



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, May 5, 2015

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

NOMINATING & RULES COMMITTEE MEETING AT 4:50 P.M.

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

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PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:15 P.M.

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Regarding the abandonment of a 15 foot drainage easement in Sage 2C Subdivision as requested by Legacy Homes of NEA, LLC

No one spoke in opposition to the abandonment.

PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:20 P.M.

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Regarding the abandonment of a portion of a public alley located north of Eldridge Street and south of East Johnson as requested by David Bogan, Charles & Phoebe Hyman and Wash & Store, LLC

No one spoke in opposition to the abandonment.

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

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2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

[play video](#)

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

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Present 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

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COM-15:026 Grants Department presentation by Heather Clark, Grants Administrator

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Sponsors: Mayor's Office and Grants

Mayor Perrin stated Mrs. Clark is out of town, so the presentation will take place at the next Council meeting.

COM-15:027 Craighead Forest Trail presentation by Wixson Huffstetler, Parks Director

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Mayor's Office and Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [Craighead Forest Park walking trail](#)

Mr. Huffstetler provided the Council with the conceptual drawing of what the trail will look like at Craighead Forest Park. The trail will be 3.2 miles or 5K. The idea for the walking trail came out due to the increased amount of traffic at Craighead Forest. He discussed the new trail and improvements that will be made to Craighead Forest to accommodate the trail. He noted the workout equipment is going to be delivered Thursday and was all donated. He also stated the entrance to Craighead Forest Park will now be a roundabout. The cost will be about \$2.4 million. They will have money left over from the Greenway Trail project and the state approved the city using the excess money for this project. They also applied for a federal grant to help with the cost of the trail.

Councilman Moore asked if the trail will be built first. Mr. Huffstetler answered yes, they will use the grant funding to build the trail while they figure out how to pay for the road improvements. He added he hopes they will be able to do most of the road work in-house or find funding to construct it.

This item was Filed.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Gene Vance, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

MIN-15:045 Minutes for the City Council meeting on April 21, 2015

[play video](#)

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

RES-15:070

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OF JONESBORO MAYOR TO RELEASE THE LIEN ON PROPERTY AS DESCRIBED: LOT 3 OF BEACONS AND BRIDGES FIRST ADDITION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS REPLAT OF LOTS 6, 7, AND 8 OF WATKINS SUBDIVISION OF A PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST, AS SHOWN BY PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT CABINET "C" PAGE 193 AND SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY OF RECORD.

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Grants

Attachments: [Commitment \(AR\).pdf](#)
JBcopier@lenderstitle.com [20150416_102211.pdf](#)

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-068-2015

RES-15:079

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH THE JONESBORO JETS

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [Jonesboro Jetts 2015.pdf](#)

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-069-2015

6. NEW BUSINESS

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ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[play video](#)

ORD-15:019

ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE THE LEASE OF AT&T'S VESTA/PALLAS SYSTEM FOR THE E-911 DEPARTMENT

[play video](#)

Sponsors: E911

Attachments: [Special Service Arrangement Application](#)

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

Mayor Perrin asked for the second and third readings to be held tonight. He explained the city has the funds to pay for it the lease. E-911 Director Jeff Presley has a meeting next meeting concerning turnback money and he will be able to get the funds back to put towards the lease. Mayor Perrin noted AT&T is ready to go.

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

After adoption of the ordinance, Councilman Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Enactment No: O-EN-019-2015

[ORD-15:024](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING BLUESTREAK K9, LLC TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE CITY OF JONESBORO

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Police Department

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

Councilman Moore asked if this is for the Jonesboro police officer who trains dogs. Mayor Perrin answered yes.

Councilman Moore motioned, seconded by Councilman Street, 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 with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Enactment No: O-EN-020-2015

[ORD-15:025](#)

ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON AN UNIMPROVED FIFTEEN (15') FOOT DRAINAGE EASEMENT LOCATED ON CLUBHOUSE DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY LEGACY HOMES OF NEA, LLC

[play video](#)

Attachments: [Plats](#)
[Utility Letters](#)
[Petition](#)
[Engineering & Planning Letter](#)

Councilman Gibson offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

Councilman Gibson asked if there had been any opposition to the abandonment. City Planner Otis Spriggs answered no. He noted City Water & Light had some comments, but their easements are protected on the plat so there are no issues.

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

After adoption of the ordinance, Councilman Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Enactment No: O-EN-021-2015

[ORD-15:026](#)

AN ORDINANCE ABANDONING AND VACATING A PORTION OF A PUBLIC ALLEY LOCATED IN:

An undeveloped alley, sixteen feet (16') in width, extending north and south, from the south right-of-way of East Johnson Avenue to the north right-of-way of Eldridge Street, said alley also being east of State Street, and west of Melrose Street, and lying and being in the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 17, Township 14 North, Range 4 East, containing approximately 4,943 square feet, or 0.11 acres, more or less.

[play video](#)

Attachments: [Petitions](#)
 [Plat](#)
 [Utility Letters](#)
 [Engineering & Planning Letter](#)

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

Councilman Moore asked if there was any opposition to the abandonment. Mr. Spriggs answered no. He explained there was an encroachment on the alleyway, so this abandonment will correct that problem.

Councilman Moore motioned, seconded by Councilman Street, 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 Darrel Dover, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Enactment No: O-EN-022-2015

[ORD-15:027](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM R-1 AND I-2 TO C-3 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 7310 EAST HIGHLAND DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY TINA COOTS

[play video](#)

Attachments: [Plat](#)
 [MAPC Report](#)

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

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Mitch Johnson, to Waive the Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

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RES-14:102

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS to condemn property at 1116 Burke Ave Owner: Gabina Lopez

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Sponsors: Code Enforcement

Attachments: [Inspection Report 1116](#)
 [County Data 1116 Burke](#)
 [1116 Burke Comcate](#)

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

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Enactment No: R-EN-070-2015

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

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ORD-15:020

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2014 BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Finance

This item was Held at second reading.

ORD-15:023

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL R-1 TO RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY RM-8 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3905 HILL DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY ERIC BURCH

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Attachments: [Plat](#)
 [MAPC Report](#)

This item was Held at second reading.

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

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ORD-15:017

AN ORDINANCE TO MODIFY ARTICLE 1, SECTION 101-1 OF THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES AND ADOPT THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS BY REFERENCE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF GUIDING THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY AS PART OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING PROCESS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO CAUSE THE PLAN TO BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON PASSAGE

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Sponsors: Planning

Attachments: [Land Use Map](#)
 [Land Use Plan Narrative](#)
 [MAPC Record of Proceedings](#)
 [Presentation](#)

After adoption of the ordinance, Councilman Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Enactment No: O-EN-023-2015

ORD-15:018

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES, AND ADOPTING THE CITY OF JONESBORO MASTER STREET PLAN; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENTS OF ARTICLE III, CHAPTER 101, AND ADOPTING SUCH AMENDMENTS TO THE MASTER STREET PLAN BY REFERENCE AND ESTABLISHING AN EMERGENCY TO CAUSE THE PLAN TO BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON PASSAGE

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Engineering and Planning

Attachments: [Master Street Plan Master Street Plan Map With Aerial](#)
[Master Street Plan Map Without Aerial](#)
[Master Street Plan Narrative](#)
[MAPC Record of Proceedings](#)
[Presentation](#)

Mayor Perrin asked for the ordinance to be postponed indefinitely. He explained he would like to take the Master Street Plan back to the committee for further review. He also noted that they will be visiting with any property owners who will be affected by new connector streets or corridors.

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Chris Moore, that this matter be Postponed Temporarily . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

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Mayor Perrin reported on the following items:

The West End held a clean sweep last week with the city hauling 7.6 tons of trash. The Scenic Hills area also held a clean sweep in which the city hauled 15 tons of trash. The Fairview and Northside areas are scheduled for clean sweep in about two weeks. He commended the Sanitation Department for their work during clean sweep.

He attended an Arkansas Transportation Conference last week in which it was indicated the highway trust fund will be broke by the end of August if Congress doesn't re-authorize funding. They think it will be addressed in September after Congress comes back from their recess. They also found that there will be an increased need for cities to contribute towards road projects.

The trip to D.C. went well. There will be more grant funding for body cameras for police officers. They hope to receive some of the funding from the Department of Justice.

They have continued working on the property maintenance code. They hope to present it to the Public Safety Committee soon and then forward it on to the Council.

At the next Council meeting they will have a hearing on fair housing presented from the director of Fair Housing. They asked her to make a presentation concerning some recent changes.

Saturday the Miracle League had ball games over the weekend with a large turnout.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

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Councilman Street commended the Mayor for his presentation at the Transportation Conference. He agreed that transportation is in serious need and there won't be any short-term answers. The cities will have to do more to help themselves in the future.

Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to suspend the rules and add RES-15:081 to the agenda. All voted aye. Councilman Street explained the resolution needs to be approved so the state can get information together to let the project out for bid.

RES-15:081

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO UTILIZE STATE AID STREET MONIES FOR THE FOLLOWING CITY PROJECT:

Jonesboro Caraway Rd. Overlay

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

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

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Enactment No: R-EN-071-2015

Councilman Dover reminded everyone the Finance Committee will be meeting Tuesday, May 12th at 4:00 p.m.

Councilman Woods thanked the city and the Police Department for their leadership in a recent event with at-risk youths. He also thanked the press for coverage of the event. He stated the kids were able to experience something they've never experienced before.

Councilman Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, to suspend the rules and place RES-15:080 on the agenda. All voted aye.

RES-15:080

RESOLUTION TO MAKE REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE MASTER STREET PLAN COMMITTEE AND THE MAPC AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR PERRIN

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Abstain: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-072-2015

Councilman Gibson reminded the Council of the policy review meeting on Wednesday, May 13th at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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Mr. Joseph Rukus, 1412 S. Church Street Apt. A, stated he is the faculty advisor for the ASU Gay-Straight Alliance. He referred to a resolution that had been denied by the Mayor as discussed at the last Council. He stated his employer does not explicitly state they protect gay people. He is aware his employer does not discriminate, but when he was given the offer to work at ASU he took a chance to move to Jonesboro and work at the university. He explained he doesn't regret moving to Jonesboro and is trying to put down some roots because he likes the town. But, because the Council has refused to give public discussion and debate concerning EEOC language in the past month it gives him doubts as to whether or not he misread his welcome to this community. He noted the Supreme Court is going to force an examination into the issue in a few months. He asked the Council to allow for the public discussion.

Mr. Norman Stafford, the community minister at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Jonesboro, also spoke concerning the resolution. He stated members of the LGBTQ community do not feel they are protected like others in racial and religious groups are. They believe they need legal protection and he hopes the Council will allow it. He added Conway and Little Rock have passed similar resolutions recently.

Mr. Gary Latanich, 1904 Woodsprings Road, explained that Arizona and Indiana have both had legislation passed that had to be overturned due to negative reactions from the business community. He stated that from an economic prospective, businesses do not like legislation that discriminates because it is bad for business. He noted several other cities have approved resolutions similar to the one proposed in Jonesboro. He further explained that with the expansion of I-555 he questioned whether or not businesses will come into Jonesboro if they feel like Jonesboro discriminates. He added no one can know for sure, but it's better to be safe. He encouraged the Council to at least hear the discussion on the topic.

Rev. Chris Jones from First Presbyterian Church stated he thinks it's great that the city has said publically that they do not discriminate based on sexual orientation or gender identity. But, politics change and administrations change. He explained the city should be it in writing. He added this is a justice issue and city employees should not be worried about losing their job because of who they love. He further stated the city just needs to add five words to the policy to protect the employees.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Gene Vance, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

_____ Date: _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk