it at the City Council meeting on September 16th. All voted aye.

Mayor Formon noted buildings downtown will block the noise made from the sirens. Mr. Arnold agreed, saying they designed for more sound density to provide with extra levels due to buildings and trees. He offered to show anyone the Paragould system if they would like and answer any questions the Council has.

Councilman Dover questioned whether there is a market for the sirens the City doesn't plan on using anymore. Councilman Moore stated several cities have expressed interest in purchasing the sirens.

Mr. Arnold stated they bid for the system that was specified in the packet. He added if the City asked for the system they would recommend then it would be around the \$649,000 range because there would be some changes they would make. He explained further that what they bid would not be their final recommendation.

**This item was Read.**

## **5. Consent Agenda**

Councilman McCall motioned, seconded by Councilman Frierson, to approve the consent agenda with the removal of the CDBG contracts. All voted aye.

Councilman McCall stated in the past it seemed like the money was spent to help with lower incomes, but now the money seems to be spent on other priorities. Mr. Tony Thomas explained Grants Coordinator Gayle Vickers has been working with HUD to ensure the City is using the money to meet the HUD guidelines. He further explained due to problems with past CDBG audits they have made an effort to focus on the national and local priorities that have been identified by HUD. He then discussed the process that was followed to determine who was given funding and the action plan that was approved by the Council earlier this year. He added they would like input from the Council and recommended anyone in the community provide input

during the public hearings. Discussion was held concerning how the contracts were handled in previous years. Mr. Thomas explained they are providing subgrants to various agencies that provide services to the low income community, which provides a broader spectrum of how the money is utilized. Councilman Frierson questioned whether Mr. Thomas and the committee are satisfied with how the money is spent in order to meet the guidelines both locally and nationally. Mr. Thomas answered yes. Councilman Hargis questioned how much the total amount is that is spent on the grant contracts being presented to the Council tonight. Ms. Vickers answered \$80,000, which is 15% of the entire grant. Councilman Province expressed concern about the funding being spent towards agencies rather than individuals. Mr. Thomas noted the agencies provide reports to them reflecting who is helped with the funding. He added he can start sending out the minutes of the committee meetings to the Council, as well as more information regarding how the funding is spent.

Councilman Frierson motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to place the CDBG contracts back on the consent agenda. All voted aye.

#### Approval of the Consent Agenda

**A motion was made by Councilman Harold Perrin, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, to Approve the Consent Agenda. A motion was made that these files be approved by consent voice vote**

**Aye:** 11 - Judy Furr; Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Cecil Province; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; Harold Perrin; John Street; Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

**Absent:** 1 - Faye McCall

**MIN-08:173** Minutes for the City Council meeting on August 19, 2008.

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

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

**RES-08:127** A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CITY OF JONESBORO EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

**Sponsors:** Human Resources

**Attachments:** [2008 Workplace Violence COJ](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-116-2008

**RES-08:128** A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CITY OF JONESBORO EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

**Sponsors:** Human Resources

**Attachments:** [HIPAA POLICY](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-117-2008

**RES-08:132** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM CONTRACT

**Sponsors:** Community Development

**Attachments:** [City Youth 2008](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-118-2008

**RES-08:133** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM CONTRACT

**Sponsors:** Community Development

**Attachments:** [Focus 2008](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-119-2008

**RES-08:134** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM CONTRACT

**Sponsors:** Community Development

**Attachments:** [Foundation of Arts 2008](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-120-2008

**RES-08:135** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM CONTRACT

**Sponsors:** Community Development

**Attachments:** [HCSI 2008](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-121-2008

**RES-08:136** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM CONTRACTS

**Sponsors:** Community Development

**Attachments:** [JURHA 2008](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-122-2008

**RES-08:137** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM CONTRACTS

**Sponsors:** Community Development

**Attachments:** [Legal Aid 2008](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-123-2008

**RES-08:138** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM CONTRACTS

**Sponsors:** Community Development

**Attachments:** [Mid South-Employment 2008](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-124-2008

**RES-08:139** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM CONTRACTS

**Sponsors:** Community Development

**Attachments:** [Mid South-Subsistence 2008](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-125-2008

**RES-08:144** A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CITY OF JONESBORO EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

**Sponsors:** Human Resources

**Attachments:** [Cat Leave](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-126-2008

## **6. New Business**

### *Ordinances on First Reading*

**ORD-08:012** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND ADD TO THE JONESBORO MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 8.28, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, SUB SECTION 8.28.12 ROADBLOCKS FOR SOLICITATIONS REGARDING PUBLIC

SOLICITATION UTILIZING PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF WAY.

**Sponsors:** Mayor's Office and Fire Department

**Attachments:** [Noise Roadblock guidelines](#)  
[Right of Way solicitation ord](#)

*Councilman Moore offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.*

*Councilman Moore motioned, seconded by Councilman Perrin, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye.*

**A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Harold Perrin, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED by an unanimous vote**

**Aye:** 11 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

**Absent:** 1 - Faye McCall

Enactment No: O-EN-051-2008

**ORD-08:061**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 8.44 DOWNTOWN PARKING BY CHANGING TIME LIMITS IN SPECIFIC AREAS.

**Sponsors:** Public Safety Council Committee

**Attachments:** [700 Blk Main St Petition](#)

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

*Councilman Perrin motioned, seconded by Councilman McCall, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on second reading by title only. All voted aye.*

**A motion was made by Councilman Harold Perrin, seconded by Councilman John Street, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED by an unanimous vote**

**Aye:** 11 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

**Absent:** 1 - Faye McCall

Enactment No: O-EN-052-2008

**ORD-08:070**

AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT WITH CAMERON CONSTRUCTION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE AT TURTLE CREEK AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO PAY FOR A PORTION OF THE PROJECT

**Attachments:** [Google Earth Photograph of Greenway and Bridge Location](#)  
[Turtle Creek Greenway Bridge Costs and Timeline](#)  
[Bridge Bids July 22, 2008](#)  
[revisedcontract-toCameron \(3\)](#)  
[contractchangeorder#1-081308 \(2\)](#)  
[revisedperformancepaymentbond-toCameron](#)  
[noticeofaward-toCameron \(2\)](#)  
[Bridge Bid Revised Costs -Cameron Construction](#)

*Councilwoman Williams asked for the ordinance to be pulled because the project will*

*need to be re-bid due to some changes.*

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Ann Williams, seconded by Councilman Harold Perrin, that this matter be Postponed Indefinitely . The motion PASSED by an unanimous vote**

**Aye:** 11 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

**Absent:** 1 - Faye McCall

**ORD-08:074** AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON A 15' DRAINAGE EASEMENT LOCATED ON LOT 4, CASEY COVE SUBDIVISION AS SHOWN RECORDED IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS IN JONESBORO, CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS AS REQUESTED BY P&J DEVELOPMENT

**Attachments:** [Petition](#)  
[Plat](#)  
[Utility Letters](#)

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

*Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye.*

**A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Chris Moore, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED by an unanimous vote**

**Aye:** 11 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

**Absent:** 1 - Faye McCall

Enactment No: O-EN-053-2008

#### *Ordinances on Second Reading*

**ORD-08:060** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2008 ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO

**Sponsors:** Finance and Mayor's Office

**Attachments:** [Appropriation Adjustment 2008-7-7-08](#)

*Mayor Formon explained the ordinance was tabled at the last meeting so Finance Director Jim Barksdale could make some changes. He added Mr. Barksdale has been sick recently, but he has made changes. He further explained he has not seen the changes yet.*

**A motion was made by Councilman Charles Frierson, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, that this matter be Tabled . The motion PASSED by an unanimous vote.**

**Aye:** 11 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

**Absent:** 1 - Faye McCall

**7. Unfinished Business****8. Mayor's Reports**

*Mayor Formon introduced Fire Chief Leonard Jadrich. Councilman Hargis questioned who will be assistant fire chief now. Chief Jadrich explained the Civil Service Commission has a process to fill the assistant fire chief position. He further explained they have set up a test date for the position on September 27th and oral interviews will be held on September 29th.*

**9. City Council Reports**

**COM-08:114** Project Realtor Restore announcement for September, 2008, as presented to the Council at the September 4, 2008, meeting.

**Attachments:** [Project Realtor Restore](#)

*Councilwoman Furr announced Project Realtor Restore (previously referred to as Project 365) will be holding a cleanup on September 6, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. on the northwest corner of Cate and Bridge.*

**This item was Read.**

*Councilwoman Furr agreed with the previous comments from Councilman Province and stressed someone needs to look for a way to help homeless people in Jonesboro. She stated a City the size of Jonesboro should have a homeless shelter.*

*Councilman Johnson stated he will not be at the next Council meeting due to the Northeast Arkansas Fair activities.*

*Councilman Street stated the Stormwater Management Board has been working on the Stormwater Manual and asked for everyone to take a look at it once it has been completed and published on the City's website. City Engineer Craig Light stated they will be putting the manual on the City website after the revisions have been completed. He explained it should be on the website quickly after their meeting on Wednesday. He added in late November or December they hope to present the manual to the City Council for approval.*

*Councilman Street then discussed the drainage situation on North Caraway that was discussed at the previous meeting. He explained City Water and Light has indicated the water line can be moved for not more than \$150,000. He recommended contacting Campus Crest to see if they will still participate with the City in moving the water line and pay CWL a price not to exceed \$150,000 to move the water line, not to exceed \$150,000. City Attorney Crego questioned whether the \$150,000 would be in addition to the already agreed upon \$75,000. Councilman Street stated yes, it would be in addition to the \$75,000 which would bring the total amount to \$225,000. Mr. Light added there may also be additional easements with property purchases that may need to be purchased which would be an extra cost above the \$225,000. He stated CWL will manage and handle the relocation of the water line. Councilman Street explained CWL indicated additional easements should not be more than one to two feet. He further explained the worst case scenario for the property purchases would cost the City only three or four thousand dollars, but CWL may not need any more easements. Public Works Director Erick Woodruff added CWL told him as it looks right now they may only need one to two feet more of right of way, but they won't know for sure until they start digging. Councilman Perrin stated at the last meeting it was asked for them to get together with CWL and present a line item cost to the Council. Councilman Moore stated CWL will not provide a line item cost for*



*moving the water line because they cannot say exactly how much everything will cost. Councilman Street added the \$150,000 includes a generous buffer.*

*Councilman Moore motioned, seconded by Councilman Street, to place the item on the agenda. All voted aye.*

*Mayor Formon questioned what the effect will be on Carr's Grocery if additional right of way is needed. Mr. Light explained all of the improvements will be underground, so they will not be impacted.*

*Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Moore, to pay CWL an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for movement of the water line. All voted aye, with the exception of Councilman Frierson who abstained and Councilwoman Furr who voted nay.*

*Councilman Province commended City Planner Otis Spriggs who attended the recent west end neighborhood group meeting. He encouraged all neighborhoods in the City to form similar groups because it is an effective way to deal with your own neighborhood.*

*Councilman Hargis reiterated the need for a full, independent financial audit. He stated the City needs the financial oversight it hasn't been getting. He explained an audit would be the first step and needs to be started as soon as possible.*

*Councilman Dover commended ASU Football Coach Roberts for the ASU football win against Texas A&M this past weekend.*

## **10. Public Comment**

*Ms. Pam Alexander agreed with previous comments made by Councilwoman Furr and stated the Northeast Arkansas Continuum of Care will have a homeless count on January 29th. She explained the information will be used to receive grants. She agreed a homeless shelter is needed for the homeless citizens in Jonesboro.*

*Ms. Alexander then discussed the recent events where a tree fell on a car that was stopped at a stoplight, injuring the driver and a small child. She stated she is appearing on behalf of the Forestry Council. She explained the tree appears to be healthy and non-hazardous. She asked the citizens of Jonesboro not to get rid of their trees due to the recent events; rather, if citizens are concerned about particular trees they should contact a certified arborist. Ms. Alexander discussed the need for trees. She also stated trees need continuous maintenance and encouraged the City to hire a full-time urban forester to decrease the future risk of incidents. She asked for the Council to consider including the position in the 2009 budget and stated the Forestry Council will work with the City Council with whatever needed for the position.*

*Parks Director Jason Wilkie noted city employee Mike Donahue is a certified arborist, but his duties managing Joe Mack Campbell Park take up most of his time. He agreed with Ms. Alexander stating there is a need for continual maintenance for trees in the city, mostly due to sightline issues.*

*Mr. Donahue discussed the tree falling and his inspection of the tree. He explained there is equipment available that would detect the degree of decay a tree has, but the City is not equipped with those tools at this time. Further discussed was held concerning equipment.*

*Councilman Hargis suggested making a presentation to the Public Services Committee concerning the topic. Councilman Perrin also suggested contacting ASU*

*for resources if needed. Mr. Wilkie stated they will make a presentation to the Public Services Committee.*

*Mr. Paul Pittman announced the Public Safety Forum at the Nettleton High School Fine Arts Auditorium on September 8 for the City Council and Mayor candidates. He stated due to time constraints there may not be time for public questions.*

*Mr. Woodruff provided the Council with monthly work reports. He stated next month they plan to put the reports in Legistar so they don't have to print copies.*

**11. Adjournment.**

**A motion was made by Councilman Harold Perrin, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, that this meeting be Adjourned. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.**

**Aye:** 11 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

**Absent:** 1 - Faye McCall

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Doug Formon, Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Donna Jackson, City Clerk**