



# City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center  
300 S. Church Street  
Jonesboro, AR 72401

## Meeting Minutes City Council

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Tuesday, November 20, 2018

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

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### PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING AT 4:45 P.M.

### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.

### PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:20 P.M.

*Mayor Harold Perrin asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the public hearing on abandoning and vacating an undeveloped 15' utility easement lying within Lot 2 of Wilderness Run Subdivision as requested by Benchmark Land Surveying. There was no opposition.*

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

**Absent** 1 - Chris Moore

### 4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

*Mayor Harold Perrin said we just received a late state award, but before I do that, we have several graduates from our inaugural Jonesboro Neighborhood Leadership Class at tonight's meeting. I would like to ask those participants to stand up and let us give them a round of applause. You all were featured in the City & Town Magazine, which is the Arkansas Municipal magazine that goes to all 500 cities. Jonesboro was the first city to start a program like this, and I would hope that other cities take heed to what is there and start that same program. Thank you very much. I know it takes a lot of time out of your schedule to visit and go through all the departments and learn about ordinances and resolutions. I'm going to turn it over to Parks and Recreation Director Danny Kapales. I think he has something he wants to share with you all.*

*Mr. Kapales said, two weeks ago, I attended the Arkansas Recreation and Parks convention in Benton, Arkansas, and fortunately, Craighead Forest Trail, the hard surface trail, won Trail of the Year. We beat out all the other trails in Arkansas, and since I am the representative for Northeast Arkansas, I would like to present this plaque and award to Mayor Perrin. He was such a big deal to put this trail into place*

and with his help, that's how we got there. Mayor Perrin said thank you very much.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Approval of the Consent Agenda*

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

[MIN-18:110](#) Minutes for the City Council meeting on November 8, 2018

**Attachments:** [Minutes](#)

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

[RES-18:170](#) A RESOLUTION TO EXECUTE A TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE AGREEMENT TO MAINTAIN A CONTROL DEVICE

**Sponsors:** Engineering

**Attachments:** [Traffic Control Device Agreement](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-166-2018

[RES-18:172](#) A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ARKANSAS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION (ARNC)

**Sponsors:** Engineering

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

Enactment No: R-EN-167-2018

[RES-18:184](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL RECREATION FOUNDATION TO RECEIVE A GRANT FOR THE PARKS AND RECREATION TARGET GOLF PROGRAM AT CWL PARK

**Sponsors:** Grants and Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [Jonesboro Target Golf Program Submitted Grant Application 2018](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-168-2018

[RES-18:185](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OF JONESBORO GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO APPLY FOR 2018 FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

**Sponsors:** Fire Department and Grants

**Attachments:** [FY18FPSNOFO](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-169-2018

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

[COM-18:072](#)

Request by Rickey Jackson to set an appeal hearing regarding the denial by the MAPC to rezone property located at 1130 Greensboro Road from R-1 to PD-RM-8.

**Attachments:** [Appeal Letter.pdf](#)  
[ordinance.pdf](#)  
[plat.pdf](#)  
[Application.pdf](#)  
[Staff Report.pdf](#)  
[MAPC Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

*Mayor Harold Perrin said the hearing will be scheduled for December 4, 2018, at 5:25 p.m. That will be on your agenda. Councilmember David McClain asked that he be recused from discussion or voting on this matter. Mayor Perrin said this is just setting the hearing, but when it comes up, you want to abstain. Councilmember McClain said yes sir. Mayor Perrin said so noted.*

**Read**

**ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING**

[ORD-18:060](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE SELECTION OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, AND SURVEYORS AND AWARDING OF CONTRACTS FOR CITY OF JONESBORO PROJECTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Attachments:** [A MOTION TO AMEND THE ORDINANCE DATED 112718.docx](#)

*Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Mitch Johnson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:060 by title only. All voted aye.*

*Councilmember Street said I would ask that we hold that to three readings.*

*Councilmember David McClain said I have a couple questions about the ordinance.*

Councilmember McClain asked Engineering Director Craig Light if this ordinance was going to create a problem for the city. In this ordinance, it says we, the Public Works Committee, will select three finalists and then based on certain qualifications, we give them different scores and we decide who gets the contract. I'm sure you all do that now, but do you see this creating a problem for the City Council and city as a whole? If Light Engineering Firm is submitting a proposal and you have always got the contract, and you were always the main person to get the contract, could you see that creating an issue long-term for us? If you were always the one who scored a 100, but nobody else scored a 100. Do you think that would be a huge issue?

Mr. Light said it would be questionable that one firm would be the most qualified to do every type of project that comes before the city. This proposed ordinance is going to create a lot of extra work on city staff and on the council, particularly, for projects over \$20,000. Currently, for projects between the ranges of \$20,000 to \$140,000, we used our annual statement of qualifications for that. This ordinance would require us to advertise separately for that particular project and request proposals from any firm that wants to submit. When that happens, every firm that wants to submit is going to call my office, going to want to sit down for an hour or two to get details on the projects and it's going to take up a lot of staff time going through that many proposals and walking that many firms through a project. The way we do it now, we shortlist off the annual statements and we only get proposals from the three most qualified firms. I would like to see this ordinance amended to follow that same type of procedure. If the City Council wants to pick the three firms we get proposals from, then that would be great. Soliciting open-ended proposals from any firm that wants to submit is basically wasting a lot of resources.

Councilmember McClain said the thing I was trying to get at is how do we keep from being seen as having a favorite firm, architect or engineer? Should we even have the process come before us? It is a lot to ask. I don't know a lot about engineering so I don't know if I would even be a qualified person to review those types of plans. I trust you, so that's why I asked. Mr. Light said as a councilmember, you should review the proposals and vote your conscience.

Councilmember Gene Vance said back to Councilmember McClain's original question. The procedure that he spoke of is currently being used, but it's being used by the staff rather than the Public Works Committee. The same procedure that you are using now is what is in this ordinance for the council to use. Mr. Light said the current procedure is the selection committee and it varies from project to project depending on the type of project. If it's for Parks and Recreation then someone from Parks would be on the committee. If it's for engineering, then it's typically just the engineering department. We go through and we rank the statement of qualifications. We give that list to Mayor Perrin and we talk to him about who we want to award the contract to, and if Mayor Perrin says okay, then we begin negotiating the contract. Then we bring that contract to City Council for the final approval. Councilmember Vance said so, in effect, the procedure, the ranking and everything could be construed as favoritism whether it's done by the staff or whether it's done by City Council. Mr. Light said it could be. Yes.

Councilmember Bobby Long asked, when you score those, are there objective measures in the scoring? For instance, is the company required to have been in business for so long? Do they have to have had so many millions of dollars of this project done? Do they have to have this particular certification in order to even be looked at for having a project? I don't think that would be a problem if the rankings were objective in nature rather than subjective. Mr. Light said there is currently state law that we follow in the process. There are four questions used for the annual

statement of qualifications for ranking firms and we look at the annual statements based on those four questions that state law says you have to look at. On projects that are \$2 million construction, then you do a letter of interest, which is basically an advertisement for qualified firms. They submit a letter, along with their project specific qualification statement and we rank those based on those four questions. We get the proposals and we rank those based on another set of four questions that state law requires. That's how we do it now. This proposal, basically, lumps together and adds about another 10 different things. There's nothing in state law that says you can't look at other items, as long as you're looking at those four that are required by law. Councilmember Long said it's a requirement, but we could be more stringent if we wanted to. I think if we are more stringent that the stringency needs to come in a form of objective measurements rather than subjective. I can see an increased risk involved in just putting out a blanket for any construction company to apply regardless of size and experience. That would be a waste of resources.

Mr. Light said the selection process generally takes two to three months and by adding this additional for projects between \$20,000 and \$140,000, you're adding four to six weeks to that process because that's a step that was never required before, and we would now be required to do that. We would have to advertise, which would be a cost. We would have to go through the qualifications and the Public Works Committee would have to go through the qualifications and select somebody to do it. It's going to add cost to not only the city, but to the consultants, as well. A consultant is spending \$5,000 to \$7,000 on a proposal. They're going to put some effort into a winning proposal. It's going to cost a lot of people money to do it. The first time we'll have good proposals and the second time we will not. We'll end up getting the qualified firms not doing work in Jonesboro.

Councilmember Long said I think that in keeping with the spirit of this ordinance it is transparency and accountability in the selection process. I believe we can achieve transparency by, first, putting it out there, but accountability would come more in the measurement of making sure we get the best firm for the job at the best price. To me, that's the accountability part, but, also, objectivity in the selection process would be paramount, as well. You could have 10 firms over here and you could cover up those 10 firms and objectively measure them not knowing who they are and whoever scores the best gets the job. To me, that would be as transparent and as accountable for public funds as we could possibly get. In your view, what are the main areas of this particular ordinance that you find would be a barrier to transparency and accountability rather than promoting it? Mr. Light said I don't know that it would or would not promote transparency and accountability, but my issue with what they're proposing is that it is adding a lot of time and effort that is unwarranted and not required by state law. We are adding rules and procedures to ourselves that the state says we don't have to do. If the committee wants to select, they'll still have the opportunity to select off the annual statement of qualifications rather than getting proposals from a lot of firms.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said Mr. Light, you said that it cost \$5,000 to \$7,000 for these firms to put together proposals. Do you really think that firms that know they don't stand a chance are still going to submit bids? Mr. Light said no. They don't put a dollar in the proposal to you. It's the scope of work and a timeline for it. You don't get a cost until you select a firm and then you start negotiating what the cost would be in the final scope of services. You're not going to be looking at cost when you see these proposals. Councilmember Hafner said, to me, and back to what Councilmember Vance said, this would basically move the same process from the engineering department to the Public Works Committee. I think, with the amount of money that we spend on engineering with all the construction projects we have going on around here

and knowing that we have to stretch every dollar, that it would be better for the Public Works Committee to have more visibility on what's being turned in. When it gets to the council, we have no idea what has been turned in. We just know what has been presented to us. If there were more eyes on that early in the process, then it could save no telling how much money if just more people have a chance to ask questions rather than just here you go.

Mr. Light said I think Mayor Perrin's policy that was drafted up when this first became a question back in July or August would rectify that. It gives that information to the City Council when they're making their decision on whether or not to approve the contract. Councilmember Hafner said but at that point, many times, the firm has already been selected, right? If we turn that firm down, then it's going to cost even more time because you're going to have to go back and get more bids. Right? So, that would actually cost more time if we said, no, we don't like that company. Mr. Light said, with the modifications that the Public Works Committee select the three firms to get proposals from, it's just the process of advertising. I'm not saying the council shouldn't have a voice in selecting what firms do the work and I think Mayor Perrin's policy that was written does that, as well.

Councilmember McClain said, the way this is written, do you see an issue where maybe your staff and you decide that one contractor gets a 95 and the other contractor gets a 100 and it comes to council and we select the 95 over the 100 score? Do you see this as something that essentially could happen? Mr. Light said the way the proposal is written, we wouldn't be ranking them. The City Council and Public Works Committee would be ranking them. We wouldn't rank them unless they were less than \$20,000. I think this ordinance says we would submit the top three for projects under \$20,000, but for projects over \$20,000, the Public Works Committee would get a pile of proposals and they would have to go through them and figure out who to give the job to. Staff would have no involvement other than just putting them on their desks and saying here you go.

Councilmember Hafner said you don't think staff would be involved in answering questions from the Public Works Committee about the projects. Councilmember John Street said when we started this years ago, and that's how I first met you, when you had actually came before Public Works bidding on a detention pond with your firm. Public Works was doing that. We were interviewing the firms that came. It wasn't a time-consuming burdensome process. Yes, we met a few times, but that's our job. I'm not shirking from meeting a few times. When you have seven people here on Public Works in a public meeting with you as our technical expertise in engineering and your staff to ask questions of you based on these, we don't have to be the best engineers in the world. It's an open, public meeting. It's very open and anybody can ask a question. There's nothing to hide. I think this process is going to get the best person for the job at the particular time. It has worked for us well in the past. You look at these things before you ever get them. So, if Bobby Long sends something in, you're going to disqualify him immediately because he doesn't meet the basic qualifications.

Mr. Light said my objection to it is that we're not using the annual statement of qualifications for what the law allows us to do. We're adding a step to us that's going to lengthen the time, the process and the cost. I think if that was moved up to a higher threshold before we solicit proposals openly, or even when we do, we solicit letters of intent and qualifications, rank those and then only get proposals from the top three. Those are my objections to what this ordinance would do. In 2016, we did 28 contracts. Sixteen of those would be council involvement and 12 were below \$5,000. In 2017, we did 16 that the council would be involved with. This year, the number has been low

*because, since about July, we have not done any professional services contracts because this policy and procedures has been kind of holding us up. We've done six this year, and that doesn't include the South Caraway Road project.*

*Councilmember Hafner asked do you have the dollar figures for what was spent on those projects. Mr. Light said in 2016, there were two that were over \$100,000 in contracts. In 2017, there were five that were over \$100,000 in contracts. This year, there have not been any projects over \$100,000. I think the highest one was \$26,000 to \$27,000 to Associated Engineering.*

*Councilmember Vance said if this was amended to where we utilized the annual statement of qualifications instead of advertising for every one, would that meet your objections? Mr. Light said yes. That would definitely help in the process of how we push papers and get through the process. Again, I think over \$20,000, whatever that threshold is, that we request a specific statement of qualifications and letters of interest and not just solicit for open proposals. Councilmember Vance said well, I'm a fan of the annual statement of qualifications, so I'm going to look in to what you're saying myself and maybe propose an amendment.*

*Mayor Perrin said you mentioned that the state law has four questions that you ask. Nothing says that we couldn't add some other questions that are in this ordinance to that. I've been here for 25 years and my question is, why the Public Works Committee stopped meeting on those. Councilmember Street said I have no idea. I wondered that myself. Mayor Perrin said I remember us doing that with a firm out of Nashville and meeting at the old church. We went through all of those things and spent hours and hours listening to engineers, but then somewhere down the line, and it's been several years, we just stopped. I don't know when that stopped. I'm glad you wanted to hold this to three readings. I think there could be something worked out to where it will satisfy everybody. Councilmember Street said I don't have a problem with the staff picking some, but I still want the Public Works Committee to look at them. They can narrow it down to the top five firms. Mayor Perrin said I have no problem with that. I think if we can save some time on the advertising and still have the additional questions, then we can put those together and come up with a good solution. Councilmember Street said the law doesn't say that you can't make it tougher. You can't make it weaker, but you can make it tougher. Mayor Perrin said we can add four more questions on the proposed ordinance and we can say we think these questions need to be added to the four questions that are required by state law. Then, when it comes back, you're still going to see it and you can ask the same questions again. We made a lot of comments, but I think they're all good.*

*City Attorney Carol Duncan said if we're going to make major amendments we need to do it next time or else, it's much like everything else, once you amend an ordinance too many times it needs to go back to first reading so the public knows what you're voting on. Councilmember Long said I think you said that in a committee meeting. Ms. Duncan said yes. I believe I did.*

*Mayor Perrin said if you could send that within the next two weeks. Make all your comments, submit them, and then we'll put them together and immediately get them back out to you all.*

#### **Held at one reading**

[ORD-18:070](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 50 OF THE JONESBORO ORDINANCES TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR THE JONESBORO DOG PARK

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

*Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Ann Williams, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:070 by title only. All voted aye.*

*Councilmember Joe Hafner said I have a couple of questions about the rules. Section 50-1 says the Earl Bell Dog Park is located at the Earl Bell Community Center and is available for use by Jonesboro residents only. Why are we limiting it to only Jonesboro residents and not letting out-of-town visitors use it? How are we going to enforce that? Councilmember Bobby Long said how are you going to monitor that. Councilmember Hafner said it would be like saying Craighead Forest Park is only for Jonesboro residents. Mayor Harold Perrin said I don't think it was intended for that. That was brought to my attention today. That's the reason we are trying to open it up at least temporarily tomorrow at 10 a.m. because, obviously, we have families coming in for Thanksgiving and they may be bringing their dogs with them. We want them to be able to use that facility. So, I think that needs to be looked at and changed to say citizens of Jonesboro and guests. Councilmember Hafner said the other question I had was on Section 50-33, which says dogs under six months of age are not allowed in the dog park. I was wondering why six months of age was the arbitrary number. City Attorney Carol Duncan said I don't think it's arbitrary. I think it has to do with shots and when they're considered safe to not spread disease. Councilmember Hafner said I didn't see anything in here about vaccinations or otherwise. Ms. Duncan said it's in there. Mayor Perrin said it's in there. Ms. Duncan said it's in there and they have to be able to provide copies from their veterinarian for not just rabies, but for a lot of different vaccinations. Mayor Perrin said we looked at this pretty hard. I am pleased to say that we probably have one of the best animal control centers in the State of Arkansas, and Sergeant Larry Rogers, Animal Control Supervisor, almost wrote these rules, but nothing says we can't amend them later on. Ms. Duncan said the six months has to do with disease and the spreading of the disease.*

*Councilmember Hafner said I don't know if we plan to waive any readings or not, but do we need to go ahead and make an amendment for the Jonesboro residents only. Mayor Perrin said you can make that motion from the floor tonight to add to that. We've talked about having a dog park for a long time and all the funds were raised by donors in town. Nothing came out of the general fund. We have it scheduled tomorrow to try to dedicate it and when I say dedicate it I mean to open it up and talk to the media. The signs with the rules and regulations are already posted, but I know Sgt. Rogers will be there to talk about the rules and regulations. The hydration stations are all installed. It's absolutely beautiful what the people in this town have donated, almost \$42,000, so the cost doesn't have to come out of the general fund. We have it scheduled to help people during Thanksgiving so if they have guests who come in then we can go ahead and have the park open. There is a sign up and the donors' names will eventually be added to that sign later on because we are still receiving funds every day.*

*Councilmember Hafner asked Ms. Duncan if the council needed to go ahead and make the amendment. Ms. Duncan said you want it to say Jonesboro residents and their guests, or do you want people from out-of-town to be able to come without a Jonesboro resident. Councilmember Long said I don't know how we're even going to enforce that. Ms. Duncan said by showing a driver's license. Councilmember Long asked who was going to sit out there. Ms. Duncan said nobody, unless there's a problem. Councilmember Hafner said we want it so that if someone comes in to town for work, they're staying at a hotel and they bring their pet, then they can go to the dog park. That's what we want. Ms. Duncan said unless there's a problem, it's not going to come up any way. Councilmember Hafner said if it's not in there then someone could*

go up and say you need to leave because you're not a Jonesboro resident. Mayor Perrin said if you feel comfortable with that then I would make that motion to amend. Councilmember Gene Vance said, to me, visitors might be a better word than guests. Ms. Duncan said I don't know how many dog ordinances we read from other cities, but pretty much every one of them had this in there and that's the only reason it is in ours. I don't know that any of us were like, "we don't want those Harrisburg dogs in our dog park." I don't think that was the thought process. But, I think that's why we had it is because every single city had that in there. Mayor Perrin said it's pretty strict.

Councilmember Hafner motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street to amend Section 50-31 No. 1 to add for use by Jonesboro residents and visitors. City Clerk Donna Jackson asked if it would be better to add and/or visitors. That would solve the problem of the visitor having to be with the Jonesboro resident to walk their dog. Councilmember Hafner amended his motion to add Jonesboro residents and/or visitors, seconded by Councilmember Street. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street to suspend the rules and waive second and third reading. All voted aye.

Councilmember David McClain said just for the record, we are waiving readings and adopting this now so we can open it tomorrow. Mayor Perrin said yes.

Mayor Perrin said thank you all and I would like to invite you to the 10:00 a.m. opening tomorrow of the Earl Bell Dog Park. We will send that out to the media and get some good coverage.

**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; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: O-EN-065-2018

[ORD-18:072](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES TO BE PLACED IN CITY RIGHTS-OF-WAY IN THE CITY OF JONESBORO

**Sponsors:** Planning

**Attachments:** [Small Cell Tower Examples.docx](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:065 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Street said I move we hold this for three readings. I don't think there's any big rush. Councilmember Gene Vance asked if the council could get a picture and information on what these wireless facilities are going to look like. Mayor Perrin said this is a complicated ordinance and I want you all to be clear on this because the wave is going to happen and these wireless facilities are going to be coming into these cities. The executive committee of the Arkansas Municipal League has met with AT&T and other companies. We will get you all a lot of information. Chief Operations Officer Bill Reznicek has a full stack and we'll send that to you tomorrow. Many companies are going to be coming into town trying to get the first wireless facility in. The

questions are where do you install them in the city and what is the liability. I would like to hold this for one reading.

**Held at one reading**

[ORD-18:073](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD AS CREATED BY ORDINANCE 07:50

**Sponsors:** Engineering

*Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:073 by title only. All voted aye.*

*Councilmember Street said this has to do with attendance. Is it critical? Mayor Harold Perrin said that is correct. If the members miss three consecutive meetings or if they miss 25 or more meetings annually, they can asked to be relieved from this board.*

*Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson to suspend the rules, waive second reading and hold for third. All voted aye.*

**Waived Second Reading**

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

[ORD-18:075](#)

AN ORDINANCE ABANDONING AND VACATING AN UNDEVELOPED 15' UTILITY EASEMENT LYING WITHIN LOT 2 OF WILDERNESS RUN SUBDIVISION AS REQUESTED BY BENCHMARK LAND SURVEYING

**Attachments:** [18211-002-PETITION-SIGNED.pdf](#)  
[WILDERNESS RUN PLAT.pdf](#)  
[COJ-Abandonment Utility - Wilderness Run.pdf](#)  
[ATT-Abandonment Utility - Wilderness Run.pdf](#)  
[CENTERPOINT-Abandonment Utility - Wilderness Run.pdf](#)  
[CWL-Abandonment Utility - Wilderness Run.pdf](#)  
[RITTER-Abandonment Utility - Wilderness Run.pdf](#)  
[SUDDENLINK-Abandonment Utility - Wilderness Run.pdf](#)

*Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:075 by title only. All voted aye.*

**Held at one reading**

[ORD-18:077](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM I-1, LIMITED INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT TO RM-8, RESIDENTIAL MULTIFAMILY FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 124 N. FISHER AS REQUESTED BY MARTHA FERNANDEZ

**Attachments:** [Ordinance.pdf](#)  
[Plat.pdf](#)  
[Application.pdf](#)  
[Staff Summary - 124 N. Fisher.pdf](#)  
[Rezoning Questions.pdf](#)  
[Site Plan - Plat.pdf](#)  
[Plan Drawing.pdf](#)  
[Quitclaim Deed.pdf](#)  
[Survey.pdf](#)

*Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:075 by title only. All voted aye.*

*Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said I have a question about this. I'd like it to go for three readings, but I've also had a talk with some people this morning who have issues with this ordinance. As a matter of fact, the pastor of the church and I talked this morning about this. Mayor Harold Perrin asked do you want to make a motion to table this to the next meeting. Councilmember Dr. Coleman said yes. Councilmember David McClain said point of order real quick. We have a motion to offer by title only first and then a second, so now we need to vote on that. City Attorney Carol Duncan said a motion to table, if that is what Councilmember Dr. Coleman wants to do, can take precedence over the other, but we'll end up having to do that any way. Councilmember McClain said that's fine. I'm just trying to understand what we're voting on. Mayor Perrin said we're following the rules. Councilmember Street said I move to withdraw my motion and Councilmember Gibson said I withdraw my second. Ms. Duncan said so the motion is to postpone indefinitely to the next meeting, not just table it. Mayor Perrin said that is correct. It gives Councilmember Dr. Coleman time to study it. Mayor Perrin said the motion is to postpone until the next council meeting.*

**Placed on second reading**

## **7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### *ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING*

#### [ORD-18:065](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE RITTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AND TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN RITTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND THE CITY OF JONESBORO

**Sponsors:** Finance

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: O-EN-066-2018

#### [ORD-18:067](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2018 BUDGET FOR THE FY2018 JUSTICE

## ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM

**Sponsors:** Finance, Grants and Police Department

**Attachments:** [Budget Narrative](#)

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: O-EN-067-2018

[ORD-18:068](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL, R3 TO RESIDENTIAL INTERMEDIATE-URBAN, RI-U FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 207 CEDAR AS REQUESTED BY TRAVIS FISCHER WITH TRALAN ENGINEERING ON BEHALF OF JORGE DELAGARZA, DELANEX, INC.

**Attachments:** [Staff Summary - 207 Cedar Street.pdf](#)  
[207 Cedar-COJ Rezoning Ordinance.pdf](#)  
[Rezoning Plat.pdf](#)  
[Application.pdf](#)  
[Warranty Deed.pdf](#)  
[USPS Receipts.pdf](#)  
[RP 18-52 DELANEX REPLAT LOTS 1, 2, 3 - CHURCH STREET.pdf](#)

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Abstain:** 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: O-EN-068-2018

[ORD-18:069](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL, R2 TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, C-3 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1906 KATHLEEN AS REQUESTED BY TRAVIS FISCHER WITH TRALAN ENGINEERING ON BEHALF OF HIGHLAND KATHLEEN, LLC

**Attachments:** [Staff Summary - 1906 Kathleen Street.pdf](#)  
[Rezoning Plat.pdf](#)  
[Application.pdf](#)  
[USPS Receipts.pdf](#)  
[Warranty Deed.pdf](#)  
[1906 Kathleen-COJ Rezoning Ordinance.pdf](#)

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: O-EN-069-2018

[ORD-18:071](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT WITH ARKANSAS BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD TO PROVIDE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CITY EMPLOYEES FOR 2019

**Sponsors:** Human Resources

**Attachments:** [BCBS City of Jonesboro](#)  
[BCBS City of Jonesboro Rx Only](#)  
[BCBS Jonesboro Craighead Library](#)  
[BCBS Jonesboro Municipal Airport](#)  
[BCBS JURHA](#)  
[Finance Presentation.pdf](#)

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: O-EN-070-2018

*ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD IN COUNCIL*

[ORD-18:033](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO AMEND THE 2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND BUDGET AND FEDERAL FUNDS BUDGET FOR THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND SUBGRANT AGREEMENT WITH ARKANSAS STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION FOR THE JONESBORO SHOOTING SPORTS COMPLEX.

**Sponsors:** Finance, Grants and Engineering

*Engineering Director Craig Light said I believe these documents have already been*

executed. Mayor Harold Perrin said I don't know. Mr. Light says it has engineering as being one of the sponsors. All of our agreements with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission are already executed. City Clerk Donna Jackson said it was postponed temporarily on 09/18/18. Mr. Light said I don't believe that it should be on the agenda. Mayor Perrin said what Ms. Jackson is saying is that it was postponed on 05/15/18 and then on 09/18/18, it was postponed temporarily. So, the vote has not been taken totally on the ordinance. Councilmember Gene Vance said isn't this to amend the budget. Mayor Perrin said yes it is. It is amending the capital improvement budget. Councilmember Vance said it's covering you for signing those papers. Mr. Light said I didn't sign them. Mayor Perrin said I did and that's the reason I'm saying it hasn't been approved yet.

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: O-EN-071-2018

[ORD-18:051](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 117-326, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE PROVISION OF LANDSCAPE, SCREENING AND TREE PRESERVATION WITHIN THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, WITH THE INTENT TO PROMOTE LANDSCAPING, BUFFERING, SCREENING AND TREE PRESERVATION FOR THE GENERAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY.

**Attachments:** [Landscape Ordinance 5th addn.pdf](#)  
[Proposed landscaping ordinance email](#)  
[Brown Email 09162018.pdf](#)  
[Landscape Ordinance Revised.pdf](#)

Councilmember Gene Vance asked if the ordinance that City Attorney Carol Duncan just read was the original ordinance that was tabled. Ms. Duncan said yes. Councilmember Vance said so before we can talk about the new ordinance then this needs to go for an up or down vote. Is that correct? Ms. Duncan said no. I think Councilmember David McClain has a motion. Councilmember McClain said I have a motion to withdraw ORD-18:051 and replace it with the revised landscaping ordinance. Councilmember Vance said we don't need to vote on it tonight on the third reading. Councilmember McClain said we wouldn't. It's my understanding that it will go back to the first reading. Councilmember Vance asked if that was the proper way to do it legislatively, or is the proper way to vote down the original ordinance and then present the second one at first reading. Ms. Duncan said I think you can do it either way. City Clerk Donna Jackson and I had a discussion that you could make a motion to remove that language and replace it with the new language recommended by the committee, but it does need to go back to first reading. Councilmember Vance said I would be willing to vote on it if Councilmember McClain would add to his motion take the new wording back to the first reading. Councilmember McClain said my motion was to withdraw the original one and replace with the new revised version. Ms. Duncan said and to have it on first reading for tonight. Councilmember Vance said Councilmember McClain never did state to put it on first reading. Councilmember McClain said I'll amend my motion to place the new version on first reading. Mayor Perrin said

Councilmember McClain motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street to withdraw ORD-18:051 and add the revision and have it on the first reading tonight. All voted aye, except for Councilmember Gene Vance who voted nay.

Councilmember Vance said the only reason I'm voting no is because I would like the first reading to be in two weeks. Mayor Perrin said let the record state Councilmember Vance's vote.

Councilmember Bobby Long motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:051 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Vance asked Mayor Perrin if he was going to open the floor up for public comments. Mayor Perrin said I'd be glad to open it up for public comments.

Matt Parker, 1102 Dove Road, asked if this was one ordinance or two ordinances. In the first ordinance under 117-326 it says that residential properties and several other properties are exempt. Then, there's the second ordinance titled 117-???, and I'm unclear that if what appears to be a second ordinance applies or is it exempt. For example, is residential property that is exempt under 117-326 also exempt under 117-???? City Attorney Carol Duncan said no. It applies to residential property, but the first one does not. That is my understanding. That's the reason there are two sections. The first section is for commercial development. Mr. Parker said so there are two separate ordinances we are talking about. Ms. Duncan said it's one ordinance amending the code, but it includes two different sections in the code. It's one ordinance, but it's two sections to the code and the second one is the residential.

Mr. Parker said I have questions about the second one, which contains the question marks, but I don't want to take up all your time to go through those questions. What is the proper process to get citizen input for clarifications from Ms. Duncan or Planning Director Derrel Smith? Mayor Perrin said you could send any of your questions to Ms. Duncan, as well as to Chief Operations Officer Bill Reznicek. Mr. Parker said I'll try to get that done before the second reading.

Councilmember McClain asked if he could make a comment. I think that everybody on the landscape committee agreed, even those whose profession is in development, on this new ordinance, the revised version. City Water & Light and the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce, as well, were good with this and supported the amended version. We have some landscape committee members here tonight. Mayor Perrin said I appreciate you all serving on this committee.

Councilmember L.J. Bryant asked why the question marks were in the ordinance. Ms. Duncan said the number needs to be filled in by Municode. I think that is why Mr. Smith put question marks. We weren't sure what number it was going to actually be assigned. The only question is the number, not the content. Mayor Perrin said it has nothing to do with the ordinance.

Councilmember Bobby Long said so, section 117-??? more or less deals with residential. I'm looking at this site development plan and if you want to take seven trees off your property, you have to have a site development plan. What does a site development include? Who is responsible for doing the plan? What companies provide such services? How much do those services cost? Planning Director Derrel Smith said I don't know how much they cost, Mr. Long, but I would be glad to sit down and talk to you about all of those, but this is for tree preservation. The first section is for landscaping commercial, industrial and multi-family property. The second section is for

*tree preservation in all zones. Most residential is going to be exempted out unless it's over an acre, which it plainly states in that section. It also plainly states that it has to be seven 18-inch trees or above that count. Most residential zonings are going to be less than that, especially in subdivisions. They're all going to be less than that. This would only include large tracts of land. Councilmember Long said okay.*

**Held at one reading**

## **8. MAYOR'S REPORTS**

*You all have received the Airport Commission Financial Statements. It looks like they are doing much better and having more traffic into our airport this year. I missed the last council meeting because I was attending the National League of Cities in Los Angeles, California. I was put on the board of directors, which means that as I attend these meetings I'm going to dictate a memorandum to every one of you regarding the subjects and what is being discussed on the national level. Secondly, the National League of Cities will be working closely with the Arkansas Municipal League, where I'm serving as first vice president. The Arkansas Municipal League will pay for all of my trips to the National League of Cities. There will be absolutely no cost to the citizens of Jonesboro for me to serve on this board. I think you will find that, if I can take some good notes, I'm going to send you a lot of stuff.*

*We received good news at the last highway meeting this week. The City of Jonesboro received another Transportation Alternative Program, TAP, grant for a total of \$498,750. This will be Phase IV of the bike and pedestrian trail, which is coming out of Craighead Forest Park. Phase III will take it down to Highway 1. This will take it from Highway 1 all the way up to the fire station. This is a sprocket spin-off of the master plan, which will allow the residents in Rossland Hills and that area to take a walk or ride the bike all the way to Craighead Forest Park without getting on the highway. The federal match is \$399,000. Our part is \$99,750, which is a good deal. I believe it was an 80/20 match. This will be coming to you all for approval before we send it off and get it done.*

*Each of you have received the 2019 budget. I would like you all to look at that, and with the blessing of the Finance Committee and the chair, I would like for us to meet on November 27, during the finance committee meeting. The only item on that agenda will be the budget. So, you can formulate any questions having to do with the budget itself. I think that was your request, Councilmember Hafner. Councilmember Hafner said the original request to me today was to have a finance meeting next Tuesday and then have a special-called council meeting next Tuesday. I didn't want to do that because we have plenty of time. I wanted it to have plenty of time in people's hands and I would rather the public get to come. I would rather have it at a regular scheduled council meeting that's more well attended than a special-called meeting. Mayor Perrin said this will basically take all the questions from the Finance Committee and, should there be a motion to forward it on to the council, then we'll have plenty of time in December, with two meetings, to look at it and ask questions. I will say that the proposed budget is to be adopted by resolution rather than ordinance. When you pass it by resolution, it's effective immediately. Rather than an ordinance where there has to be three readings. That's something we can talk about in the finance meeting next Tuesday. A majority of the cities are going to the resolution rather than the ordinance.*

*The other thing that is in your packet in the budget is a lot of information on the Arkansas Municipal League. Chief Operations Officer Bill Reznicek and the finance department and others have been looking at switching to the Arkansas Municipal League. What we have with the Arkansas Municipal League right now is basically our*

worker's compensation and that is it. I want you to really look at that list and give me your feedback and comments. We will discuss that at the finance meeting, as well. It appears there is a lot more coverage and a lot more staff with the Arkansas Municipal League. I want you to look at that very closely because I'm going to ask to move it to the Arkansas Municipal League because of the staff. Some of you who have been here for many years know that with legal defense, they have 12 to 14 attorneys on staff and they do it every day. I want you to look at the insurance on the buildings and cars and make sure that you understand it, and Mr. Reznicek will be prepared to go over every line item. The cost between APERMA and the Arkansas Municipal League is about flat. So, this will be a service that we are moving to where people are highly experienced and work in every day. Again, I'm not pulling anyone. I'm making a statement and I want you to look at that very closely. We will talk about it at the finance meeting.

I wanted to talk to you about the Roundhouse. I want to say a tremendous thanks to the Jonesboro Fire Department and Jonesboro Police Department. That situation could have really got out of hand. A lot of businesses were located there. The fire department stayed out there until probably about Midnight on Saturday evening and had to go back on Sunday. The way they were on top of that fire to save the backside of the building, which is very close to a lot of those businesses, really paid off. Obviously, the police department had to do a lot of directing traffic and things of that nature. We have a great public safety department and I wanted to say thank you very much.

Also, City Attorney Carol Duncan and I looked at the schedule today on another matter and January 3 should be our January council meeting. January 1 falls on that Tuesday and that is when people are sworn in, so, we'll need to move it to that Thursday, January 3. That will give you plenty of time to go ahead and put it on your calendar.

We received our sales tax report yesterday from the state. Our sales tax is not good. There was only \$9,787. It was 1.38 last month, which is over, compared to this time last year. County was only .91. The House and Senate has already sponsored a bill to try to get an internet sales tax approved. Governor Asa Hutchison has stated that he will not take any of those funds away. The Department of Finance and Administration has estimated that an internet sales tax will bring \$35 million, annually, into the State of Arkansas. The money would also come back to the point of sale, which would be to Jonesboro. So, if anyone in Jonesboro buys online, the sales tax they pay, if approved by the House and Senate, will be reverted to Jonesboro. Every year, internet sales goes up dramatically. It's convenient. It's good. If you don't like it, you can put it back in the bag and mail it back. The point is that you are competing with people who have a building who pay real estate taxes to support this community. You can see what it is doing to our budget. This is just Jonesboro. If you look at Little Rock, theirs is down. If you look at Springdale, theirs is down. All of the cities in Arkansas are down dramatically on their sales tax and we think it's because of internet sales.

Councilmember Gene Vance said before you get off the tax subject, I was looking at a bill I had from a local grocery store and it showed a 3.5% total tax on groceries and there was no city or county tax. Is that correct? Mayor Perrin said it shouldn't be. Councilmember Vance said I didn't think it was either. I know the state has reduced their amount, but that might be something we need to look into to make sure that computers are working right in these stores. That might be a question for the state.

Mayor Perrin said we're going down to Little Rock to meet with Larry Walther, Director of the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration. I'll give you an example of

*how hard this is to understand. You go into a convenience store and purchase a fountain drink and a soda from the cooler. If you had a prepared food tax, you wouldn't pay anything on the fountain drink, but you would for the one you get out of the cooler. I want to get this very clear with Mr. Walther, and I'll bring the information back and send it out to all of you. Councilmember Bobby Long said I think another important point to what you were speaking about was on how the money is going to come back to us. Now, that wasn't necessarily the case, and from what I understood, not long ago it was point of delivery where the tax went. Mayor Perrin said that is on furniture and things of that nature. This is internet sales tax. If you came into Jonesboro, bought a bedroom suite and had it delivered to your home in Brookland, then Brookland gets that tax. That was passed way back in the House and the Senate. That is something that the Arkansas Municipal League is also looking at and to make it fair to where it's point of sale rather than point of delivery.*

*Councilmember Vance said the point of delivery was done in order to get to the internet taxing. That way, if it's shipped here from New York City, the tax would be local and not New York City tax. So, if you change it from point of delivery, you might be shooting yourselves in the foot.*

*Mayor Perrin said that's why we're going to Little Rock to look at that and meet with Mr. Walther to make sure on that. The deal is that 2019's budget is extremely conservative. It's about half of last year. Mr. Reznicek has talked to all the department heads and they've been very good and gracious that again we're not taking any fixed assets away from them in order for them to do their business. Look at it. I think it's a good budget. We are pulling down excess reserves again this year in order to balance the budget. State law says we have to have a balanced budget. If you look at this budget, and I don't have the figures in front of me, but, we're going to be pulling somewhere around \$6.4 million out of excess reserves for next year to balance the budget. Which will show in the 2019 budget that if we do exactly what this says that we're going to end up with around \$14 million in excess reserves. So, that's something that I want you all to understand and I'm going to ask Mr. Reznicek to give a PowerPoint and look out three to five years because this is a very fast-growing city at 3%. To keep up with infrastructure, particularly public safety, we're going to have to have money coming in so we're going to have to be looking at other sources of revenue, as well as anything else we can try to get in here. I'll quit with that and we'll have all of our discussion at the next meeting.*

[COM-18:075](#)

Airport Commission Financial Statements ending October 31, 2018

**Attachments:** [JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 10\\_18.pdf](#)

**Read**

## **9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

*Councilmember John Street said I would just like to congratulate Mayor Perrin on his appointment to the Board of Directors for the National League of Cities. I think that is going to be an asset for Jonesboro and the state. I think he can do us a lot of good there. The National League of Cities has been really concerned about the possible loss of our public access channel. Do you know anything about the status of that? Mayor Perrin said I'm not aware of it at all. Councilmember Street said it's been in the news and the National League of Cities has been pushing it lately about contacting your representatives and stuff. It's a real risk of losing that with the franchise agreements. They're actually arguing about it and they want that channel for their own*

use. Mayor Perrin said if you all remember, most franchise agreements used to come through the cities where the business was located. Then, there was a bill passed to where they had a choice of going to the state rather than the city and that's what happened with Jonesboro. Suddenlink and others went through the Secretary of State to get their franchise agreement rather than Jonesboro. I'll keep that in mind. Councilmember Street said let us know if there's anything we can do to assist or contact legislators. I've notified ours. I think it's a real asset to the city to use Channel 24. It broadcasts our meetings and it keeps the public informed for people who can't attend in person. I'd hate to see us lose it. Mayor Perrin said our PEG channel is really watched a great deal. I agree with you and we want to keep that. We'll write letters and work on that. The Arkansas Municipal League will be here Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the St. Bernards Auditorium. If you can, please try to attend. They're going to discuss bills they are real concerned about in this coming session in January. It may even affect your business regardless of what business you're in right now.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson said I'd just like to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving. I believe we are truly blessed. Mayor Perrin said I agree.

Councilmember L.J. Bryant said I just wanted to say that Human Resources did a good job with open enrollment.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said back on the budget real quick. One thing I would like for Mr. Reznicek and Mayor Perrin or Finance Director Trever Harvey to do at the Finance Committee Meeting is talk about the pros and cons of adoption by resolution rather than ordinance. I stated in our last finance meeting that the last thing I want to do is make it appear that we are being less transparent by passing it on resolution rather than three readings of an ordinance. Thankfully, tonight, the Public Services Committee forwarded the bike and pedestrian plan to council so it can start being considered. I just think quality of life items are going to be really important as we move forward because you mentioned that we are growing, but our median income is also going down. So, we're growing, but we're actually having less money generated to keep up with more things or more people. We have to reverse that trend and find ways to do it. Also, on the Public Services meeting today and I know things come up on short notice sometimes, but, like today, my first meeting was at 5:30 p.m. I thought and I was out of town. Then we get a notice that we have a meeting at 4:45 p.m. So, the sooner we can get those notices, the better and not only for the council, but for the public, too, especially when we have things as important as the bike and pedestrian plan. It would be better to have as much notice as possible so everybody can be here.

Councilmember David McClain said I know we are looking at adopting this bike and pedestrian plan and going forward I would ask that we take into serious consideration and look at complete streets. It's great that we may adopt this plan, but at the same time, I think we need to make sure we are looking at more than one mode of transportation. I'm encouraged by the plan, but at the same time, I want to make sure that we're going the right direction.

Councilmember Ann Williams asked if there was any update on the impact fees consultant selection process. Planning Director Derrel Smith said we have four RFQs in from four different consultants. We, myself, Mr. Harvey and Councilmember Hafner, have graded them. We have given them to Mayor Perrin and we're waiting to start negotiations with the firms we have looked at.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said Happy Thanksgiving everybody.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Aye:** 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

**Absent:** 1 - Chris Moore

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Harold Perrin, Mayor**

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Donna Jackson, City Clerk**