



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

ELECTION OF A CHAIR

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Ann Williams, to nominate Joe Hafner as Chair of the Finance & Administration Council Committee. All voted aye except Joe Hafner who abstained.

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk April Leggett

Present 7 - Joe Hafner; Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; John Street and Anthony Coleman

3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-22:110](#)

Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on December 13, 2022

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

Aye: 6 - Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; John Street and Anthony Coleman

[MIN-22:111](#)

Minutes for the Special Called Finance Committee Meeting on December 9, 2022

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

Aye: 6 - Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; John Street and Anthony Coleman

4. New Business

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-22:256](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL

RIGHT-OF-WAY AT 1400 E. WASHINGTON AVENUE FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CONSTRUCTING AND MAINTAINING ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Offer and Acceptance - 1400 E Washington Avenue](#)

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

Aye: 6 - Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; John Street and Anthony Coleman

[RES-22:258](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO WITHDRAW THE CONDEMNATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 301 REEVES STREET, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AND AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL RIGHT-OF-WAY AT 301 REEVES STREET FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING AND MAINTAINING ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Offer and Acceptance - 301 Reeves Street](#)

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

Aye: 6 - Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; John Street and Anthony Coleman

[RES-22:259](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE JONESBORO CITY COUNCIL TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF THREE PICKUP TRUCKS FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Sponsors: Finance

Attachments: [2023 Chevy 1500 Double Cab 4WD Documents](#)

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said I do have a question, Mr. Chairman, if you would. Chairman Joe Hafner said Dr. Coleman? Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said thank you. So for layman's terms and just for my understanding, I do get the bidding process and just wanted to make sure that I understood that when we were looking for the trucks, there was a low supply and demand at the time. And in that time compared to now, is it still low supply and that type of thing, so I just wanted clarity, that's all.

Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium and said yes, we actually did an equipment depreciation fund the last two years, and we did that to try to get early in the process as we can as possible. But for anybody that's tried to shop around about a new vehicle the last couple of years, they are hard to come by. I believe what state bid awarded last year were Ram pickups, and you can't get a Ram pickup right now. These just happened to pop up; and I think they are actually within margin of error price wise. These might be a little cheaper actually. They are really close, and they are just a comparable vehicle for what we were trying to order anyway. So in this market, if you find something that will do the job, you just got to take it; because we were needing these trucks. And this is the closest match that we could possibly find. But we've got to go through the waiving competitive bidding, because these are actually not available on state bid, because a lot of these dealerships just

didn't predict that they could actually get the supply in. So we were constantly searching and trying to find these vehicles, and we found these, and so that is why we're here today on these.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said sure, sure. Chairman Joe Hafner said are you familiar with how the state bid process works? Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said somewhat. I'm familiar with bidding process, but you used 'they didn't predict.'

Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson said yes, the way the bid process works is you're bidding for a half ton four-wheel drive truck and you know either Ford, Dodge, Chevrolet, Toyota, they'll all put in their low price for that particular vehicle. The Silverados weren't selected this year because for whatever reason, and they're debating. But these are similar to what those Ram trucks would have been. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said just wanted clarity. That's it. I appreciate it. Thank you.

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

Aye: 6 - Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; John Street and Anthony Coleman

[RES-23:001](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE JONESBORO CITY COUNCIL DECLARING AN EXCEPTIONAL SITUATION AND WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING TO REPAIR DAMAGE TO CITY-OWNED INDUSTRIAL TRACK

Sponsors: Engineering

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

Aye: 6 - Brian Emison; Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; David McClain; John Street and Anthony Coleman

5. Pending Items

6. Other Business

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Ann Williams, to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-23:003. All voted aye.

Chairman Joe Hafner said I will go ahead and bring up, since it was brought up the last finance meeting. Mr. Bryant's no longer on the committee. I think he wrote off this year, but he had brought up potentially changing the time of the meeting. I was just going to since he brought that up, and we said we'd bring it up at the next meeting. I was going to go ahead and bring it up. I guess this is a chance if anybody wants to make a motion to change it, they can make the motion. If there's a second, we can have discussion about it. Otherwise, we will keep it the same time it has been.

Councilmember Ann Williams said I don't see any practical alternative, you know, in thinking about it to the current timing of it as far as getting things on the agenda. That would be an issue, I think, and one of the meetings, I guess, could be before a council meeting, but I'm thinking with our committee schedule and the need to get things on the agenda, I don't off-hand see an alternative. I mean, I understand...

Chairman Joe Hafner said there really hasn't been a motion yet, so I don't think we can discuss it without a motion. I was just bringing it up in case somebody wanted to make a motion to change it.

Councilmember David McClain motioned, seconded by Councilmember Ann Williams, to change finance committee meetings to the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 4 PM.

Chairman Joe Hafner said I'll go first, and I know I won't be voting on this unless there is a tie, but I kind of agree with Ms. Williams. You know, a lot of our meetings are over by 4:30 when we would have like a public services meeting or something else like that, but there's some times when we do go longer depending on what's on the agenda and it's not just budget or something like that, but you know it could be any time there is anything involving a tax or anything like that. I would just hate for us to, number one, feel rushed to get through important discussions, and number two, to push every other meeting back that would come after us. I mean, I know it would free up a Tuesday for us, but my other thing is, you know, one of the good things about having our meetings where we have them is there's a natural flow to the next council meeting; where this would increase the number of walk-ons potentially. And that's one thing that we want to try to avoid is walk-ons.

Councilmember Ann Williams said that's what I was kind of getting at, that a lot of times we have a time issue as far as like with grants and we're running into a deadline. I think it would appear that we would end up walking on a lot of stuff, and I think that would cause some criticism from the public of us doing that.

Councilmember John Street said over the years, we've looked at this numerous times and there just doesn't seem to be a better alternative not to give the weight that finance needs. And most of the items, some are routine, but a lot of them are very important; and it gives people time to actually look at them and study them before they're voted on by council. And it gives the staff time to make adequate presentations and get things before the council that they've had a chance to prepare, and especially if something needs to be changed between the finance meeting and the city council meeting.

Councilmember David McClain said Mr. Chairman, let me ask this. So if we have the meeting at four o'clock, we wouldn't move it to council that night? Chairman Joe Hafner said no, it wouldn't be on the agenda. For now, if we have a meeting this week, it'll be on next week's agenda, so we would potentially slow some stuff down.

Councilmember John Street said we would have to have special meetings and do a lot of walk-ons because you have to. Because we don't control the schedule for a lot of the grants and things. That's what we've dealt with in the past even with having it when we have it. I'm just as much for saving a day for me as anybody else, but we're here to do the city's business and represent them in the best light possible; and I think our existing time has proved to do that over the years.

Councilmember Ann Williams said only other thing, if it's a problem. If Mr. Bryant is referring to the fact that the four o'clock meeting cuts into some of his work day, our meetings and stuff. We could, but I don't know if this would be agreeable with everyone, have the meeting at five o'clock, but that may be too late for some people. Chairman Joe Hafner said that's MAPC. Councilmember Ann Williams said oh, that's right on the second Tuesday. I remember now. That's when I was kind of mulling over how we could do this. In thinking about it, I really could not come up with an alternative

in other words.

Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium and said the last time this was brought up, I told Councilman Bryant that I would think of some pros and cons. I think most of it has already been covered, but I will add that my biggest concern and the mayor's biggest concern is that if you consolidate these meetings, it does kind of cut down on the natural flow of information that goes out to the public. I mean, you're talking about putting everything in one, you know, two nights a week versus, it's kind of a steady flow of information coming out that I think the finance committee meeting opposite the council in the second and last week, just kind of supplies a natural train of information to the public and keeps them more engaged versus a lack of public meetings for a couple of weeks and all of a sudden you've got council and everything's crammed into one new cycle. And I just think this helps get more information out there. That's all I've got to add.

All voted nay.

Chairman Joe Hafner said we will keep the meetings at the current time.

[RES-23:002](#)

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING FREE UTILITY SERVICES FROM CITY WATER AND LIGHT FOR THE CITY OWNED PROPERTY AT 400 LACY DRIVE

Sponsors: Building Maintenance

Councilmember John Street asked to be recused from discussion and voting on this matter since he is a board member of City Water & Light.

A motion was made by Brian Emison, seconded by Ann Williams, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Recused: 1 - John Street

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Brian Emison, that this meeting be Adjourned. The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Brian Emison;Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;David McClain;John Street and Anthony Coleman