



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR PERRIN AT 5:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Present 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-18:034](#)

PRESENTATION BY MAYOR PERRIN TO DANNY KAPALES, PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

Mayor Harold Perrin stated that this video presentation is in reference to when we had the large baseball tournament here with 171 teams. It took a lot of people to get ready for that tournament. We captured that on video which we are going to show on Channel 24. It will also be a tool for us to recruit other teams to come into our city to play here in Jonesboro, AR. I can tell you that some of the people that were here had to get rooms in West Memphis. On 171 teams, we have calculated what we think the cost would be on the A&P tax on the motels based on the number of rooms we have. That came out to a pretty good amount. The actual figure will be coming to you in 30 days. As you know, we are always behind on A&P tax. It will take two months to look at the sales tax to see the volume on the food, beverage, and etc. for the people that came in here.

Mayor Perrin said the video was done by our IT Department as well as Parks & Rec that flew the drone. I think they did a great job on that. We are going to use that to push and sell Jonesboro. It is kind of unique that he mentioned NE and NW Arkansas. Northeast Arkansas on the MSA has outshined northwest Arkansas in the last two quarters. I think we have got their attention. It is just a matter of us pushing forward on some of these things. They also mentioned the cost in there. The Council was gracious enough for us to be able to expense about \$1.1 million on that turf. If you look at the contract that we have with the Baseball Booster Club and the contract with A&P, this city will be out very little money on that turf. When we see these figures on the tax, it is going to be incredible.

A proclamation was given in honor of those who worked to bring together the largest baseball tournament in the city's history for "Mayhem at the Mack." Representing

those who participated were Danny Kapales, Parks & Recreation Director; Randy Bearce, Jonesboro Baseball Boosters; Rick Thomas, Craighead County Sheriff's Department; and Rick Elliott, Jonesboro Chief of Police. Thanks were given to all who helped make the event successful, including the Street Department, the Buildings and Facilities Department, the Sanitation Department, volunteers and employees of the Jonesboro Baseball Boosters, the Craighead County Sheriff's Department, and the Jonesboro Police Department.

Filed

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

[MIN-18:053](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 15, 2018

Attachments: [CC 05152018 Minutes.pdf](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:075](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR THE JMCP SHOP BUILDING

Attachments: [Change Order #1](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:081](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH FIRST NATIONAL BANK FOR SPONSORSHIP OF PAVILION NUMBER 1 AT JOE MACK CAMPBELL SPORTS COMPLEX

Attachments: [FIRST NATIONAL BANK AGREEMENT.pdf](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:084](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF HYDRATION STATIONS THROUGHOUT CITY PARKS

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:085](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR PERRIN

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

6. NEW BUSINESS**ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING****[ORD-18:041](#)**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2018 BUDGET FOR ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Attachments: [PLackEmail06042018.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:041 by title only. All voted aye.

Mayor Perrin said he needed to make a statement on that. First of all, in the budget this year, the Mayor's office budget for Professional Services was budgeted for \$30,800. When Ed Tanner left, Roy Ockert was on our professional services and working with the city part-time. This is the second time that he has done this to come in and help me work in that and he is doing a great job. I was paying him out of professional services, but we changed that after several months, but that took a lot of money out of the professional services that I had budgeted. That is one. The second item is that we do have a lawsuit going on. We had to take depositions. We did get bills from the legal firm. Of course, they have been paid. We are down short on that so all we are saying is to just put it in there. If in fact we use it, it will be in there. If not, then it will stay there. So, all we are saying here is, just to put that out there because we have around \$5,000 left in professional services for this year.

Councilmember John Street asked if there was any urgency for this. Mayor Perrin said that he did not know of any because they have gotten all the bills paid.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and waive the second reading of ORD-18:041 and hold it there. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Waived Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING****[ORD-18:035](#)**

AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT

Attachments: [AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT.pdf](#)
[Alcohol Private Club Application Holiday Inn Kazi Redacted.pdf](#)

Councilmember Chris Moore said we agreed to read that on three consecutive readings. Mayor Perrin said that is correct.

NOTE: James Elwyn Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, said that he opposes both of these. He spoke under ORD-18:038.

Held at second reading

[ORD-18:038](#)

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE TRANSFER OF LOCATION OF PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT

Attachments: [City Ordinance Transfer of Location.pdf](#)
 [Private Club Alcohol Transfer Permit - Casa Maya II, Inc - 2018 REVISED.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street said we agreed to hold that to three readings as well.

Councilmember Chris Moore said just as a point of order, you might ask if there is someone here to speak on this.

James Elwyn Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, said that he opposes both of these. Folks, these private clubs are killing us. As alcohol goes up in our city, crime goes up in our city. We used to be the best places in Arkansas to live. A lot of people are questioning that now. One of the problems I have with this is that I don't think our procedure is as drawn out enough or developed enough to approve this because you all have never told us what the procedure for denying one of these requests is. Here is what I am afraid is going to happen, this is just going to become a thing of we check and the paperwork is in shape so we send it down and yeah the paperwork is in shape and the ABC gets it and they say oh the City of Jonesboro has approved this so it has already been approved and it becomes an automatic thing and the people don't have any say. The people voted this county dry. Incidentally, it was in the biggest election there had been in our county's history up until that time. I think we are losing the right to have a say in our government until we have a procedure both to approve and to deny. I don't think we need to approve it right now. It looks like the only way to stop a club if we go ahead with this is to sue the city and we don't need anymore lawsuits against the city. So, I am saying that until we have a better drawn out procedure with clearly defining how we go about approving and how we go about denying, that we don't need to pass such ordinances.

Councilmember John Street moved that we hold that at the second reading.

Held at second reading

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-18:026](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 62-40 and 62-41 OF THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF MODIFYING THE DEFINITIONS TO INCLUDE AND LEVYING A TAX UPON RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS RENTALS

Attachments: [ORD 18-026 Revision.docx](#)

Councilmember Gene Vance motioned to table ORD-18:026 until such time that we get the other ordinance into here so I would like to make a motion to table this indefinitely. Councilmember Chris Moore seconded this motion.

Councilmember David McClain said he had a question. He was not at the Public Works Committee meeting. Do you all mind touching on what was covered? Was it something similar to this covered? City Attorney Carol Duncan said that it wasn't about the tax. It was about the regulation of it. Councilmember Vance said that we tabled it

until the next Public Works meeting so we could make sure we had enough teeth, if you will, in it to regulate the system. Councilmember McClain said ok. Mayor Perrin said to make sure we are doing everything right on those procedures. On this one, tabling it indefinitely means it is out. Ms. Duncan said it dies. Mayor Perrin said that means that a whole new one would have to come back after we get the other one which is talking about basically how to control it, how to enforce it, etc.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said he had a question on that. Obviously, this is the A&P tax so this is not anything to do with the city privilege license or anything like that. So, is it necessary to table it indefinitely? I don't know how much this one will change even if the other one is adopted because that deals with privilege licenses and other things. Councilmember Vance said my thought is that once we pass this, and I really believe it, and we can talk about examples of similar situations, once we tax it, we are three years down the line if we start throwing regulations on them, they can say well, you can't do that. You have already been taxing us for three years. It will then throw us into another court case. Councilmember Hafner said I just want to clarify that this was A&P tax and not anything to do with a privilege license or anything like that. Councilmember Vance said it is a tax that we have to pass. Councilmember Hafner said he understands. Mayor Perrin said in Public Works, we talked about that because in that, basically, you are going to have to define a lot of things. One of those things was the fee for noncompliance and also enforcement. Also, that they have to have a dollar amount which again to buy a privilege license in which to do that. So, I concur with Councilmember Vance. Councilmember Hafner said I am fine with it all coming in together at the same time. However, it is still going to be two different issues. Mayor Perrin said it has to be voted on separately.

Councilmember Chris Moore said there is a possibility at Public Works to come to a conclusion that we are not going to allow it. I mean I don't anticipate that. I think in the conversation, we will come to an agreement on what the regulations are going to be and it will move forward. Then, I think a tax would be appropriate at that time.

Councilmember Charles Frierson asked to be educated on postponing indefinitely. I think the Mayor said that this killed it and it would have to be reintroduced. Is that correct? Ms. Duncan said that was correct. Mayor Perrin said that was correct. When you postpone it temporarily, you can then stay.

Councilmember Vance said he wanted to change the verbiage to temporarily. Ms. Duncan said then we need to pick a date. Am I correct on that Donna? City Clerk Donna Jackson said yes. Councilmember Moore said we are going to talk about it at Public Works. Councilmember Vance said two months. Mayor Perrin said ok. You said in 60 days. Your motion would be that you want to table it for 60 days? Councilmember Moore said postpone temporary for 60 days. Councilmember Vance said that is fine. Councilmember Moore said he was the second to Councilmember Vance's original motion so he would second Councilmember Vance's motion. Ms. Duncan said it looks like the first meeting would be August 7, 2018. Councilmember Vance said that is fine. Mayor Perrin said that the motion on the floor is that we postpone temporary for 60 days. Ms. Duncan said for the first meeting in August. Mayor Perrin said for the first meeting in August. Councilmember McClain asked if it was coming back on its third reading. Ms. Duncan said yes. Mayor Perrin said it would come back in the same position that it is in. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gene Vance, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Postponed Temporarily until August 7, 2018 . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:036](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL R-1 AND R-2 TO RESIDENTIAL RS-8 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ON STATE STREET, LOTS 143 THROUGH 160, COLLEGE PLACE ADDITION AS REQUESTED BY GEORGE HAMMAN ON BEHALF OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER JONESBORO

Attachments: [Application.pdf](#)
 [City Council Staff Summary.pdf](#)
 [Layout.pdf](#)
 [rezoning plat.pdf](#)
 [Habitat for Humanity Rezoning Ordinance.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Moore, seconded by Councilperson Gene Vance, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:037](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM AGRICULTURAL, AG-1 TO C-3, LUO; COMMERCIAL, LIMITED USE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2010 DISTRIBUTOR DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY GEORGE HAMMAN ON BEHALF OF BILL GREENWOOD

Attachments: [Application.pdf](#)
 [City Council Staff Summary.pdf](#)
 [Layout.pdf](#)
 [rezoning plat.pdf](#)
 [2010 Distributor Drive Rezoning Ordinance.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson LJ Bryant, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:039](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL, R-2 TO DOWNTOWN CORE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, C-1 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 415 E. OAK/CITIZEN/E. CHERRY - COBB/E. OAK AS REQUESTED BY TED HERGET

Attachments: [Application.pdf](#)
 [Staff Summary for City Council.pdf](#)
 [Plat.PDF](#)
 [Cherry and Cobb - Marketing Site Plan.pdf](#)
 [Property Owner Notification.pdf](#)
 [USPS Receipts.pdf](#)
 [AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117.pdf](#)

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Perrin reported on the following items:

Last month on our building permits, the City of Jonesboro did \$47,579,710.30. Of that \$39,000,000 was the hotel and Convention Center at Arkansas State University with Tim O'Reilly which would bring that down to about \$1.7 million on commercial. The residential is \$6.8 million which was 14%. We had a great month last month.

I have asked them to give me a report each month on our Arkansas State Police revenue. As you know, they do have jurisdiction within the city limits. For years, all of that money was going to the county. We checked on that with the State Police and got that redone. We got it redirected to the city. For this year, the first four months, we collected \$25,939. Last year was \$16,700. We had an increase of \$9,199. This also helps go to LOPFI on our payments as well. That is definitely a good first four months.

On our sales tax, compared to last year, we are down about \$105,000 which is a 7.9% decrease. As compared to budget, we are \$14,892 to the good. I asked CFO Bill Reznicek to go back and look at that. I visited with Larry Walters with the Department of Finance and Administration in Little Rock with what is going on with our sales tax throughout the state. Mr. Reznicek checked on Bentonville, Conway, Fayetteville, Hot Springs, Jonesboro, Little Rock, Rogers, Springdale, and Craighead County. Basically, what we are seeing is that with all of those cities combined, the average was down 0.8%. We are down 0.79% in the city. So, we are right on target. The next question I asked Larry Walters was what do you think is happening to cause this. He said that this is due to the internet sales tax. I know I have preached that. I know that is what is going on. We are trying to look at that.

Today, I spoke with the Delta Regional Authority class for this year. While I was there, the Economic Developer for the State of Alabama was there. He gave me what they had passed in their state legislature which I have a copy of. I want to send that out to all of the councilmembers. There are five states that passed legislation. I am going to ask our state legislatures to look and review that. If, in fact, they feel comfortable with that to bring that up at when we go in session next year. Last year, the state of Alabama collected \$94 million. This year is estimated to be over \$200 million in internet sales. What it says is whether you do it online or in person, you will collect the tax. I am going to send that out to our state representatives and state senators. We have one of our state representatives right here in the audience. I know that we have

talked. I have talked to him about it, but we need to look at that. The balance of all of that money goes 60% to the cities and 40% to the counties. So, if in fact, the state of Arkansas collected \$80 or \$100 million, then you could see what kind of revenue stream would come back. Of course, I am sure they would divide that up and that is going to be the question. I think they divide that up on per capita rather than by zip code or whatever. We will look at that. I want their opinion and to take a look at that proposed bill. I will present it to them. Anyway, I just wanted to share that with you.

Last week, I attended the export/import luncheon. As you know, there are a lot of changes being proposed on the national level on limiting certain exports and imports. So, we are going to keep a real close tab on that.

I did get a chance to visit with a company that is a startup company. I have them coming in here in about two weeks to meet with Arkansas State University, the Dean of Agriculture, some of our elected officials, and others to listen to the story and to see what they think about the proposed deal. It could be a very good industry to come to Jonesboro. We will be talking with them.

On grants, last month, we added another \$1 million of grants that we had applied for which brings up the total in four months that we have applied for to \$8 million in process.

On our Mountain Dew Classic last weekend, we had 65 teams. We grossed \$37,000 and netted \$12,000 just on concession stands. This is the first time in three or four years that we haven't been rained out. You can see the impact on our P&L or O&M. That was a real good deal.

On the 171 teams that participated in the Mayhem at the Mack Tournament, we had \$5,000 that we collected in concessions and \$12,000 estimated in A&P tax. On the film presented earlier in the meeting, you can see where we took the 3% A&P tax and multiplied that by the number of rooms in town and times that and that is what we came up. We gave you the actual figures on that \$12,000.

The doctor that handled Katrina will be here on November 15-16 to speak about healthcare. St. Bernards has asked her to come. There will be some open things for the public on that.

Condemnations are going good. Two have been torn down by the city. Six were torn down by the owner. Grants has spent no money. Nine people have come in and actually brought their homes up to code which is a lot higher than in the past. Most people do not do that. We have 19 working condemnations for a total of 36 already this year. Normally, we try to hit about 50 condemnations and demolitions per year. We are right on track. Actually, we are ahead of that.

On Rotary Park, you can see on Monroe, there is a lot of activity going on there. Rotary Park is going to be absolutely beautiful. The City of Jonesboro will be in there for about two more weeks and then we will be out of there. It is my understanding that the Rotary Club is going to go ahead and build that park. Then, as the pledges come in, they will pay off a note that they have set up for a line of credit. They will not waste any time at all in getting that beautiful this year in front of the Forum.

Legislative Audit is still in process. So far from what I am hearing from CFO Bill Reznicek and the auditor, it looks good. So far, there are no exceptions through that audit.

The City of Jonesboro is going to go to a new system on signing in when you come to work and as you leave. We did have a system in place, or thought we did, but it would not work with the system that we had on our IT. So, we sent that back and we got all of our money back. We are looking at another system now.

This month, we got a new permit for a new hotel coming into Jonesboro. It is called Home to Home. This is a Hilton Inn franchise. It will be built behind Longhorn Steakhouse and Red Lobster. Marriott Courtyard will probably open up in 30-60 days, I hope. You will also see where Mr. Nazi Kazi will be opening up a new Holiday Inn on Phillips Drive which is a very upscale hotel. I would anticipate that opening in 60 days or so, if not sooner. Now, you have another one that has already sent in their application to Planning to look at. That is a Hilton franchise.

Next week, Risever Machinery, LLC will be going before MAPC for their site plan review. They are increasing from one building to three. Once completed, there will be 200 new jobs here in the City of Jonesboro.

This past weekend, a teenage lifeguard at the City Pool, Brycen Thomas saved the life of a teenager from the Jonesboro swimming pool on Nettleton. We had two life guards that also helped and did a great job with him, Shelby Corn and Alexis Kapales, which is the daughter of our Parks Director Danny Kapales. When things settle down and the young man comes back, then we want to do something here for these three people. We will keep you informed on that.

The Arkansas Municipal League Conference will be next week. Many of us will be there for three days. We do have three speakers from the City of Jonesboro that are going to be on the agenda which include myself, Rick Elliott, and Bill Campbell. We will be presenting some of the workshops at that seminar.

The Forum had asked me to tell you that on Saturday, June 21, 2018, there will be an incredible production called the Producers. This is a Mel Brooks comedy. It would be great for families, teens, adults to sit down, relax, laugh, and have a good time. I understand that one of our employees may be the lead cast in that. I am not for sure, Lorenzo Balderas. I don't know if he wrote this or plugged it. Anyway, he does a good job. Let's do support the Foundation of Arts. We will be working with them on some other stuff and on their contract which is up.

I think we talked about the Wolverine property and had several comments and suggestions. I know Councilmember Chris Moore had suggested several things and then I visited with Chris this weekend. What I am going to do in the future, probably at the next council meeting, is that I am going to have a committee formed where I would like for that committee to go out and come back and present that back to me and the administration and the council of what they think is the best use for the site for the property. It is located too close to the university, to the hospital, to downtown so we need to proceed very carefully and very cautiously on what we want to do with that if, in fact, we are going to give the land to someone to build something that is very aesthetic for the neighborhood, but also something that is what we need. I will be presenting that at the next council meeting for a committee.

[COM-18:036](#)

Third party article regarding internet sales tax

Attachments: [article third party online sellers .pdf](#)

Filed

[COM-18:031](#)

Financial statements for the Jonesboro Airport Commission for April, 2018

Attachments: [JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 04_18.pdf](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember John Street said he wanted to welcome Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman back. It is good to see him. We wish him a speedy recovery. We hope you are doing well. It is good to see you.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said it was a great video by the Parks Department. That was cool Danny and technology. Mayor Perrin stated that we are going to show the video on Channel 24.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said he knows a lot of time that we add stuff to the budget and it looks like our budget keeps going up. As we all know, a budget is a guide. It doesn't necessarily mean that you are going to spend all of your money. But, you put it in there because there are always unexpected things that come up. One thing that I have asked is that our CFO Bill Reznicek to do for our next finance meeting is a presentation. He, his staff, and other department heads have been spending a lot of time working on cost saving initiatives. I asked Bill to put together a brief presentation kind of outlining what they have found. It is not only expense related, but they have also gone through some of our contracts where we are releasing property to other people and that has resulted in some increase in revenue too. We are trying to watch our pennies even though, sometimes, it doesn't look like it.

Councilmember Ann Williams said that she and Councilmember Chris Moore have received some emails from the neighbors of the property at 1226 E. Madison concerning the unsafe and unsanitary conditions. The Mayor's office may have also received an email about the growth of bamboo. We thought that it had been resolved, but apparently, it has not or there are still some ongoing issues there I think. Mayor Perrin said that they have done some improvements, but the real issue is still there. I sent that to Interim Chief Operations Officer Roy Ockert today, I think. He is going to check with Lt. Baxter and Code Enforcement tomorrow. I thought it had all been done too. He had done some, but not enough, I don't think, on the pictures that I saw. It needs to be cleaned more. Councilmember Williams said we received some emails this afternoon. So, apparently, it is still something of a problem. Mayor Perrin said she was very appreciative of what we had done, but the whole issue has not been resolved.

Councilmember Chris Moore said he wanted to thank the Mayor for the consideration of forming a committee on the Wolverine property. I think it is a great opportunity for our city and I would ask that Mike Downing with Jonesboro Unlimited be in on this. I think he had some great ideas the other night about hip and trendy. I look forward to seeing the results of that committee.

Mayor Perrin said that it was good to have Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman back with us.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said he wanted to thank the council and the

people in the community that did a lot of praying. I am still under the doctor's care and I am really not supposed to be here tonight, but I have been in the bed for six weeks and I have just had it. I am doing 100% better. I am going to be out of the house as much as I can. I want to thank everybody.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Smith, 314 S. Main, said I just want to thank the city. The mid-block signs that have been put up on the 200 block of Main are really helping the crosswalks. It is just great. Thanks!

Mayor Perrin said we have talked to two companies, but this will be the lighting that is in the pavement that is activated when you step into that. They will automatically go across that entire deal and have a yield sign. We should have that price tomorrow to look at that on safety. One of the signs that we put up didn't last 24 hours and the other one is kind of tilted a little bit. Again, we are trying. I can assure you we are trying to slow the traffic on Main.

Jason Rufkahr, 710 W. Cherry, said I live across the street from the CWL Park and I wrote a letter to the editor the other day about how there are no water fountains at the parks around here. Then, a couple of days after that, the paper published something about that, and I followed that up with another letter. The city is going to put water fountains at Craighead Forest Park, Joe Mack Campbell Park, and Allen Park. Can you elaborate on that just a little bit for us? Mayor Perrin said we received 5 or 6 of those from the USDA on a \$19,000 grant. Delta Dental of Arkansas called me today and asked us to be in a pilot program. They are sending me the information tomorrow to put water stations in all of our parks including Craighead Forest. So, the good Lord blessed us again today. Mr. Rufkhar asked if they were going to go in every park. Mayor Perrin said yes. I told them that we had 1,000 acres of parks. I can hopefully visit with them tomorrow and pick up that information. Mr. Rufkahr said since I live across the street from the CWL park, I see how many kids use the park. That park is so widely used and there are no water fountain over there. The kids that use that park come to my apartment building and use the water spigot. I don't care if they do that, but it kind of becomes a nuisance when they leave the water on. I feel bad for the kids that don't have a water fountain over there, let alone the other parks in town. Mayor Perrin said you are going to have them. Mr. Rufkahr said good deal. Mayor Perrin said thank you for your comment.

Nazi Kazi, 3000 Wood Street, said we broke ground on the Holiday Inn Express so we are pouring footings tomorrow. Our Holiday Inn is supposed to open up on the 14th of June. Our grand opening will happen after all the paperwork required for the alcohol and all of that stuff is done. After all of that is done, we will have a proper grand opening for the public. My reason for speaking up here is on the A&P tax on the Airbnb. Councilmember Charles Coleman said if you are going to enforce your public comments rule, then he cannot speak on something that has already been spoken on. Mr. Kazi asked if that was a rule? Mayor Perrin said I am sorry, that is correct. We talked about the ordinance earlier so I apologize. Mr. Kazi said ok. Councilmember Gene Vance said he would welcome a phone call if you have any ideas. Just give me a ring and we will talk about it. We are going to be talking about it again in committee in two weeks. Any ideas that you have that would help us work our way through this situation are welcome. Mayor Perrin asked Mr. Kazi to give him a call. Mr. Kazi said ok and thank you.

Mayor Perrin said thank you to Randy Bearce with Jonesboro Baseball Boosters. He

said someone has your proclamation and we will get that to you. We appreciate what you have done. It is difficult to take 171 teams and put those in brackets and get all of the teams out there. Mr. Bearce said he wanted to thank the City of Jonesboro for all of their support for what we do and A&P for Jonesboro Baseball and how much it means to us. We kind of broke the ceiling on that one. We have never had that many teams. We learned some things through that as well. It was a great weekend and I really appreciate all of the feedback that I got from all of the teams coming from out of state. We had five different states represented. They let us know how much they love Jonesboro and how much there was to offer here. It was great to hear that about my hometown and about Jonesboro. We really do appreciate everything that everyone in the community did. It made them feel welcomed. That is great and we hope to have a lot of them back. We have some state tournaments coming up here. In two weeks, we have the 7-8 year old coach pitch as well as the 12-13 year old UAAA state tournaments. Then, we will start back in the fall. We should have 60-70 teams for those state tournaments in a few weeks. We are excited about that. Mayor Perrin said we appreciate your contribution. We said it earlier, but to spend \$1 million on turf and stuff on 10 fields and with what you all and your contract and with what A&P is paying for that, the City of Jonesboro is going to be out very little money. Even though we know we fronted the front, the return on that is absolutely out there. Mr. Bearce said the tail end of the tournament got cancelled due to the lightning. We had rain on Saturday, but we were back out and playing in about an hour and a half to two hours. After a heavy rain in the past, we would have been done playing for the rest of the day and maybe even the rest of the weekend. It was great to see that. Mike Summers and Danny Kapales do a great job out there. Mayor Perrin said that the new lighting out at Southside on the parking lot as well as the four fields in the front is great. When they get done with tournaments, Musco will come back out and finish that. If in fact, we have funds to be able to asphalt that parking lot next year, that is 410 parking places that we will have for that softball complex. Mr. Bearce said I would like to compliment the city on that as well. We played part of that tournament at Southside. Sharron Turman and her crew did a great job over there. We really do appreciate that. Mayor Perrin said I am going to send a letter of appreciation to all of the superintendents because we had Valley View, Nettleton, and all of those allow us to use their fields. Again, it just goes to show you that this is a very loving, benevolent community and that everybody tries to work together. We may not all agree on the same issues sometimes, but we will all come together. Thank you. Mr. Bearce said thank you. We appreciate all of you.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

_____ Date: _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk