



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

4:00 PM

Municipal Center

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk Donna Jackson

Present 4 - John Street; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

Absent 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-20:012](#)

Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on January 28, 2020.

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

Aye: 4 - John Street; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

4. New Business

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-20:005](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 409 NORTH FISHER, PARCEL 01-144181-10500, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY PAUL D GAMBILL

Sponsors: Code Enforcement

Attachments: [409 N. Fisher - Affidavit of Statutory Lien](#)
[409 N. Fisher](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - John Street; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

[RES-20:016](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO APPLY FOR 2019 ASSISTANCE FOR THE FIREFIGHTERS GRANT (AFG) PROGRAM FROM THE U.S DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Sponsors: Grants and Fire Department

Attachments: [AFG Notice of Fund Availability](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - John Street;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

[RES-20:017](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BLUE AND YOU FOUNDATION 2020 TO RECEIVE SIX MINI-GRANTS

Sponsors: Grants, Animal Control , JETS, E911, Parks & Recreation, Mayor's Office, City Attorney's Office, Building Maintenance and Finance

Attachments: [Blue and You award letters all 6](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - John Street;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

[RES-20:018](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO APPLY FOR THE FY2020 COPS (COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES) HIRING PROGRAM THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Sponsors: Grants and Police Department

Attachments: [COPS Application Guide](#)

Councilperson David McClain said, I know we've had different grants in the past years, and the money was used for certain things, is this one just for general hiring? Chief Rick Elliott said, the distracted driving grant, through the Highway Department, Federal Transportation is yearly and is restricted for things like, distractive driving, DWI enforcement. The COPS for Hire grant was awarded to us two-years ago. Out of that grant we applied for five hires and was awarded three officers. We are applying for that grant again in hopes we will be able to hire five officers. There is a possibility that we will only be allowed to hire less than five or not receive the grant at all. This is a way to hopefully get more staffing on for the department and offsetting those expenses for the first three years.

Chair Joe Hafner asked, how many open spots are there? Chief Elliott said, currently there are six openings, we have one certified officer that has been hired, so five spots.

I will have seven retirements coming in the next six months. Mr. Hafner said, I know we have had some leave us in the last couple of months. Chief Elliott said, yes, one go the State Police and one go to the Highway Police. We still face the same problems of recruiting and retention.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - John Street;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

[RES-20:019](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE AWARD FROM THE ROTARY CLUB OF JONESBORO TO UPGRADE THE ALLEN PARK COMMUNITY CENTER SKATE PARK AND AMEND THE 2020 BUDGET

Sponsors: Grants, Parks & Recreation and Finance

Attachments: [Skate park support Rotary Club](#)

Patti Lack, 4108 Forrest Hill Road. Can you just explain this a little bit, of how the budget is getting amended? I know you just said that the budget will reflect the change. Is that five-hundred dollars that goes into the budget, is it just showing a plus to that fund? Chair Hafner said, it's basically budget neutral. There will be a revenue shown for the grant, and then there will be an expense shown for the skate park. Mrs. Lack said, so it's just showing it added, and then showing where it's going. Chair Hafner said, it shows up in the grant department not in the parks department. Regina Burkett, Grant Director, said there is also a restitution fund along with the grants for the Allen Park Skate Park project. It will be individually itemized and easy to read for this project.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - John Street;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

5. Pending Items

6. Other Business

Chair Joe Hafner commented. Two-years ago I was doing some research, and I came across Conway's web-site and noticed they had an Open Checkbook report that showed how the money was being used for each line item. We had talked about a little back then, but it was an expensive software from what I understood. I believe the County recently did something similar but didn't seem as cost prohibited. Is there a way that this can be looked at again?

Finance Director, Steve Purtee, said a couple of weeks ago we did reach out to the City of Conway and spoke with them about their Open Checkbook program. We are sending our IT Director, Jason Ratliff is visiting with their IT Manager to discuss that program. It was explained to us it was a data base program that populates the check

activity and program each month. So, we will be exploring that, and take the information that you have provided regarding what the County is doing.

Chief of Staff Mike Downing said, we had some of the staff meet a couple days ago about how we should treat projects that we are seeking donations, advertisements, and or naming rights for other kinds of financial transactions. We have talked about taking all of those, and separating by the project, identifying what the project is, what the financial needs are, and also indicate what the opportunities are like naming rights.

It turns out that we've probably got about fifteen maybe twenty different projects that we are soliciting funds for. The Veteran's Village, and the Miracle League are just some of those projects. We will keep you informed, obviously the City Council will be important in helping us solicit funds for various purposes, Sky-Cops is another project, and we just have a lot of projects. The concern that I have is that there are numerous non-profit organizations, and other charitable agencies that are raising money for all kinds of things. While the City has significant needs we obviously don't want to impact those others to a great degree either, so we have this dilemma and will have further discussions on the best way to approach these projects going forward.

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

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

Aye: 4 - John Street;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams