



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

5:30 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

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

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Present 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent 1 - LJ Bryant

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, "Council I would like to make a few comments regarding the passage and I do appreciate your support and efforts on Resolution 22:075. I want to thank Steve Purtee, Chief Miller, Chief Elliot, Assistant Chief's Waterworth and Hamrick for their help and review in this process and their cooperation and input. That made it a successful process. From the first part of this time that we met over this process, over eight months ago, we shared many concerns and how this could impact not only our community but more importantly our officers and firefighters. This rate increase, salary increase, will provide additional funding for all those families in our community and security for our police department. This is critical, as we move forward, as this is a proposed budget amendment of about \$850,000 annual investment, but it will put us among other first class cities in the state of Arkansas. We strive to recruit and maintain the highest quality of personnel. Our Chiefs have done an excellent job in doing that and it is important that we continue to improve our public safety, as there are many moving parts in that effort. In the past 16 months, we have invested \$4,000,000 in additional safety related projects, so I want to say thank you to council as you've heard our concerns, our community concerns, and I want to say thank you to my staff and those that made this occur. Thank you."

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: 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - LJ Bryant

[MIN-22:035](#) MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 19, 2022

Attachments: [CC Minutes 04192022](#)

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

[RES-22:074](#) RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO UTILIZE FEDERAL-AID TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE FY22 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FROM THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

Sponsors: Grants, Parks & Recreation and Finance

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

[RES-22:075](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO AMEND THE SALARY AND ADMINISTRATION PLAN FOR UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES AND AMEND THE 2022 BUDGET

Sponsors: Mayor's Office, Fire Department, Police Department and Finance

Attachments: [Uniform Job Titles by Grade 2022.05](#)
[U1-U6 Step Plan](#)

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

6. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[ORD-22:020](#) AN ORDINANCE FOR THE TRANSFER OF LOCATION OF A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES #3357

Attachments: [Eagles Transfer](#)
[Eagles Ordinance](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Brian Emison, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-22:020 by title only. All voted aye.

A motion was made that this matter be Held at one reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - LJ Bryant

[ORD-22:021](#) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, FROM R-1, RESIDENTIAL TO I-2 INDUSTRIAL FOR PROPERTY LOCATED EAST OF NESTLE ROAD AND NORTH OF DEER LAKE AS REQUESTED BY THE JONESBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Attachments: [Staff Summary-City Council](#)
[Plat and Legal Description](#)
[Location](#)
[Application](#)
[Certified Mail Receipts](#)
[List of Adjoining Property Owners](#)
[Property Owner Notification](#)
[Charge Sheet-Paid](#)
[Receipt](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-22:021 by title only. All voted aye.

A motion was made that this Ordinance be Held at one reading. The motion CARRIED with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - LJ Bryant

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-22:014](#) AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

Sponsors: Engineering

A motion was made that this Ordinance be Held at second reading. The motion CARRIED with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - LJ Bryant

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-22:018](#) AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR CLASSIC HOSPITALITY DBA AS DON JOSE LOCATED AT 2200 WILKINS AVENUE

Attachments: [Don Jose DO NOT USE Redacted](#)

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - LJ Bryant

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, "I think you can tell its Spring by the return of the weather, but we've had many events in our city here, let me run a few by you. We had Earth Day at Arkansas State University, Joe Mack baseball tournament that involved 28 teams and it was hosted by the Jonesboro Boosters, a DARE softball tournament with 24 teams, a 38 team soccer tournament, a Miracle League event that included 65 participants. We also had a great day with Special Olympics at Valley View with participants from the Northeast Arkansas region and our police officers participated in that event as well and have done so for many years previous. We had a Touch a Truck event hosted at NEA Baptist Hospital. I attended and I know there were at least 2,000 people that attended that event. Many city vehicles were there. Many city employees participated in that event. They get a big thrill out of that and our sanitation trucks are always a hit. They love the police, but sanitation trucks are always a hit. I want to say thank you to all of our departments for participating in that. We had a Foodie Fest Downtown. I also attended that and it was packed. They ran out of food. They didn't expect so many participants and so many people from our community. We had all types of animals that were there, but many children and families and that's what Downtown is about. We had a Tree City USA event hosted by the Parks Department and the Forestry Division of State Parks. We had a fabulous DJA Spring Fest that happened this past weekend. We've had a few retirement celebrations the last several weeks, more than 100 years of service from three men, Danny Stallings, Scott Roper in our Police Department and then Lance Harper from our Fire Department, and Roper didn't get any vacation time, he came to work first thing Monday morning. We appreciate that and we're looking forward to many good things. Scott Roper is our new Code Enforcement Director for the city of Jonesboro. He's already been hitting the streets and got some great ideas and looking forward to his leadership. Our Inaugural Mayors Youth Council had its final meeting this past Sunday. We had a great time at Craighead Forrest Lake. Someone burned the hot dogs and Brian said it wasn't him. The graduates presented me with a beautiful plaque and I do appreciate their efforts. We had the new class members as well. We had about 85-90 students that participated and I want to say thank you to the volunteers, Shelly, Tonya, Brian, Parks Department, Finance Department and others that helped us. Special thanks to Cam Robinson from our Communications Department. We've initiated the first installment today, the new initiative called Catching up with Cope. In this one, we went to several sites where we're showing our aging stormwater drainage infrastructure and how it is being replaced. We hope to highlight other various departments on a regular basis with this. The United Way fundraiser netted about \$500,000 and we had another fundraiser for the Hispanic Center which was also a good event and is a very valuable organization in our community. Coming up, we have a grand opening this Friday of the Sport Shooting Range. We also have a Scenic Hills cleanup on Saturday and an Oasis Festival on May 14th. I'll be going next week to Queretaro Mexico and I will update you with things that I and we learn from this fabulous city that shares a campus with Arkansas State University."

[COM-22:015](#) CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OVERVIEW, MARCH 2022

Sponsors: Finance

Attachments: [March 2022 Financials](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember John Street said, "We had a Public Works meeting this evening and we had a motion to walk on Resolution 22:076 on tonight's agenda. Reason being, that the metal supplies for the project can only be guaranteed for 10 days, with the price spikes we're having, that seems to be a reasonable request. I ask that we move Resolution 22:076 onto tonight's agenda."

[RES-22:076](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CONSTRUCTION NETWORK, INC. FOR THE JONESBORO SHOOTING SPORTS COMPLEX PHASE IIA - STORAGE BUILDING (2022:20)

Sponsors: Engineering and Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [Certified Bid Tab 04.21.22](#)
[Agreement - Phase IIA - Storage Building](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and walk on RES-22:076 due to the volatile prices of construction materials. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, that this Resolution be Passed. The motion CARRIED with the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - LJ Bryant

Councilmember John Street said, "Mayor, I have thanked you personally and Brian, but I want to thank you publicly for the prompt attention to the drainage issues on Scenic Drive. The gentleman had a considerable amount of difficulty and it wasn't a city issue for most of it, but I appreciate your input on that. I would also like to point out that children are not the only ones that love to see the sanitation trucks."

Councilmember Bobby Long said, "I do want to say thank you to Code Enforcement. I referred an individual that called your office and your department was professional and they responded quickly with the issue being resolved within three days. I know you are spread thin, but the professionalism in that office was top notch. Thank you."

Councilmember Chris Gibson asked, "Has there been any conversation with the State Highway and Traffic Department in regards to Johnson Avenue between University

Loop and Red Wolf about putting in a turning lane? I see accidents along that corridor on a constant basis." Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, "That is on the list to be addressed."

Councilmember Chris Moore said, "First I want to congratulate the mayor and thank the rest of the council. I'm glad to live in a community with values and that are willing to financially support our first responders. I think that's very important and not all communities share that. Since the first of the year, Dr. Coleman and I have been pretty hard on the mayor and his administration over Code Enforcement. I think with bringing Scott Roper on board, I have to give the mayor props on that. I also have to acknowledge another department. One of the things that became obvious with Code Enforcement was not just the grass and trash, but the dilapidated buildings. We lack a maintenance code so there's not a whole lot that you can do, but the Inspections Department has stepped up and they have started enforcing permitting and inspections. One of the problems is you would have buildings and structures that were completed but had no permits. Without a permit, some of it was never completed. And, as a result, they are deteriorating and there's not much we can do after the fact. I'm pleased to report, that in the last 60 days, they have shut down 40 job sites that were un-permitted and un-inspected mainly in the downtown area. Some of those were minor as in you didn't get a permit to put a roof on. But, one of those was a complete house, no permits, no inspections, no nothing, built by a group with no licensed contractors of any kind. Another is over here on Bridge Street, a 30x40 shop built with telephone poles, no permits, no inspections, nothing. Right next to that is a house that had a complete addition added on. The siding was never finished and within the last five to six years, the entire side is now rotting off. Tim Renshaw and his department alone, along with their regular case load, they have stepped up, stopped, and have done spot inspections on job sites to check for permits and licenses. The other thing, the Inspections Department relies on the purchase of permits to help with their funding. Those 40 sites had an excess of \$10,000 worth of permits that were not purchased, but yet we still have to fund the inspectors. I really have to give the credit where it's due. I know I have been hard on the Code Enforcement and the violations and I look forward to working with Captain Roper."

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, "One thing I have to admit about Tim, when I call him about anything he's smiling and he gives me an answer, and I appreciate that. On May 14th, we're still having a block party on Fisher Street, plus a free fish plate that same day. Then, on the 21st, we're having another clean-up. I'm glad we're going forward with what we're doing in our community."

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - LJ Bryant

_____ Date: _____
Harold Copenhaver, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____
April Leggett, City Clerk