



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

4:00 PM

Municipal Center

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk Donna Jackson

Present 4 - Ann Williams; John Street; Darrel Dover and Todd Burton

Absent 2 - Charles Coleman and Rennell Woods

3. Approval of minutes

MIN-16:060

Finance and Administration Committee Meeting on May 31, 2016

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Todd Burton, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Ann Williams; John Street and Todd Burton

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Rennell Woods

4. New Business

Resolutions To Be Introduced

RES-16:076

A RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR COPS (COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES) HIRING PROGRAM THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO.

Mayor Perrin stated this is our COPS program that we applied for. He said this is for five new police officers for a period of three years under their program. He said the city pays 25% and they pay 75% for salaries and benefits. Chairman Dover asked how many officers that this would allow us to hire. Mayor Perrin said it was for five new officers. Councilman Street asked what time period this was to be paid. Mayor Perrin said you pay it over a time period when you hire them and get them certified.

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Ann Williams; John Street and Todd Burton

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Rennell Woods

RES-16:077

A RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR THE 2016 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO.

Councilman Burton asked if this grant was for \$31,000 federal funding for e-tickets. Mayor Perrin replied yes and that it is 100% federal funding.

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Ann Williams;John Street and Todd Burton

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Rennell Woods

RES-16:079

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH SAGA COMMUNICATIONS OF ARKANSAS LLC D/B/A JONESBORO RADIO GROUP FOR RENTAL OF SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

Mayor Perrin stated this is an annual deal for the Jonesboro Radio Group to rent the softball complex. He said they fix it up and clean it up. He said it was for \$1,000 for that day.

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Todd Burton, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Ann Williams;John Street and Todd Burton

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Rennell Woods

RES-16:080

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE NO-COST EXTENSION AGREEMENT OF THE 2015 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM WITH THE NORTH JONESBORO NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE

Councilman Street stated that this extends the time we have to spend the money we have left in the grant from June 30, 2016 to December 31, 2016. Mayor Perrin said this gives us the time to expense the money we are going to use.

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Ann Williams;John Street and Todd Burton

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Rennell Woods

5. Pending Items

COM-16:044

Incentive Plan Proposal

Chairman Dover proposed changes to the salary plan to include an educational benefit. He said the committee has come back with recommendation for an educational benefit to the salary plan. He said it includes \$1,500 for an Associates degree, \$2,000 for a Bachelor's degree, and \$2,500 for a Master's degree. Chairman Dover stated that the Mayor has agreed to this recommendation to allow us to pay our employees with the idea that people who have attained these degrees make better employees and will help our city with the services we provide. He said is asking for a motion to write the resolution to be presented at the next council meeting.

Councilman Burton asked about the Fire Department. Chairman Dover said the educational benefit is for uniformed and non-uniformed employees. He said the Police and Fire already have this and we are adding the non-uniformed. Councilman Burton asked if there was a change with the Firefighter's incentive plan. Chairman Dover stated that this did change the Firefighter's incentive plan from a percentage based to a flat fee. He said that their plan could technically have been higher over time. Mayor Perrin asked if this was a one-time incentive or added to the base salary. Chairman Dover said this would be added to the base salary. Councilman Burton asked if anyone from the Fire Department wanted to come up to speak. Assistant Fire Chief Alan Dunn spoke on behalf of the Fire Department and stated they were ok with the educational benefit and incentive plan. Chairman Dover asked the Finance Committee to give permission to draft a resolution for the next City Council meeting regarding the educational benefit. Councilman Burton asked if this was so they could discuss it at council. Chairman Dover said yes.

Chairman Dover said the Fire Department Incentive Plan was initially a percentage based plan, but going through the process, it has been changed to a flat fee. He said on the handout you can see the potential firefighters could make. He said they have agreed to this new plan. He said it caps at \$4,000 whereas before the percentage could keep going up. Chairman Dover said it is basically the same incentive plan as in the past with the exception of the dollar amount being capped. Councilman Burton asked if they were asking for permission to draft a resolution. Chairman Dover said yes for permission to draft a resolution to be presented to council for discussion. Councilman Burton asked if there were some issues with the Fire Department on this incentive plan. Assistant Fire Chief Alan Dunn said the incentive was presented to the firefighters and that they were ok with incentive and education parts of the plan. He said they were still working on some other issues and he said they hope to resolve those within the next week or so.

Dover said he would like to express his appreciation to the Fire Department for working with the committee. He said they have been very professional and very good to work with.

Councilman Street motioned, Seconded by Councilman Burton, to draft a resolution regarding the educational plan to presented at the next city council meeting. All voted aye.

Councilman Street motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, to draft a resolution regarding the Fire Department Incentive Plan to be presented at the next city council meeting. All voted aye.

6. Other Business

Councilman Street asked about the other radio group changing from Craighead Forrest to Joe Mack Campbell Park. Mayor Perrin said they had moved. Councilman Street wanted to make sure he heard the correct information.

Councilman Burton stated he is glad to hear that the Fire Department was ok with the plan presented. Chairman Dover said we have worked well together and we are still working on their plan for moving up in ranks.

Councilman Burton asked about losing Police Officers. Mayor Perrin stated there is 5-7% attrition rate in any one year in the Police Department. Councilman Street asked if we had gotten the grant from the COPS program before. Mayor Perrin stated that we have gotten the grant in the past. He said the city will be up to full staff

by July. The city is getting one police officer from Blytheville and one from Pocahontas.

7. Public Comments

Wayne Rogers, a city employee with Inspections, wanted to express his thanks to the Mayor for supporting the non uniformed employees and educational benefit.

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Ann Williams; John Street and Todd Burton

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Rennell Woods