



City of Jonesboro

900 West Monroe
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

6:30 PM

Huntington Building

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR PERRIN AT 6:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Mayor Perrin recognized Cub Scout Troop Wolves Den 08, Pack 1836 who led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Present 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

COM-09:147 MAYOR SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Service Pins were provided to the following individuals:

Carol Duncan, Assistant City Attorney - 5 Years of Service.

Steve Kent, Purchasing Agent - 25 Years of Service.

Ken Saddler, Accounting Tech - 10 Years of Service.

LaDonna Stark, Communications Operator - 10 Years of Service

Michael Edwards, Equipment Operator - 30 Years of Service.

Ronny Stanback, Equipment Operator II - 20 Years of Service.

Kenneth King, Jr. Sanitation Worker - 10 Years of Service.

Reggie Warren, Sanitation Worker - 5 Years of Service.

Timothy Velasquez, Equipment Operator - 10 Years of Service.

Charles Johnson, Street Maint. Worker - 25 Years of Service.

Jerry Lane, Maint. Worker - 5 Years of Service.

Tammy Markin, Parks Maint. Crew Leader - 10 Years of Service.

Mayor Perrin read a proclamation honoring students with Nettleton East Lab for their contributions in promoting the local economy through the creation and production of television commercials. City Council members were shown some of the commercials whereby citizens were reminded of the importance of shopping locally.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilman Gene Vance, seconded by Councilman Chris Moore, to Approve the Consent Agenda. A motion was made that these files be approved by consent voice vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

MIN-09:125 Minutes for City Council meeting on November 17, 2009.

Attachments: [City Council Minutes 11/17/09](#)

A motion was made that the Minutes be Passed. The motion passed BY VOICE VOTE.

RES-09:184 RESOLUTION TO UPGRADE THE ORIGINAL SERVICE APPLICATION FOR UNIVERSAL EMERGENCY NUMBER SERVICE E-911 WITH AT&T, PROVIDING FOR AN UPDATE TO THE VESTA PALLAS E-911 PHONE SYSTEM

Sponsors: E911

Attachments: [Agreement](#)

A motion was made that this Resolution be Passed. The motion passed BY VOICE VOTE.

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

ORD-09:101 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 14, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES;

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[Staff Report](#)

Councilman Moore moved, seconded by Councilman Street to waive the third and final reading. A voice vote was taken resulting in all members voting aye. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman John Street, that this matter be Passed. The motion PASSED by an unanimous vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD IN COUNCIL

ORD-09:083 AN ORDINANCE TO MODIFY ARTICLE 1, SECTION 101-1 OF THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES AND ADOPT THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN FOR THE

CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS BY REFERENCE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF GUIDING THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY AS PART OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING PROCESS

Sponsors: Planning

Attachments: [Land Use Policy Narrative Final October 22 2009](#)
[Proposed Land Use Map & Appendix Maps](#)
[MAPC Record of Proceedings](#)
[Land Use Opposition - Easley](#)

Councilman Street offered the ordinance and asked that it be held at one reading. Councilman Moore further requested the ordinance be read one time at three consecutive meetings.

Mr. Larry McElroy of 1005 Commerce Drive addressed the Jonesboro City Council stating he was not for or against the Land Use Plan. Mr. McElroy provided a transcript of his comments which have been attached as COM-09:150.

In response to Mr. McElroy's comments, City Planner, Otis Spriggs stated the Land Use recommendations were done by a number of individuals appointed by the Mayor on behalf of the City Council. He stated the Land Use Plan was an in-depth study of the entire city limits and beyond and the Planned Mixed Use was not created for an influx of multi-family use. He explained the purpose of Planned Mixed Use was to allow the MAPC and City Council to evaluate rezoning and annexations based on the infrastructure availability. The plan is designed to provide Planned Mixed Use Districts along right of way that are already improved or have been planned for major principal arterials to carry traffic. He explained this type of development will not happen quickly, that it is a recommendation and does not change the land use in terms of zoning. Mr. Spriggs gave the airport as an example saying committee members determined it should not be single family, but rather mixed use taking into account factors such as land use and storm water management.

Councilman Hargis asked if Mr. Spriggs agreed or disagreed that the Land Use Plan changes property values in the Kathleen area as previously alleged. Mr. Spriggs responded saying the value would not change as it currently stands, but whether or not it would make the property more marketable would depend on the infrastructure. He stated it has not been proven the Land Use Plan would increase or decrease values.

Councilman Fears stated there is concern that the Land Use Map will give developers an advantage with regard to development. He stated if the process works the way it was designed, the city council would merely accept the recommendations of the MAPC, and the process would remain the same. Mr. Spriggs responded saying the Land Use Plan is only a tool, and the City has operated for several years without a plan. Acceptance of the Land Use Plan will allow for a more planned community. He explained MAPC is not a legislative body, but rather a recommendation body to the City Council who would make the final decision based on the MAPC recommendation and the comprehensive plan.

Councilman Hargis questioned if traffic had increased on Kathleen. Mr. Spriggs stated from previous zoning requests it had been proven that Kathleen was not over capacity, and he would provide the data to Councilman Hargis. Mr. Spriggs explained that a proposed Master Street Plan will address issues that will alleviate traffic cut-through on Kathleen.

Councilman Vance requested City Planner, Otis Spriggs provide an overview of the plan, not in his role as Jonesboro City Planner, but with the expertise of a non-bias city planner.

Held at one reading

COM-09:150 Letter of opposition of the Land Use Plan by Mr. Larry McElroy.

Attachments: [McElroy Opposition to Land Use](#)

This item was Read.

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Perrin provided the following reports:

Mayor Perrin and members of Legislative Audit met for a pre-exit exit conference. Mayor Perrin stated they would be scheduling a true exit interview before the end of the year which would include Ann Williams, Finance Chair.

Mayor Perrin provided hand outs regarding the Federal Grants Audit, stating council members should call if they have questions. He stated deficiencies in the Federal Grants Audit centered around the JETS program. The first finding was a drawdown of \$199,170 of which they did not have sufficient receipts for \$155,480. There was a second draw down for \$11,470 but no documentation for \$9,176. Mayor Perrin explained due to these deficiencies they will be introducing legislation to return \$164,647.00 to the Department of Transportation. In addition, the Mayor's Office will be providing a resolution for loan forbearance for money borrowed from the City of Jonesboro by the JETS Department, but were unable to repay the loan. Mayor Perrin explained to subsidize the JETS program since its inception in 2006 is running between \$320,000 to \$360,000 annually. Mayor Perrin clarified this was not an indictment on anyone, but rather a significant finding of the Federal Grants Audit and as CEO he wanted to disclose the information to the City Council and to the general public.

Mayor Perrin provided handouts pertaining to sales tax and combined turn-back funds. He stated they would be presenting to the City Council the Business Continuation / Disaster Recovery Plan. He added a member of the Legislative Audit was impressed with the plan.

Sanitation provided an over view of their department to members of the City Council.

COM-09:152 Federal Grants Audit Findings as provided by the Mayor's Office.

Attachments: [Federal Grants Audit Findings](#)

This item was Read.

COM-09:154 Combined Turnback Revenue

Attachments: [Combined Turn Back Revenue](#)

This item was Read.

COM-09:153 City and County Sales Tax Revenue.

Attachments: [City & County Sales Tax Revenue](#)

This item was Read.

COM-09:155 Presentation by Sanitation Department.

Attachments: [Sanitation Presentation](#)

This item was Read.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Chris Gibson reported for the month of November there had been 17,993 E911 calls, of which 14,209 were non-emergency calls. He stated the resolution (RES-09:1840) adopted under tonight's consent agenda would alleviate the problem.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Harold Carter of Tony Drive raised questions pertaining to the Land Use Plan and comments made by Mr. Larry McElroy. Mr. Carter questioned who determines if a conflict of interest exists, such as in the Land Use Committee. He asked is it left up to the individual, who is alleged to have a conflict of interest, or the courts, or the Chair, the Administration or the City Council. Finally, Mr. Carter questioned if a decision will be made and will it be provided to the public.

Mayor Perrin responded saying members of the MAPC are recommended by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. He stated he would look into the matter and report back to the City Council. Again Mr. Carter asked if they would receive a concrete decision and Mayor Perrin confirmed he would provide a response.

Councilman Moore reading from the City Council bylaws explained discussion regarding the land use plan should pertain to the particulars of the plan and not the personalities of the persons proposing it. He stated all members of the committee own land in Jonesboro, and this should not be the deciding factor regarding the Land Use Plan. Councilman Hargis explained members with a conflict of interest should recuse themselves.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilman Chris Moore, that the meeting be Adjourned. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

_____ Date: _____
Harold Perrin, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____ Date: _____
Donna Jackson, City Clerk