



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Thursday, October 9, 2025

5:30 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

NOTE: Rescheduled due to National Night Out

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 (ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE) INITIATED AND CONFIRMED BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Present 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;David McClain;Kevin Miller;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent 2 - Chris Gibson and Joe Hafner

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, this evening, we don't have any special presentations, but I will note at the next meeting I will be bringing forward our adjudication and justification for our audit that was a clean audit, and we have to do so accordingly, to state law, and that'll be coming forth all of you should be receiving a copy of that shortly. So if you would, please go over that if you have any questions and we can address it at the next meeting or you can obviously call our office to answer any questions you may have.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;David McClain;Kevin Miller;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 2 - Chris Gibson and Joe Hafner

[MIN-25:082](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

Attachments: [CC Minutes 09162025.pdf](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

[RES-25:128](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE COST PROPOSAL AND ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO MATRIX CONSULTING GROUP TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE BUILDING CODE REVIEW AND PERMITTING PROCESS ASSESSMENT STUDY

Attachments: [Jonesboro Cost Proposal.pdf](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-136-2025

[RES-25:129](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO APPROVE THE ATTACHED FEE PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR THE MARION BERRY PARKWAY MULTIUSE TRAIL PROJECT

Attachments: [Marion Berry Multiuse Trail Fee Proposal.pdf](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-137-2025

[RES-25:131](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE FY2023 LOW-NO EMISSIONS GRANT FROM THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION AND ACCEPT THE SOLE SOURCE BID AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HOMETOWN MANUFACTURING, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE HYBRID TROLLEY BUSES

Attachments: [Trolley 1 Quote.pdf](#)
 [Trolley 2 Quote.pdf](#)
 [Sole Source letter.pdf](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-138-2025

[RES-25:132](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 616 E. OAK, PARCEL 01-144191-17500, OWNED BY JOYCE SCARBOROUGH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Attachments: [1. 616 E Oak Notice of Violation.pdf](#)
 [2. 616 E Oak Billing Request.pdf](#)
 [3. 616 E Oak Mowing Invoice.pdf](#)
 [4. 616 E Oak Council Notice.pdf](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-139-2025

[RES-25:133](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1400 MERRYWOOD, PARCEL 01-144203-16200, OWNED BY TONYA R. HINDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$315

Attachments: [1. 1400 Merrywood Notice of Violation.pdf](#)
 [2. 1400 Merrywood Billing Request.pdf](#)
 [3. 1400 Merrywood Mowing Invoice.pdf](#)
 [4. 1400 Merrywood Council Notice.pdf](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-140-2025

[RES-25:134](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3806 SCHOOL STREET, PARCEL 01-144272-16500, OWNED BY OLGA HERNANDEZ IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Attachments: [2. 3806 School St Billing Request.pdf](#)
 [3. 3806 School St Mowing Invoice.pdf](#)
 [4. 3806 School St Council Notice.pdf](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-141-2025

6. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[ORD-25:034](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING MID-SOUTH AUTO SERVICE TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-25:034 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-25:030](#)

AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING ORDINANCE 24:037 WHICH ESTABLISHED AND CONSOLIDATED SPECIAL TRAFFIC PATTERNS NEAR JONESBORO PUBLIC SCHOOLS (JPS) CAMPUSES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;David McClain;Kevin Miller;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 2 - Chris Gibson and Joe Hafner

Enactment No: O-EN-036-2025

[ORD-25:031](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

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

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;David McClain;Kevin Miller;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 2 - Chris Gibson and Joe Hafner

Enactment No: O-EN-037-2025

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Copenhaver reported on the following:

Tonight, I want to start the Mayor's Report was really exciting news that we received yesterday from ARDOT. The department announced the recipients of the 2025 Transportation Alternative Program better known as TAP. And I'm proud to say Jonesboro was awarded \$490,000 and for this TAP grant for the Higginbotham Creek Trail. For those of you who may not be familiar, TAP grants support projects and improve transportation options for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized travel. It is a reimbursement style grant that covers 80% of the cost with federal funds while we provide a 20% local match. This is a big win for our community, and our commitment for walkability, recreation, and quality of life.

And as you know, we're meeting tonight instead of our normal Tuesday night meeting because Tuesday night, we celebrated National Night Out. Jonesboro's events was graciously hosted by council member, Dr. Charles Coleman. I don't want to take his thunder for this evening, but he served plenty of good food. He and his all of his many colleagues, they provided giveaways, created a sense of community and belonging. National Night Out, as the name implies, encouraged across the country as a community building campaign aiming to promote police, community partnerships, and neighborhood camaraderie. With the results being increased safety through awareness in neighborhood spirit. Thank you, Dr. Coleman, for all your volunteers who make this event very special each year for Jonesboro.

I also want to take a moment to recognize our incredible city staff and outstanding citizens for all the amazing events that take place in Jonesboro this time of year. So let let's go back to last weekend, last Friday, for example, on September 26th. On that day alone, we had more than 600, I think it was around 615 volunteers from across our community. They rolled up their sleeves for a wide range of projects, from painting picnic tables to restoring ducks and goose decoys that were donated to Arkansas Game & Fish and more than 600 of them, that's the ducks and goose decoys, okay? And yes, that was a city team out there, including our very own city council person, Janice Porter. That was just one day. Now, that was led by the United Way, I think, many of you are well aware that's an annual project, and we had our own city team that participated. But again, that's what our community's about, as well as the next day, we

had a lot of events and there's not two of me, so we had to divide up in many things. But the Barbecue Fest obviously was going on, the Arkansas District Fair. We had Miracle League games. We had flag football tournaments on our new turf football fields. We had soccer games. We had music at the Bandshell at Craighead Forest. We had a 10K. We had a 5K starting downtown at Rotary Park, Allen Park Family Fun Day, and an ATA event at the Shooting Sports Complex, the Jack Deacon Memorial Swim event at the YMCA, which Councilmember Chris Gibson was there all day for that event, and the seventh annual Freedom Gala of the NAACP. That was just in one day. And honestly, that's a typical weekend here in Jonesboro. So now, if case you haven't figured out, like I said, it's hard to be two places at once, but I want you to know that we do our very best to attend as many events as possible. I also want to invite you, our community, to join us, be present, get involved, because while we're busy building infrastructure, expanding services, and keeping our city safe and growing, we all know that we need to do something deeper. At the end of the day, community is about more than just buildings and roads. Community is people, it's relationships, it's working side by side, it's building hope. That is what Jonesboro's truly about. That's what we strive for every day.

And with that in mind, I feel it's only right to pause and honor the legacy of someone who embodied that spirit. Mr. Bill Hurt, Jr. Bill was a dear friend of mine. He was a colleague. I've known him for over 40 years. Bill was a love member of this community who passed away peacefully at the age of 86, leaving behind a legacy of innovation, service, and unwavering love for his family and friends. His obituary describes his life as a testament to hard work, determination, a keen eye for opportunity, and I couldn't agree with that more. Over the years, Bill founded numerous business ventures that helped shape the economic landscape of Northeast Arkansas. Many of them are still operating today, including the 501 Steakhouse and Omar's Uptown, which continues to influence the restaurant scene in Jonesboro. He was also a founding member of the Jonesboro Advertising and Promotion Commission and served as a part of the Arkansas delegation in 1992 in the Democratic National Convention. Bill's passing leaves a void for many, but his legacy will live on through the businesses he built, the people he supported and the family he cherished. His remarkable life will be honored on Wednesday the 15th, a visitation is at 9:00 a.m. and services at 10:30 a.m. at Emerson Memorial Chapel. Let us remember him not only for what he built, but also for how he lifted others along the way. That, folks, is the spirit of Jonesboro, and that is the community we continue to build together.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Janice Porter said, I'd like to offer to shout out to the approximately 1,600 Arkansas Baptists, who's served the people of Jonesboro last Saturday. I served with a team which built the wheelchair ramp and performed maintenance and repairs at the home of the disabled couple. A sincere thank you to the many volunteers who spent their Saturday completing various projects around Jonesboro. Mayor Copenhaver said, that was a great event. Thank you, Mrs. Porter. Councilmember Porter said, Thank you.

Councilmember Brian Emison said, yes, I just have a date this evening from the Bond Task Force meeting that we had last Tuesday. Coming up on October 21st, we'll be reconvening that task force and we'll be going over any additional information and possibly taking a vote to make a recommendation to full council on either of the two sites that have been vetted. Additional information that has come in since last Tuesday is that last week I was contacted by a local developer that has expressed interest in putting together a bid for the Washington property. So we have not received

that this time. However, I do expect to receive that before the meeting on the 21st. So in anticipation of receiving that offer on the Washington property, I've asked the administration to go ahead and order an appraisal on the Washington property. So we can vet all information, do our own due diligence, and have that information before everybody for the task force, so we can make an informed decision at the time to recommend to council. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you for your update, Councilman. Thank you. Councilmember Emison said, great, thank you.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I just want to thank everybody that came out to the National Night Out event. The fish was good. Brian finally got a plate. After for four years, I denied him a plate so he finally got a plate the other night. I thank the Mayor and his administration for coming out and everybody else that showed up in support of our group. And, I have a young lady, Ruby, sitting out there and also Roger, they both work for Fisher Street Community in Action. And, also DARE, they served 380 hot dogs and 400 plates of fish. I think it's 410 plates. I'm always wrong about the 400. It was good food. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you, councilmen.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, I would like to ring out, I try to do it every year, and I may forget, but October is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I always want to give a blessing and shoutout to my wife, who is a 20 year breast cancer survivor and I want to honor all the women who have been going through or had been or even those we lost in transition because of that. We just want to honor them in that this month for Breast Cancer. I also want to thank everyone for your prayers and thoughts. I had many calls, many texts and emails, from the accident that I had a couple weeks ago. It was pretty, pretty tough, and I'm still battling through it, but I want to say thank you to all of you. The community really rallied around me, and I just want to say thank you. It wasn't in Jonesboro. It was in Marion, but I do want to thank these first responders. Of course, in Marion, but I just, while I was going through it, I thought about first responders and what they had to deal with, and then how they treat us was amazing. Although, they cut my shirt and they tried the pants. I said, oh, no, no, not the pants, but I do appreciate them and the hard work and the first responses of what they do for our city. And they' just having to deal with that first hand, it's a different perspective and it's life changing and I just wanted to say to you, the community for thinking of us and asking about us. And, keep praying. I'm still trying to recover. Thank you. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you, councilman. Appreciate you. I'm glad you're on the road to recovery.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilperson Anthony Coleman, seconded by Councilperson Brian Emison, that this meeting be Adjourned. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;David McClain;Kevin Miller;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 2 - Chris Gibson and Joe Hafner

_____ Date: _____

Harold Copenhaver, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____

April Leggett, City Clerk