

City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center 300 S. Church Street Jonesboro. AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Public Safety Council Committee

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

5:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL (ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE) CONFIRMED BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Councilmember Chris Moore was in attendance as of 5:02 pm.

Present 6 - Mitch Johnson;David McClain;Brian Emison;Janice Porter;Chris Gibson

and LJ Bryant

Absent 1 - Chris Moore

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the Public Safety Committee meeting on March 19, 2024.

Attachments: Minutes

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

Aye: 5 - David McClain; Brian Emison; Janice Porter; Chris Gibson and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Chris Moore

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED

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ORD-24:011

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 by Brian Emison, seconded by Chris Moore, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 6 - David McClain; Chris Moore; Brian Emison; Janice Porter; Chris Gibson and LJ Bryant

5. PENDING ITEMS

Meeting Minutes

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember David McClain said, I have a request. So, we get those monthly police statements that shows where we are in terms of different types of crime, etc. Chief, I would like to see our comparison year over year. I appreciate the information for the month but would really like to see year over year where we are month by month. So something like April of 2023 versus April of 2024; where we were as far as things that are reported in that report that is emailed out to us. Police Department Chief Rick Elliot approached the podium and said ok. All of our reports for the past several years, our monthly reports, annual reports, everything is on our website, but if you want a more simpler comparison we can arrange that. Councilmember David McClain said, yeah, I just want year over year. Chief Rick Elliot said, you want to do compared to this time last year? Councilmember David McClain said, yes. So this time last year, I mean like I said, she sends them out monthly and I've sent an email back saying can we get that breakdown a month over month. Chief Rick Elliot said, yeah sure. Just general for anybody else listening in the audience and viewership, our 10 year study and 20 year study are also posted. So then the numbers for 2023 are also posted. Councilmember David McClain said, so what do you mean 10 year and 20 year study, what does that mean? Chief Rick Elliot said, the crime stats for the past 10 years and then the past 20 years. Councilmember David McClain said, got it. Chief Rick Elliot said, you go back and look at the crime in the past 20 years and you will see how we have trended here in Jonesboro, over the past 20 years, over the past 10 years, then the last year compared to the past five years. You'll see the past three years the numbers are actually trended down. So 2020 was a pretty violent year across the city, covid year, we had 11 homicides. Last year our crimes against persons was down, we ended the year with four homicides. The biggest spike we've seen across the board is vehicle break-ins and that's kind of typical anywhere in the country. It's kind of a thing, people go around checking for unlocked vehicles. That's one of our biggest trends that we have seen. The crimes were broken down into crimes against persons, part one crimes and crimes against property which is a part two. So, typically, when industry and people looking at Jonesboro and what's going on, you're looking at your part one crimes, your crimes against persons and see where those trends are over the past years. Things better things worse. Councilmember David McClain said, yeah I would appreciate it, I don't know about anyone else but I would. Chief Rick Elliot said, any record, these are easy to put together. We just try to put together a quick synopsis for the month, but just a compared to last year at the same time, we could do that. Not a problem. Councilmember David McClain said, ok thank you.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, Chief, my question is not related to David's. It's been about a month since we had a shooting on Burke Street, maybe it's been a little longer. Did the investigation show, down on Burke Street, that that was an illegal selling of alcohol or was that just a private party? Chief Rick Elliot said, there were no alcohol sales at that building. It was just a private party, a gathering, and the individual, the initial aggressor, had a ongoing conflict with a guy that was first shot at the facility. And then after that, other shots were fired and subsequently a lot of innocent folks were hit. And then, the initial aggressor walked out of the building and then shot his self in the head in the front of the building. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I noticed that, and the reason I asked that, was because Wynne had a similar situation just in the last few days. A party that escalated into gunfire. Chief Rick Elliot said, yes sir you're correct. We've had a problem over the past several years of what I call pop-up parties. Individuals will find a location, whether it be a building or a old warehouse that they'll have an unlawful assembly. It's not sanctioned by anybody, and of course the building it's self isn't sanctionable for events. That's why when we conducted this investigation and these things do pop-up, we get the fire

marshals involved into that, even on the night that we do catch them because they have different sets of things that they can do that is beyond what we can do, as far as shutting down a building and getting the meter pulled off the building and things like that and then posting it for not being in compliance. Councilmember Chris Moore said, that brings me to the reason I ask the first two questions. Has anybody been cited for an unlawful event down there? Chief Rick Elliot said. no sir. Councilmember Chris Moore said, ok, do you anticipate that the person that put on the unlawful event will be cited? Chief Rick Elliot said, that case has been turned over to the prosecuting attorneys for review. Councilmember Chris Moore said, because it seems to me that when we have an event that gets out of control like that and it's unlawful assembly then somebody, whoever's hosting that, they move to another building and do the same thing again. And I know we've had the same type of problem. It seems to me that somebody should be cited for the unlawful assembly and not just for the gunfire and the people involved in that aspect. Chief Rick Elliot said, well the gunfire situation, there's nobody to cite because the aggressor took care of that issue. Councilmember Chris Moore said, fortunately that was the case but it's not always. Chief Rick Elliot said, it's not always the case, it is not. Again, these pop-up parties, we try to address them. Sometimes we get information of where something maybe and we try to get it shut down before they takes place, but there's nights that these things just pop up. And we've had problems after these clubs close that people gather on parking lots and we've had problems that they gather at the restaurants, whether it be Waffle House or IHOP. We've had fights and some violent situations there also. A lot of these people come in for the weekend party events, they're not all Jonesboro residents, but it is an ongoing problem that we face on the weekends quite often. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I know it's popular to do that. I noticed there was even a place on Huntington that advertised it on social media. Friday night here ya'll come kind of deal. Chief Rick Elliot said, again, once we get wind of that, if anybody hears anything like that, if we can get it to us we can get with the Fire Marshall and we can get it shut down before it happens. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I'm sure they don't all end in gunfire. Chief Rick Elliot said, they don't but a lot of times it does end up in fights and some kind of conflict which is unfortunate, but you get people that's been drinking all night that's typically what happens. Councilmember Chris Moore said, two nights, two nights and a day. It seems to me that it should end in a citation but that's the only comment that

Chief Rick Elliot said, and we did make a post on the shooting over the weekend. That was a situation that was self-defense. Councilmember Chris Moore said, that was the Race Street Market? Chief Rick Elliot said, yes. We did make a release on that today.

COM-24:010 PRESENTATION FROM JIM STARKS WITH VECTOR MOSQUITO CONTROL

Chairman Mitch Johnson said, Jim's here and brought his supervisor Ted to give us a little insight on this year's stuff, and what we can expect. We're glad to have you back Jim and look forward to another great year. Jim Starks with Vector Mosquito Control approached the podium and said, thank you. There were some questions the last time I was here, back in September or October, that I really didn't quite have the answers for. So, I brought in my supervisor and he's going to talk to y'all about some things that we've got planned and what we're going to do this year. He will entertain any questions that y'all may have. Just to give you an update on what's going on right now. We are hiring drivers. We're hiring some part-time people for day work. We're doing the maintenance on our spray trucks. We'll be hanging light traps at the end of this week and all next week, and then we'll start to run those traps, probably, in a week or two. But that's about it in a nutshell. It's early yet but it's coming. Ya'll know that and I know that. But I'll introduce Mr. Ted Green, he's my supervisor, and let him tell you what he thinks we need to do, and like I said, if ya'll have any

suggestions ask him and maybe he can answer the questions that I could not.

Ted Green with Vector Mosquito Control approached the podium and said, thanks for having me. My name is Ted Green. I'm taking over from Chris New. Chris New was regional director of Arkansas for, probably, over a decade, and he's actually killing mosquitos in the Caribbean now, so I'm fairly new to this area. But, for 2024 we have an initiative with the State Public Health and we're working with the CDC where we're going to be increasing testing for Culex mosquitos for West Nile virus. We typically don't see a ton of West Nile in Arkansas, but occasionally you'll get outbreak years where we do see a lot more cases. Additionally, we're continuing development in our proprietary database for data collection, and also this year we're working with Arkansas State, we're working with Dr. McKay, for public outreach as well as she's going to be supplementing a lot of our surveillance efforts as well for adulticide and larval surveillance across the city. So that's the 2024 updates. Is there any specific questions? Councilmember David McClain said, Mr. Chair if I may. What would be different from the way treatment was done from last year to this year? Mr. Green said, so the actual treatment isn't going to differ that much. We're still implementing a integrated mosquito management approach where we use, you know, scientific methods to reduce mosquito populations. So we're going to find mosquito larva, we're going to eliminate those breeding sites, and then we're going utilize chemical ULV to knock down the adults that hatch off whether that's from rice fields or from other sources. Councilmember David McClain said, ok, so right now, I don't know, give me a comparison of how things are going to change, specifically, what's going to be different from last year versus this year? Mr. Green said, like I said, we're increasing West Nile virus testing. With the supplemented surveillance from Dr. McKay. I mean, we should be able to keep a better handle on what sites specifically around the city are breeding. More surveillance is never a bad thing and so that should help us have quicker response times to areas that are breeding. Councilmember David McClain said, any plans of working with the county. I don't know if Jim, if you guys have talked to them, as far as to get them plugged in and bought into some type of mosquito plan, but have we had any conversations there? Mr. Green said, we haven't had a lot of conversations. In order to utilize a full county program, my understanding would be, we would need to get a lot of different judges on board. It just needs to be bought in by everybody in the county, because it would be a full county program. So, I'm not super familiar, if there is a lot of interest in that, but it would have to be driven by probably the Public County Health office. Councilmember David McClain said, ok. I don't have anything else.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, I'd say, I think on behalf of the citizens of Jonesboro, they would let us sale this building, have our employees work on the sidewalk and use crayons, and have the cops walk around town if we could solve mosquitos. So, I mean, is there dollars that we could spend that would be effective? I know there's a point to diminishing return, right? Like as far as it coming to advertising, so what can we do to spend money that would make a difference? Mr. Green said, honestly, a lot of it comes down to public education. So for backyard mosquito breeding, particularly for, there's this invasive species called Albopictus, and they're actually from Southeast Asia. They evolved alongside humans and so they want to take blood meals from humans. A lot of that comes down to public education. Educating the public to, you know, empty out everything in the backyard. These are really prolific breeders as well. I mean they'll grow in pretty much anything. I have some pictures where there was a jeep with the cover off of it and there was literally Albopictus breeding the cup holder. So just public educations in terms of, you know, we could have some initiatives to where we just sort of educate, you know, how much water, it's such a small amount of water that can breed mosquitos. And these mosquitos that are actually breeding in people's backyards usually tend to be the most troublesome. That could be one area where we focus, you know, on public

education, public awareness about man-made mosquito problems. Councilmember LJ Bryant said, I guess I would just say that I guess I'm surprised that you guys don't want more of our money. So I mean, I don't want you to take our money if there's not something we can do, I just have a hard time believing that, you know. What are some other cities that we should aspire to be? I know there's a lot of factors as far as water and topography and numerous of square miles, etc. But who are some other peers that we should consider that maybe in you guy's program that have been super effective that we should look at? Mr. Green said, city of Fort Collins is great. Franklin County Public Health, which is Columbus, Ohio is another really flagship program for us. In terms of spending money, I know next year we, I think this is our last contract here. Yes, this is our last contract here so the conversation is going to come up about drones, if we decide to integrate drones more into this program that would probably be an increased cost. It's not really like a catch-all, in terms of additive to the program. For drones it would be complimentary to our aerial division as well as the ground division. We would really just be looking for quicker ways to larvacide large areas. Councilmember LJ Bryant said, do you think it would look like to have some concentrated areas where we're more successful? I mean parks. downtown, etc. I mean, what might that look like? Mr. Green said, that'll probably look more like residual barrier spraying along lots of vegetation. That's a good way to decrease mosquitos locally. I'm sure you've seen the commercials for Mosquito Joe and guys like that, Mosquito Hunters or whatever, and these are guys where they're just going into anybody's backyard and spraying residual permethrin or bifenthrin or something. This would be a little bit more targeted applications where, you know, these are really only designed to last until it rains, so around here I think it rains fairly often, so that would be something where we would look to reduce mosquitos for specific events. Honestly, just reduce the interaction and chance of any sort of West Nile virus transmission. Councilmember LJ Bryant said, is there such a thing, I assume Mosquito Joe and those guys are trying to sale you misters for your backyard attached to your patio and all that kind of thing, are there any large-scale applications of such a thing of having misters in downtown or so on and so forth? Mr. Green said, no that's a bad idea. If you're having products that are put out in the environment continuously that's just going to facilitate resistance.

Councilmember David McClain said, I just have one more question. I know you guys were planning to study. I think Jim mentioned, the effectiveness of what you guys were spraying, I think it was last year. What were the results from that? Do we have that study back or can we get the results from that? Mr. Green said, we do, yeah. We're still seeing a lot of resistance to organophosphates and that's largely driven by agriculture. Additionally, we've seen a little bit of resistance to deltamethrins as well. We have not seen widespread resistance to permethrin products which is what we're currently using. To answer your question, yes, we have seen resistance specifically to naled, malathion, those sort of organophosphates. Councilmember David McClain said, the plan is to use something different from what you just called out, say that name again. Mr. Green said, organophosphates. Councilmember David McClain said, you going to use something different this year? Mr. Green said, yeah, we're not using those. We haven't used those probably since the 90's. Councilmember David McClain said, ok. My recollection was that Jim said we've been using the same thing for a long time. Mr. Green said, that's correct, yeah. Councilmember David McClain said, so we're going to use something different for this year? That's my question. What will we be using this year? Mr. Green said, we're actually still going to be using permethrin just because we don't see a resistance to it. Again, a lot of the major resistance products that we are seeing, that's all driven by agriculture so we sort of play off of what agriculture is using and tend to stay away from those products.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, just a couple of comments and a couple of questions. Thank you for being here tonight. Like David asked of the Police

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Department, I think I would like to see the same from you guys. A year to year comparison. When we run the light traps this year, I'd like to see how they compare to last year's results, because we're educating the public, we're moving forward on the tire dumps we should be seeing some results from that. So if you will, on your reports let's have a year to year comparison. Just last year and this year. Jim may be more qualified to answer the next couple of questions. Jim, will you tell the committee where the majority of our mosquitos come from when we're into the breeding season? Jim Starks approached the podium and said, yes sir. I think we all know the answer. Agriculture. Councilmember Chris Moore said, that's it. Mr. Starks said, always when the rice goes to permanent flood which is usually about middle of June end of June, that's when the Annapolis hatch off the rice. And that's a constant hatch, just mosquito hatch after mosquito hatch. You can spray with the airplane or the trucks. You can knock out what's there, a majority of it but if you get another hatch move in overnight or the next night then your right back to where you were. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I think in my conversations with you, the majority of that has come from the western side of Jonesboro and the southwestern side, is that correct? Mr. Starks said, southwest, south and a lot of rice east of town. Ted and I were talking how many acres were actually in the city limits. I guessedimated probably three to four thousand and that's just inside the city limits. There's some out by Joe Mack, there's a lot east of town. But, you know, wind in the summertime is usually out of the southwest and there's a lot of rice out that way as well so it's going to blow right into town. That's not to say we don't have some in the north part of Jonesboro or southeast. The Annapolis have a flight range of about 12 to 15 miles and that's without a wind. With all the agriculture around here it could either be flooding of rice or irrigation of corn or beans or anything like that is going to hatch off some mosquitos. Councilmember Chris Moore said, that brings me to my next comment. What would you think the effective range we would need to spray outside of the city limits on the southwest side of town would be to notice any result? Would it be one mile or five miles? Mr. Starks said, with a spray truck, I don't think, we go a quarter of a mile now. Councilmember Chris Moore said, with an airplane. Mr. Starks said, ok, with an airplane we do offset like that. So you're looking at probably a mile, a mile and a half outside them blocks. Councilmember Chris Moore said, that we currently spray? Mr. Starks said, yeah. Councilmember Chris Moore said, if we increase that distance to five miles would we have a noticeable effect? Mr. Starks said, what do you think Ted? That's true, if they're hatching in town there inside the rice fields. Councilmember Chris Moore said, here's the reason I'm getting to. There's no chance the county's going to go in with us. It's too large too vast, we've asked, they're not going to see the results in the county so if we're going to do something different we're going to have to do it with our own. I have noticed that when we increased to eight sprays, eight consecutive weeks in a row on y'all's contract, it knocked the mosquitos down. Mr. Starks said, yeah I agree. Councilmember Chris Moore said, the years that we had rain or some kind of other temperature and we couldn't make those eight sprays it was a noticeable difference. So, we've had guestions about distance, we've had guestions about the county and we've had questions about money from LJ. It seems to me that if we wanted to make a noticeable difference and take it on our own, it's going to be something that affects the southwest side of town with aerial sprayings. Mr. Starks said, that could be something that could be worked out. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I don't know why we haven't been thinking about that in the past of expend, because I know on at least three occasions that we have asked can we do something to spend more money to make quality of life better. Mr. Starks said, yeah you've asked. Councilmember Chris Moore said, ok. Mr. Starks said, you want to spend your money. Councilmember Chris Moore said, don't come to my shop and ask me if you need another bathroom in your house. We will be out there tomorrow. So I'm kind of surprised that the answer and it hasn't come back. It seems to me that if we attack them from the side that's most perrific would be right out on southwest. Mr. Starks

said, well, that's like Ted said, you're current, I think it was a seven year contract, expires at the end of this year. So, we can add to or take away a few things. However y'all want to do it. Councilmember Chris Moore said, well here's the problem. We're not experts in the mosquito killing business. You guys are. What I would like to see would be a proposal with some form of predicted results come to us and then we'll decide on the money. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, kind of like you've presented to us in the past here recently. I mean obviously the density of the trucks are going to work on density in the middle of town. I mean it's obvious the aerial knocks it down pretty quick. Mr. Starks said, that is definitely something me and Ted can talk about. Maybe we could extend our blocks outside the city limits and even over the rice that's in town. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I don't think there would be many items in the middle of summer that'd be higher on people's quality of life than mosquito control. Mr. Starks said, I know. Councilmember Chris Moore said, so you're right up there at the top. Mr. Starks said, I'm well aware of that. Councilmember Chris Moore said, ok, and when it goes good you're a hero and when it goes bad there you are. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, and being in southwest Jonesboro I'm all about it. Councilmember Chris Moore said, well I know where the problem is and I know where we're coming from. We just need to figure out. We're not going to be able to address the entire county. I mean, that's just not going to happen, but we may be able to address a four or five mile buffer on one part of the city.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Chairman, I just say final comment kind of as Councilmen Moore said. The timing is now not next January. I mean there's people today deciding whether they're going to move Jonesboro, move out of Jonesboro, expand their business, locate a business and mosquitos are really a big deal. I grew up at Weiner so I know all about mosquitos. I think sometimes when people come here for the first time they could love the town and love the people and all the things and be like what are these little pesky varmints, so whatever we can do the sooner the better. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, so that's probably the way to approach it Jim. You guys come back with a proposal to us and maybe we experiment with it this year and then definitely budget for it next year for the next contract. Mr. Starks said, ok, we can do that. Our first flight is usually around the first of July. We take care of Craighead Forest and the ball fields and all that for the fireworks. Maybe we can put together something after that, and we can start moving out. We're going to have to take care of the inside of the town as well, city limits, but we'll just have to see how that's going to work. Councilmember Chris Moore said, do you base our eight flights, is that a sliding number based on the rice productions, you try to coordinate with the flooding? Mr. Starks said, yes, what we do is usually do our first flight for the Fourth. After the Fourth we go eight consecutive unless we're grounded by wind or rain or heat or whatever. Then it just rolls on over into September if it has to. Then again, you're not just limited to eight flights. You know, if we get our eight flights in and we're still fighting them we go again. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, Jim I appreciate it. Ted good to meet you sir and we look forward to working with you this year. Mr. Starks said, yeah, I'll get with Ted. He's going to be around for probably all summer back and forth, so we'll have something by the time we start flying.

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7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

James Elwin Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, approached the podium and said, as most of you probably know, going down Southwest Drive there's not a lot of crosswalk places. In fact, I think from Highland south there is none. One place I really think we need to take a serious look at is, what I call the death race 2,000 crossing, there's a movie called Death Race 2,000 and you'll understand why I call it that if you see the movie, and that's the corner of Culberhouse, the intersection of Culberhouse and

Southwest Drive. That road is tremendously out of way from perpendicular and the farther you get from perpendicular, you know, the more dangerous it is. And there's not a lot that we can do about some parts of it, because you're dealing with a four lane highway. I don't think it's feasible for us to get it perpendicular, but could we at least look at getting some pedestrian walk and don't walk signs? Because currently I cross there quite a bit and you can't see all the lights to see which ones are what color there, and by the time that you look and determine all the lights so that it's safe to cross the lights have changed and you've got to start all over again. It is extremely dangerous.

COM-24:015

HANDOUT FROM RICHARD GLIDDEN ON HOMELESS CAMPS AND SAFETY ISSUES

Attachments: Handout from RGlidden 04162024 Homeless

Richard Glidden, 920 Aggie Road, approached the podium and said, I live off Aggie Road and across the tracks we've had a homeless encampment pop up, and it's been there for a while. I have some pictures, if I could. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, that might be something you might want to address at the end of the general council meeting. Mr. Glidden said, is this not a public safety thing? I mean, a 66 year old man got stabbed by this 20 year old, smiling, sociopath here. That happened, probably, a few days ago, I'm looking at it, April 9th, 2024. It's gotten where nobody can walk up and down the street over by the Salvation Army. Like, it's became like a breeding ground for methamphetamine and sociopathy, and if you're going to tell me that's not a public safety concern I'm going to have to disagree. Because something has to be done about this, like, I mean are we going to let these people live in these substandard sub primitive housing things, contraptions? Like we're talking about things that are less primitive then teepees. Like what are we doing here? People getting stabbed in my neighborhood all of a sudden and this is nothing anybody wants to address, and if this isn't something for the Public Safety Council Committee. I don't know government at all, but I do know that this has become a huge issue in my neighborhood. I've worked with the people over at the Hope House to try to get that old man that was stabbed into rehab prior to that happening but he doesn't want to go. Right, so we have a bunch of people who don't take advantage of the resources around them, and part of me thinks it's perpetuated by the fact that the Salvation Army is right there because it's right behind it. They don't have nothing to say about it, but of course it's not those people being put in danger it's the general public in my community. And listen, I get it, I understand why people end up homeless. I get that, two years ago I had a brain aneurysm. I passed out on the sidewalk on Fisher Street. I laid there for two hours because it was some common place where people would be sleeping on the sidewalk. Fortunately for me being an honorable discharged soldier, I was able to stay at the Veteran Cottages here and they've been real good to me. I trying to get back to my neighborhood here, but what am I getting back to here really? Like, what are we doing here, are we just going to let this stay? We just going to let this homeless encampment? Let more people get stabbed, does it got to be murder first? I mean, like, what do we got, like a group of unregistered sex offenders? How do we know? Chairman Mitch Johnson said, well, did you get his contact address April? Let us get your phone number, sir, if you've got a number that we can get and we can discuss it further with Chief or myself or whatever. How's that sound? Mr. Glidden said, sure that sounds good. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, can you get with us after the meeting? Mr. Glidden said, yeah but can I leave this with you guys though? Chairman Mitch Johnson said, sure, what do you got? Mr. Glidden said, its photos of the encampment.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, what was the address? I missed the address of the encampment you were talking about. Mr. Glidden said, well you know there's no address actually. Chairman Mitch Johnson and Councilmember Chris Moore said,

what's the location? Mr. Glidden said, it's directly, as you walk by the Salvation Army, its right behind it. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I know where you're talking about. There's like another little half street with a metal building you turn. Mr. Glidden said, exactly. Well, they've gotten really vindictive over there, and it's gotten to the point where I can't go up there and check on anybody to do any kind of welfare checks, because they've gotten increasingly hostile towards me. Councilmember Chris Moore said, he's talking about, you turn beside Comcamps, where Comcamps use to be, it would be the first street east of the Salvation Army before you get to Patrick. It's in between. Mr. Glidden said, well, it's like I want to and like I said, I understand the polite, I get it but even in my hardships that was never a way I even thought to turn. Also with the lack of actual community services that are here, because the Hub, as y'all know, has been dissolved since CRCC stop paying for the office space and the director of that program. So there's nothing, right, so it's like no real resources, they don't take advantage of the resources presented by the Hope House, which is a great group of people, and they're not taking advantage of the computers, the employments. So it's like, we've got ten to twelve crazy people out here, you know, stabbing up people, and I've got a problem with it. I've never been to anything like this. I'm not a complainer, but this has gotten to be an issue where it's larger than that, because we have a group of veterans in my neighborhood that are desperately seeking help. These aren't people that are running around doing that sort of things, and if you come up on one of us it's going to be a probably for us. I almost really don't know what to say, because like I said I have my own problems. Like, I had heart surgery last month, and I shouldn't have to worry about something happening to me or my kids. Because like I said, who knows who these people are. They don't register a address and if you're not registered as a sex offender you sure aren't going to register in a homeless park. You're going to go right back to prison. Somethings got to be done about it and I'm willing to do my part and Hope House is willing to do their part. I've spoken to them about it like at nauseam to this point. So, I'm just wondering at this point, what steps the city has been taking in order to get rid of this. That's one out of twelve homeless encampments. We're talking about one off Culberhouse, we're talking about one out behind Sam's Club, we're talking about a few here and there, and of course everybody knows about the lady with the dogs. Stands on the corner asking for money all the time. She doesn't want any actual help. It's like we're stuck in a situation, but I just want y'all to think about it the way that I think about it. As a father and if I want my kids to do the right thing, they are going to do as I do, but if they walk past this every day and they see this every day and they get it in their heads that that's as far as you can fall and that's ok, I'm not ok with that. So, what are we teaching our kids here guys? That's my real question. We teaching this is ok?

Councilmember David McClain said, Mr. Chairman, I know, well Chief left. I guess we can ask him to go over and maybe render some services, but then also maybe do some. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, yeah that's kind of why I wanted to know his address so we could look at that proximity as well. Mr. Glidden said, hey I apologize. Councilmember David McClain said, it would be good to at least maybe go over there and like you said see who's there, and also see what we need to do to get that cleaned up. Mr. Glidden said, right, because it's, they're burning stuff down, like I said there's a lot of vitriol that goes on over there. You can imagine people in these desperate situations get desperate, and that's never a good sign for a young 20 year old man. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, just let us get your contact information. I'll be glad to sit and talk with you after the Council meeting if that's what you want to do, but let's at least get your contact number and then we'll go from there and talk with you further about it. Will that work? Mr. Glidden said, yes sir.

Filed

8. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 6 - David McClain; Chris Moore; Brian Emison; Janice Porter; Chris Gibson and LJ Bryant