



# City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center  
300 S. Church Street  
Jonesboro, AR 72401

## Meeting Minutes Public Safety Council Committee

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Tuesday, April 21, 2026

5:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

**Present** 7 - Brian Emison;Janice Porter;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Kevin Miller

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[MIN-26:029](#) Minutes for the Public Safety Committee meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2026.

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

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

**Aye:** 6 - Janice Porter;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Kevin Miller

### 4. NEW BUSINESS

#### *RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED*

[RES-26:045](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 1205 N. Floyd St. Jonesboro, AR 72401

**Sponsors:** Code Enforcement

**Attachments:** [1205 N Floyd Board and Secure Affidavit.pdf](#)  
[1205 N Floyd Condemnation Resolution.pdf](#)  
[1205 N Floyd Inspection Report.pdf](#)  
[1205 N Floyd Map.png](#)  
[1205 N Floyd Notice of Violation Affidavit.pdf](#)  
[1205 N Floyd Returned Board and Secure.pdf](#)  
[1205 N Floyd Returned Notice of Violation.pdf](#)  
[30842229-IMG\\_5171.jpeg](#)  
[30842230-IMG\\_5170.jpeg](#)  
[30842236-IMG\\_5164.jpeg](#)  
[30842238-IMG\\_5162.jpeg](#)  
[30842242-IMG\\_5158.jpeg](#)  
[30842243-IMG\\_5157.jpeg](#)  
[30842244-IMG\\_5156.jpeg](#)  
[30842245-IMG\\_5154.jpeg](#)

**A motion was made by Chris Gibson, seconded by Chris Moore, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Janice Porter;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Kevin Miller

## **5. PENDING ITEMS**

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

[COM-26:023](#) MOSQUITO PROPOSALS

**Sponsors:** Mayor's Office

**Attachments:** [Daddy Rabbit Aviation, Inc. Bid Scanned.pdf](#)  
[1001060679\\_Vector VDCI Jonesboro RFP 2026-11 Mosquito Management S](#)

*Councilmember Kevin Miller said, Mr. Chairman, I know you had made a request for members that are at the individuals that are submitting the bids to be here. I know someone's here from Vector. Is anybody here from Daddy Rabbitt? Alright if we could, I'd like to let each of them come up and get just a couple minutes to kind of overview of what their proposal is. Chairman Brian Emison said, sure. Definitely. That sounds great. First up we have our current vendor being Vector Disease Control. So, we'll go ahead and we'll have them approach the microphone please.*

*VDCI Chief Entomologist Steve Pavolovich approached the podium and said, thank you board. I'm Steve Pavolovich. I'm the Chief Entomologist with VDCI and Jim Stark, who is our local manager here, I am his direct boss. Just basically want to give you a brief overview of the Jonesboro contract. We are a multi-state mosquito control full IPM Vector Vendor. \*video breaks up for 4 seconds\* -six main programs. And this would be starting with surveillance, larviciding, adulticiding, efficacy testing, public education, as well as any other services that we may have. We've detailed some of those things in the proposal. Our proposal offers the use of routine use of six vehicles. These are heavy duty sprayers to spray roughly 5,500 miles, which is what we've done in the past. Eight aerial applications of the city of Jonesboro, as well as one of the things that we proposed in this new thing was to do a buffer around that*

area to cover some of the rice field mosquitoes that are coming into the area, 20,000,000 square feet of larviciding, as well as a couple specialty items that we have which is barrier equipment. We would go out and we've done this in the past and we have a special piece of equipment that does treatments around parks that we can send that; it's a truck mounted unit. We can send it out to the parks, spray around, and it in combination with the spray trucks and the aircraft, provides a barrier or a repellent to those areas. And we also have something we use called the tunnel rat that allows us to do some space spraying in hard to get at areas that may be obscured by foliage, trees, those kind of things as well as can be used if we've got encephalitis such as West Nile or any of the other encephalitis that come in the area. We can get into those hiding spots where the West Nile mosquitoes go and hide. And that can be underneath homes if they're raised or sewers or those types of things.

One of the key pillars of the program is to use surveillance. We use three different traps here for the city. These are gravid traps, New Jersey light traps, and CDC traps. And these three traps look at different species and different types of mosquitoes, as well as we supplement that with something called landing rate where our inspectors, while they're doing these traps multiple times in the week, will go out and let the mosquitoes land on them for one minute, determine what type of mosquitoes and how many are landing on them. And from that data, as well as service requests that people call in, or they may come from the commission. We can look at that data on a daily basis and direct our efforts to a pinpointed area. Normally, you know, during the year we start off where we're doing truck applications two to three times a week and that increases during the peak of the season to six times a week with the supplement of the aircraft. Usually, around Fourth of July we start our regimen where it's a weekly aircraft treatment after that. We do have 13 colleagues that are based here at the Jonesboro office. 12 of them actually live in the city of Jonesboro, eight of them are dedicated to just this program and then the rest, the remainder of those individuals supplement what is needed in Jonesboro, as well as we have 10 support personnel. I've brought the Chief Pilot of VDCI with me, as well as I'm a pilot but don't fly here in Jonesboro. And we've got two other PhDs on staff that will direct, and I'm a master's degree entomologist, and we have two master's degree entomologist and two PhDs that oversee the program making sure that we're using science to direct that program.

We do have a lab, two of them. One in Denver, which is not conducive to here, but then one in Louisiana that is an in-house laboratory where we do testing of mosquitoes if a state laboratory is not able to do that. So, we typically will take our samples from the mosquitoes, we'll identify them down to species here and then we'll test them for disease on a weekly basis. If we do have positives that end up coming into the area and we need to respond, we have a virus response protocol that involves multi days of spraying, larviciding of that area which is treatment of the immature mosquito and then following up with subsequent traps to check the mosquitoes that may be there whether they still have disease in the area, as well as are they below threshold levels for transmission.

I think that might be it as far as, you know, what we do offer that laboratory as a back up to the state lab and it's something if we need a very quick turnaround within a day, we can overnight those mosquitoes and get them tested in our own in-house laboratory. We do rotate through the products during the year. So, we use several different mosquito control products as well as test those products with a couple of different methods where we bring a biologist in and that person tests the mosquito control products to make sure that they are working effectively against the local mosquito population. I don't know if you wanted to let them go or if you wanted... Councilmember Kevin Miller said, just a question I'm trying to clarify. You said something and maybe it's just the terminology aspect of it. You said something about repellent, is there a difference in repelling the mosquitoes to keep them from coming in and killing them on contact or is that two separate processes? Steve Pavolovich

said, so, there is a lot of the things that... So, what we use in the mosquito trucks as well as the aircraft are designed to kill the mosquitoes on contact. Basically, what happens is, the mosquitoes are beating their wings and because of that pattern that they beat their wings, the droplets are brought in and impinge upon either the abdomen or the thorax on the mosquito. And a couple of those droplets are enough concentration insecticide to kill the mosquito. The other technology that we use is a barrier treatment and we would use that for ballparks or backpacks where we'd go around to wood lot or we have an ATV that's able to do this, too. And it would blow a pesticide mixture of water that is basically a microencapsulation, and you can envision it as a BB or whatever that would impinge itself upon the foliage around that ballpark. A mosquito could land on that, and it could affect control that way. But what it also does, is it overtime allows that mosquito...prevents that mosquito from coming into the area. It disrupts their senses, but also keeps them from coming in. So, we do it as a dual approach, where we use the trucks and the barrier to prevent if you're having a festival or something like that. You can kill the mosquitoes that are in the area and then prevent them with this repellent. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, so it's a combination of the two. Steve Pavolovich said, it's a combination of the...It's not the same stuff. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, they're not done at the same time. It's two separate processes. Steve Pavolovich said, it's done with two different pieces of equipment. But they would be done typically either the day before or you could do them the same day, but they're not done with the same piece of equipment at the same time. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, and starting after Fourth of July you do one a week for eight weeks? Aerial spraying. Steve Pavolovich said, that is correct. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, what seems to have the most impact? And I know it may depend on the terrain. I know Jim was kind of educating me a little bit about I guess in the heavier forested area that the aerial may not be as effective, but what has the best effect? Steve Pavolovich said, it depends on the product. Aerial, you get a broader scope of penetration, but from the ground, you're able to penetrate, you know, those areas that you can't get to with the air as they're going up underneath the foliage, up underneath houses, those kinds of things. You get because you're at ground level, you're then spreading that material out and usually with the spray truck, you get 95% plus control at 300 feet away from the truck. And you can get 80% control, 500 feet and then it drops, but if you've got a 2-10 mile an hour wind it will blow that stuff through the area and affect control that way. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, and I understand it's all subject to the weather, but that was one of the questions. Fine, I'm driving down the road, how much does that penetrate? It's great if you're in your front yard, but if you're in your back yard, are you really getting that much saturation into the back. Steve Pavolovich said, well, you do have wind currents, if the wind is going in one direction you do have wind currents that will whip and come around the house. I mean if the mosquito is directly behind the house and it's up against the house, you know, the potential is not as great there. But generally, and the reason that we spray at dusk and then two hours, 2 ½-3 hours after dusk is because that's the peak activity time of the mosquitoes. And so, it will linger in the air for 30 minutes-45 minutes. So, in that particular time period they're going to be on the wing and causing those droplets that are in the air to impinge upon their bodies and affect control. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, and I see you're doing a combination of both aerial and ground. Steve Pavolovich said, that's correct. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, I live on the south side of town and when the sun goes down you come inside. I mean, it's that simple. It's not pleasant. Steve Pavolovich said, and that's why at the times it's necessary to do a multi-level approach. The aircraft and the trucks that, we use twin engine aircraft, you know, one thing that is required for congested areas. We have a congested area plan that allows us to treat overpopulated areas. And that population can be, you know, anything from a couple of houses, but all of Jonesboro falls in a congested area and requires a congested area plan. And unless you're using helicopters, you are required to use a twin-engine aircraft to provide that aerial control. And one of the things that I mentioned earlier, is

that we're going to be... even though it's not in the city limits itself because the production area is outside of that, you know, we're treating that with the airplanes. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, with the rice fields to the south of town. Yeah. Steve Pavolovich said, and those are the production areas. Most of the mosquitoes, the rice field mosquitoes that you're having are the two big species that come in are *Anopheles quadrimaculatus* and *Psorophora columbiae*. Those two mosquitoes are being produced out of those rice fields. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, I'm just trying to see where we can get the most effectiveness, whether it's ground control or aerial. Aerial seems like you'd get a wider area, but I don't know which is the best and has the most effect on it. Steve Pavolovich said, you can get a wider area with aerial, but you also need that component of ground in order to penetrate those areas as well as the... You can't make repeated applications with a lot of these products that we have. You're required or you're reduced by the label that you can't go above a certain pound of active ingredient per year. So, the amount of applications can't exceed that. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, so you're limited to what you can saturate an area with based on what the chemical is. Steve Pavolovich said, that's correct. And that's why we rotate through some products. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, okay, alright. Thank you. Steve Pavolovich said, thank you.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Chairman, I know this is a tough question. Try to compare us to another city. Different cities have all kinds of different topography and wetness and humidity and temperature and size and all that kind of thing. But how would you compare what we spend versus somewhat similar city of size somewhere in the Delta. Steve Pavolovich said, well, I think that your program, based on the amount of mosquitoes, we use, we do a lot in Louisiana. We do 10 full county programs in Louisiana. And I think that the area of Acadia, which is on the western portion, is probably the most comparable. And those areas, because of the rice fields, you're in a unique situation. We also do Cleveland area of Mississippi. That's also a similar type of topography based on the rice. We do have, throughout the Delta, rice everywhere. But as far as the size of the program and the spend, I mean, some of the, the Louisiana programs are around \$1,000,000 is what the spend is. There's several of them that are a \$500,000, but some of them go up to \$3,000,000. It depends on the type of program, the population, the broadness of the parish, county, the municipality. This being, we also do several... We do the Blytheville area. We have more of an impact from the rice field here than we do in Blytheville. I would say probably the closest comparison would be the Cleveland, Mississippi location with the amount of rice that's up against the city that affords for the mosquitoes. I believe their budget is right around the same thing in the upper four. Councilmember LJ Bryant said, if we were going to spend more money, what would we spend it on? Steve Pavolovich said, if you were going to spend more money, it could be rotation of additional aerial. Councilmember LJ Bryant said, could we just absolutely saturate the parks? I mean, Jim and I talked about the difficulty. Parks where there's baseball and stuff being played, I know that has a lot of difficulties. But let's say Craighead Forest Park, Jim says we're pretty welcomed there by the patrons. So, could we saturate some of the parks to help? Steve Pavolovich said, that barrier machine that's in the back that I was talking about that Mr. Miller had asked about is one that we could saturate the parks with. That is something that we do now and plan to do more in the future as that two-fold effect. And hitting the parks... Jim has them on a regiment to have the parks sprayed more routinely than the zones, even in the beginning of the season, to get ahead of those. People have less. You may be able to go inside in your house, but if you're at the park, you have no protection from mosquitoes. And if you're at a game, the last thing you want is to be being torn up by mosquitoes. And so, one of our focuses has been that. It will continue to be that. I think we've got this new machine that is able to make it more efficient in applying it and able to be spraying a wider area. It helps us do it more quickly and get back to those areas more often.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, last question. If we're going to spend more money,

would you extend the period of time in which we do treatment? Steve Pavlovich said, the period of time here seems to be more finite. It depends on the application of the agricultural fields. It really ramps up hard, and then it falls pretty sharply towards the end of the year. So going further, what we do, typically do, is we larvicide early on to get on top of what we can as far as the larval mosquito. But when the agriculture ends up popping off, that ends up being in a finite period. It needs to be more focused applications during that time.

Councilmember Chris Moore, just to be clear, and follow-up on LJ. So, you say people range from a \$500,000 to \$3,000,000 in their community on mosquito spraying, and we're looking at something less than \$500,000. What do they get for the other \$2,500,000? Is it just a difference in size and territory, or is it? Steve Pavlovich said, it depends on each ...Unique thing about this business is each individual location has its different...Some people are dealing with both rice field mosquitoes and salt marsh mosquitoes. And so that may be a problem where you're on the coastal areas dealing with tidal influx where the tide raises because of high tide, and you're flooding areas that have these mosquito eggs, or you're dealing with hurricane response. After a hurricane, you get 10 inches of rain and it floods a woodland area that causes it. So, it really depends, and that's why it's really important that you are heavy into surveillance of what the conditions are so that you can target it. But even if we were going to a new area and we were determining what was needed, we would do a survey then figure out what that is. And from that, most times it would be, okay, ideally, we feel you would need this. Sometimes it's not always the case that you can provide that because they may have budget constraints, and what can you provide for that budgetary constraint? This is an area, as I said, that's comparable to other areas we do, and specifically that I'm thinking in Cleveland, and it's about similar in the cost structure. Can you spend more than that? Absolutely. Some of these larger programs end up spending millions of dollars, but it's different focuses and it may be heavier in public education or you're doing some of these programs end up doing a little bit of research to where they're looking deeper into the mosquitoes themselves or they've got a heavy component. And one thing I didn't mention is public education, and one thing we do in July and August is to do a radio campaign where we put out PSAs talking about people, helping people help us by eliminating containers in the yard, emptying those things, and then also taking or using precautions when mosquitoes are biting because that's the peak encephalitis time that you would have transmission. So, there is, you know, I think you've got an adequate program. Could you put more towards it? Certainly. You know, one thing I didn't mention is we base two aircraft in Cleveland and we have one up in Blytheville and we have two down in northern Louisiana in Bastrop, which we are able to service that from those five aircraft. You know, it could be that we dispatch, you know, an extra aircraft or something like that, but, you know, when you start doing those things, the program costs go up considerably.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, so I assume there's a direct correlation between the square miles that you treat and the overall cost of our program, too. Do mosquitoes travel? Would we be better off to expand our program to a larger area and try to cut them off before they get here? Steve Pavlovich said, mosquitoes do travel. There are 62 or 63 species of mosquitoes here in Arkansas. Some mosquitoes will travel as much as 15 miles. The rice field mosquito is one that has a stronger flyer. It may not go that far. It might be in the 10-mile range. You have other mosquitoes that breed in backyards and won't go but between 500 and 1,000 feet. Many people are familiar with the Asian tiger mosquito. That being one of those mosquitoes that typically, if it breeds in the yard behind you, it goes to your house or your neighbor's house, and it has a specific biting pattern that keeps it in that area, and it will often go back and lay its eggs in that same area that it might have come from. But to get back to the distance traveled, you can, depending on wind patterns, have those mosquitoes blow into an area that's being produced outside of your jurisdiction but then moving in either by light attraction from the lights of the city

bringing the mosquitoes in or by host-seeking preference, looking for people or animals to feed upon, or lastly, by wind actually pushing them in and helping them to fly. Councilmember Chris Moore said, so in your opinion, would there be an advantage to spraying farther out on the southwest side of Jonesboro where the rice? Steve Pavlovich said, that was part of our expectation in the proposal. We wanted to expand what we were doing into the south side. The further that you go, the better the benefit of that because that is where the production site is. That's where they're coming from.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, can you give us a percentage impact on that if we go deeper, by say five miles? Steve Pavlovich said, it's hard to judge without actually getting the... I mean, it's a lot of acres of rice down there. So it would be more of a trial-by-error type of thing in my estimation, to where you'd have to say, okay, we're going to go another two miles out or another mile out and see how much effect do we get for that and what's the cost-benefit versus the cost. Councilmember Chris Gibson said, thank you.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Chairman, I mean, not necessarily a question. I think just a comment. I know we can't solve the problem, but I think there's this attitude, at least by some, you know, it's like, well, what can we really do? It is what it is. And I'm not saying we've solved the problem. But if we applied the same attitude to the police department, we'd be like, well, you know, you can't solve crime, no need to hire any more cops. I mean, I just think that from a council perspective, I think we have a can-do attitude. I think we're willing to do more. We just need some guidance on what we can do. Steve Pavlovich said, well, you know, I think one of the things that we put in our proposal was that we could do that extra aerial, we, in addition to what was there, there is an option for that that we could try those things if the council is willing to do that. The other thing is, you hit on a point, is that mosquito control is exactly that, it's not eradication. But you have to do it to a level where it provides comfort for the citizens as well as protects them from mosquito-borne disease such as West Nile or other encephalitis. And so those are the two pillars, I think, as well as having just the comfort of life being out in the outside at a ballpark or just in your backyard and being comfortable enough to do that. One mosquito is something, but if you've got 30 mosquitoes on you, that's a big difference.

Chairman Brian Emison said, Mr. Pavlovich, I did have a question, it was more to the terms of the bid that was put forward. There's a current conversation that we're having in the Advertising and Promotions Commission about partnering with our county representatives and looking at broader studies that take us on out into the more agricultural areas of the county. If we were to develop a new strategy or we were needing to make changes to our current effects here and broaden that scope, is that something that we would be able to do during that contractual period? Steve Pavlovich said, absolutely. So myself and a couple of the other PhDs that we have, we actually look at a lot of that type of process, designing the programs, but also working with the communities to best affect what their needs are as well as what we can do for them. Chairman Brian Emison said, gotcha. Thank you, sir. Good deal. Thank you. Appreciate you. Next we will hear from the representatives from Daddy Rabbit Aviation.

Owner of Daddy Rabbit Aviation Ron Everidge approached the podium and said, thank y'all. I am Ron Everidge. I am the owner of Daddy Rabbit Aviation. We have been in business, as a family-run business, for 62 years. We've been in this crop-dusting business, flying service, application business, and we're also in the farming business. We have approached mosquito control differently over the last 10 years. We were wanting something that was a little more user-friendly for the communities and the municipalities that we work for. So, what we did, we joined efforts with a group to develop an all-natural product to treat mosquito control population areas. And what we've done in the last seven years with our testing and research, we have determined that our product has no rate limits. We spray. We do a little different program than what everybody else does. Our program is aerial only.

We do all aerial. Everything we do is by air, and we do it on a weekly basis during the mosquito season.

Jonesboro, for an example, is about 82 square miles. We would normally, weather permitting, this town to be treated anywhere from 16 to 32 times by air. And it's being treated with our all-natural product, that effectively gets into all the wetlands, all of the low-lying areas, all the residential areas. This product is safe for human use, and it also has a very, very good knockdown on mosquitoes. The program is designed and based on what we, in our experience in the flying service, have done over the years. Well, we did the Boll Weevil Eradication Program years ago. We were some of the very front-runners in that program. Going back to what you guys said, no, you can't eliminate all the mosquitoes, but in the Boll Weevil Eradication Program, we did eliminate the Boll Weevil in Georgia. We pushed them completely out. We helped spray all the Boll Weevil in Georgia since 1994. Texas still runs the program. We treat our mosquito control program the same way, as a maintenance type program. We run aircraft weekly to 10 days, it all depends on the weather. You know, some days we try to treat everything with a minimum of every 14 days. And that, we run, the program would be run with an all-natural product, had no rate limit, targets all the mosquitoes. What we were asked, since I'm a taxpayer of Craighead County as well, I was asked to bring my program to the table. Because the money that's being spent by the city of Jonesboro needs to be spent to kill mosquitoes. I think everybody agrees that that is what it needs to do. That's what we target, with the use of your money, is to try to kill the mosquitoes. And with that, we run, like I said, we run the aerial program, and we feel like it's the most effective. And we've had great success with it at home. Any questions?

Councilmember Kevin Miller said, if I understand right, you're saying based on the type of chemical you use or product that you use, you can spray more often. If I understood earlier, they have to rotate chemicals out so they can't spray as often. But you're saying you can spray more often because of the product that you're using?

Ron Everidge said, yes, we can spray every week. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, every week. So, how often are you going to be spraying in the city? Let's say we go aerial only. And I understand you're aerial only. How often would you be spraying the city? Ron Everidge said, it would be sprayed a minimum of 16, maximum of 32.

Councilmember Kevin Miller said, 16 times over the course of how long? What are you calling a season? Ron Everidge said, an eight-month season. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, eight months. 16 to 32, depending on weather? Ron Everidge said, weather plays a variable sometimes. It will more than likely to be on an average of every 10 days. So, you figure 240 days, 10 days, be 24 sprays. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, so, once every 10 days, on average is what you're going to spray.

Once every 10 days. Ron Everidge said, right, but it won't be, you know, it won't be like we spray a specific day. Those sprays will be spread out through the evening hours of every day of the week. So, you're spraying at peak times that the mosquitoes are out. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, ok. Ron Everidge said, just say it takes five hours, six hours to spray the entire city. We won't spray a six-hour run in one night. We'll break that six hours up over four nights. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, ok. But the entire city is going to get hit at least one time during that week. Ron Everidge said, yes. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, it's just going to be spread out over the course of a week. You're not doing the entire city in one night. Ron Everidge said, that's correct. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, ok. All right. And you have no ground operations? It's all aerial, right? Ron Everidge said, correct. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, ok.

Chairman Brian Emison said, Councilman Bryant. Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Chairman, to be fair, I'll just try to ask the same questions, if I can even remember what I said. If we were going to spend more money, how would we spend it with you? And I guess the other question would be, what cities would we aspire to be slash what other cities have you helped similar to us? Ron Everidge said, your budget could be increased. And personally if it was me, I'd increase it. I'd go out two to three

miles outside the city limits. My program is already structured to go a half, three quarters of a mile outside of the city limits. On the east side, south side, we're going a mile south of the city already. And on the west side, same thing. And the north side, it's not quite as bad. But you could effectively bump that program up to more sprays. Obviously, that's more money. But, yes, you could move that buffer zone out beyond the city limits of Jonesboro. But the mosquitoes don't stop because the city limit sign's there. Councilmember LJ Bryant said, and then how about other cities? I'm sorry, Kevin. How about other cities you've worked with? What are some other cities similar to us? Ron Everidge said, we do everything in my hometown in Georgia. All of the municipalities around home. We had, an example would be this past week, they had a political rally thing for Georgia with the governor race of Georgia is a big deal again this year. And they wanted to hold a big shindig, southern comfort type thing, barbecue deal. The mayor asked me to come in. He's like, hey, will you come in and just do another treatment? I'm like, sure, we're going to do it. Went and did it the day before. No mosquitoes. A couple of towns we worked for in the past there at home, their budget was kind of tight. They're like, hey, we don't have the money. We don't know if we can do it or not. You know, they cut us off 30 days, 45 days later. They'd always call us back. We need you to come back. It's been a repetitive thing every year. And we were hesitant about... We've held off on doing what we're doing because we didn't have the products that we wanted to use. The products that are currently available, you know, we wanted to be able to spray wetlands, water, creek streams, homes, the whole nine yards. So, until we got the products developed that we wanted, which is this product, then that allowed us to move forward and be able to spray everything 100%.

Councilmember Kevin Miller said, you're using one product for everything. Ron Everidge said, correct. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, it's a combination of kill mosquitoes and buffer, or you're concentrating on eradicating? Ron Everidge said, we're doing killing, larvicide and a buffer all at the same time. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, but you're using one product? Ron Everidge said, yes sir.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Chairman, where do we go from here? Chairman Brian Emison said, you know, I think our next steps is now that all of our questions have been answered and these gentlemen have come before us today and they've been able to speak about their product and their process, I think that at this point if everybody's questions have been answered that we would necessarily make a recommendation on which vendor that we would choose to go with or if we feel like there's more due diligence that's needed, we can leave this on the table and we can get back to them through the RFP process.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Chairman, my thoughts are, thinking aloud, and Carol Duncan can inform us how this would be if this was the desire, but I wouldn't mind seeing our current vendor keep the spray program on the ground and have a new vendor do aerial like crazy. We'd be spending some more money and it'd be back to the table on the proposals, at least it would be on the current vendor. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, like a hybrid. Councilmember LJ Bryant said, a hybrid.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, hire them both? Councilmember LJ Bryant said, hire them both for different purposes. Chairman Brian Emison said, is that something that your company would be willing to accept? Ron Everidge said, I'll work with anybody. Chairman Brian Emison said, gotcha. Ron Everidge said, I've known Mr. Steve for 13 years. Chairman Brian Emison said, Mr. Pavlovich?

VDCI Chief Entomologist Steve Pavlovich said, the concern that I have... City Attorney Carol Duncan said, they won't be able to hear you on mic if you don't come up. Sorry to make you walk again, but they won't be able to hear you. Steve Pavlovich approached the podium and said, the concern that I have is that I think Ron is using a 25B labeled product, which is not, am I correct in that? Ron Everidge said, it's not. Steve Pavlovich said, well, is it a 25B product? So the 25B product is one that's not, it's what they call a natural product. It is one that's not regulated by the EPA, the Department of Agriculture, and those. So, the difference is that the products

that we use are all tested, regulated by both the EPA and the Department of Agriculture here in Arkansas. And so the efficacy of those things have not been regulated or tested through the governmental bodies. I think that there have been some repellency effects that have been seen anecdotally from the 25B products. I don't know which one exactly it is that they're using. But it's something that, and I don't know, what aircraft are you guys using? Ron Everidge said, we've got helicopters. Steve Pavlovich said, you've got helicopters that you do it with. Ron Everidge said, and we have airplanes. Steve Pavlovich said, so the, you know, typically the, from what I remember with Ron's company is that it was agricultural aircraft over agricultural areas. You can use helicopters over the city, but you can't use those ag aircraft to apply mosquito insecticides over the city. You know, that would be something that we'd have to discuss internally, but if that's what the council wanted to do and how that would work with the... Ron Everidge said, I think what Mr. Bryant's saying is use a combination of chemistry and technique and approach. Councilmember LJ Bryant said, I'm saying in case the ground game's is really important, keep Vector for the ground game and keep you for the air game. Ron Everidge said, sounds like he wants to spend more money.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, my only concern is I want to know who's going to be responsible. So, when the mosquitoes get bad and somebody has to be fired, I want to know who that's going to be and how we're going to determine that. And if we've got two people out here spraying, I'm sure it's not going to be either one of their fault. So I would say that if we would either select one or the other LJ. I don't know. I can't envision how two different contractors can work together and one of them be accountable to the city.

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, as far as the legal aspect, I do think if you're changing what you're asking them to do, you'd have to change the RFP request and let them resubmit for that because otherwise I don't know how you'd do that legally if you're changing what you're requiring under their contract because they've already... Councilmember Kevin Miller said, and that's what we submitted a request for, correct? City Attorney Carol Duncan said, yeah, right. I believe so. And then as a citizen, I have a question of is there any concern about those products interacting together? If you're doing one product and you're doing a different product. Is somebody going to grow a third arm because y'all are combining two different products that aren't normally applied at the same time? I'm not a scientist, so I'm just asking that question.

Steve Pavlovich said, they're not being mixed together and applied, so there shouldn't be a problem. City Attorney Carol Duncan said, so it shouldn't be a problem? Ok. I feel like there's somebody out there that had that question.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, time is fixing to be of the essence here. Our next meeting's not for another month, so I don't think it's something we can put off. We've got to move forward. So, I'll test the water here. I'll make a motion we recommend VDCI to the full council to continue with their program. Chairman Brian Emison said, ok, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Councilmember Kevin Miller said, I'll second. Chairman Brian Emison said, ok, I have a motion and a second. All those that are in favor of accepting...

Councilmember David McClain said, wait a minute I had a question. So real quick, I've got both of y'all up there. Any concerns or have any studies shown either products that you use cause long-term health issues for anybody? Ron Everidge said, ours don't. Ours are all natural. Steve Pavlovich said, the EPA and the Department of Ag do studies on representative organisms, rodents, those kind of things, and after a time, basically they give the graphs and so forth that it has to be applied 10,000 times more than what the application rate is for mosquito control.

*So, it's those kind of things. Where salt, if you have too much salt or you have too much water, it's similar type of thing.*

*Councilmember Kevin Miller said, well, like I said, I mentioned it earlier, south side of town, things are not pleasant. I'm not opposed to trying something different. I don't know if it's one of those things. How bad would it be if we did nothing? What's the difference between being bit by 25 mosquitoes or 50 mosquitoes? It's all bad. But I definitely would like to see something where we can try to make some kind of improvement because what we're doing may be adequate, but adequate is not cutting it right now. Where does that focus need to be? More aerial, more ground support, combination of both? That's the question, and I don't have an answer. I don't know the answer. Ron Everidge said, from my experience more ground, I mean more air works. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, seems to have a broader reach? Ron Everidge said, yes. Steve Pavlovich said, you know, I think that that is when, I think you had asked Mr. Bryant the question about what would be the spend. It would be going further away from the city in those production areas. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, creating a bigger buffer, going farther south of town. Steve Pavlovich said, well, east, south, wherever. Wherever the rice is. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, ok.*

*Councilmember Chris Gibson said, from a data perspective, is there a control rate from either one of you guys? I mean, with the chemicals that you use, is there... Steve Pavlovich said, we do have and you can go ahead and talk if you want. Ron Everidge said, can you repeat the question, please. Councilmember Chris Gibson said, from a data perspective, is there a control rate? Do you control, like, 78% of the mosquitoes? Ron Everidge said, oh, you're talking about the efficacy of the knockdown? Councilmember Chris Gibson said, yes. Ron Everidge said, yes, yes. Both products that he and I both use have a 90% to 95% knockdown rate. Steve Pavlovich said, and we do efficacy testing each year with both bottles, and what we do caged testing, which is simple hanging cages on a pole and driving the truck by or flying the airplane by. And, you know, the area, at least, I talked about this a little earlier, 300 feet away from the truck is 95-plus percent. Then at 500 feet, it's like 80-something percent kill, and it drops off beyond that. And similarly with the aircraft. The aircraft is designed a little bit differently, where you're having that stuff go through a wave of an area and killing the mosquitoes that way. But it's 95-plus percent.*

*Councilmember Kevin Miller said, but if I understood right, because of the type of product you're using, you have to spray less often. Is that correct? Steve Pavlovich said, the EPA regulated products have a maximum amount of ounce per acre... Councilmember Kevin Miller said, right. You can't saturate an area to high, so you have to spread it out and spray less often. Steve Pavlovich said, well, but you can, one of the ways of getting around that is switching active ingredients so that you're not using that same product. However, here in the Delta, the organophosphates, like malathion, and those type of products are not very effective because of all the agricultural use of organophosphates in the past against mosquitoes, and so they've become more hardy or tolerant in the past, and that's caused you to not have as many tools in your toolbox.*

*Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Chairman, at some point, I'd love to know more about what A&P's doing to work with other partners because it sounds like y'all both agree we should go farther out. And as we do so, we're benefiting folks that aren't helping pay the bill, and they're going to benefit, and they need to help pay the bill. So, the county should help pay the bill because there's a lot of county citizens that are on the edge of town that would benefit from the actions, and we shouldn't be footing the bill completely for it. Chairman Brian Emison said, I would agree, Councilman Bryant.*

*That's a conversation that's been happening just here very recently. I know I talked to Chairman Morgan today about where we're necessarily at in that process, and it's in its infancy. However, by doing that study, I would agree that I think that there's something that we can do here to be able to cover. So, eloquently said, it's something that we've talked about beforehand. Mosquitoes don't necessarily see the city of limit Jonesboro sign, and they know when to stop, and they don't know where to necessarily cross. So, I think by creating a bigger buffer, that's going to give us a better opportunity to deal with the problems before they get into our city limits. We'll have more update on that. We don't have an A&P Commission meeting that's scheduled anytime soon. However, I think before the next A&P Commission meeting, we can begin those conversations, and we can get an update on that as well. Ok. Do I have any other questions from anybody on the committee? Ok. We do have a motion and a second that's currently on the floor for the acceptance of the Vector Disease Control Bid. At this time, I'll go ahead. Anybody that's in favor of the Vector Disease Control bid, hereby say aye. Aye. Any opposed? Nay. Okay. The ayes have it. And Vector Disease Control is awarded the bid for this particular period. Councilmember Chris Moore said, actually, it would be a recommendation to the full council and the council will decide on the final. Chairman Brian Emison said, thank you. That will be recommended to full council for further deliberation. Thank you gentlemen. Appreciate your time. Thank you.*

*Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Kevin Miller, to Recommend to Council. Councilmember LJ Bryant voted nay, All others voted aye.*

*Chairman Brian Emison said, it's been very educational. We only get this opportunity once every three or four years, and I appreciate everybody's time. I think that we can all leave City Council Chambers today a little bit smarter in the field of entomology.*

#### **Filed**

[COM-26:024](#)

#### **DISCUSSION OF LEASE PROPOSALS FOR THE JONESBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Sponsors:** Mayor's Office and Police Department

**Attachments:** [First United Methodist Church](#)  
[South Caraway Road](#)  
[Lease 4.16.26](#)  
[Exhibit 1.rev](#)  
[FUMC Lease Handout 04212026.pdf](#)

*Chairman Brian Emison said, moving on to the next item on our agenda, I know that we're 15 minutes overdue already for City Council. I want to give everybody an opportunity, and I'm thinking that with the information that we've had that's changed since the last Public Safety Commission meeting, I would like to have a representative for each party kind of come up and give us an update on what has necessarily changed. I believe that we've received some lease language from our friends at the Caraway Road property, and we've received some new information from our friends at the FUMC property. At this time, I'll welcome up whoever would like to approach the microphone first and give us an update on each building that we're looking for a lease opportunity for our Jonesboro Police Department. And if you don't mind, state your name and address for the record, sir.*

*Don Parker with First United Methodist Church approached the podium and said, thank you Mr. Chairman. My name is Don Parker, and I am chairman of the Board of Trustees of the First United Methodist Church. We have, since the last Public Safety*

meeting, we've had some discussions with the chief, and we have met with the chief and the city engineer and Kyle Cook, who is the architect for the building, as well as a number of others from the police department and did a tour of the building. I think several of you, or some of you, may have also toured the church property. What I have before you is an updated lease proposal with some pictures and some other information about the church property, including a layout and a floor plan of each of the three floors. At the request of the chief and further discussions with other city officials, there have been a few changes or requests made and adopted as part of the proposal, and I'll just highlight a couple of those for you, or a few of those. We have increased the lease term with a five-year initial term with two five-year options. The building, we thought initially, was 36,000 feet. It is actually 41,226 feet on three floors. There are 112 parking spaces, including six adjacent to the building, as well as 106 parking spots across Union. And there's additional parking available in addition to that for over 100 vehicles. The first and second floors are finished with offices, classrooms, and two large meeting rooms. The second floor has a complete kitchen, and there's ample bathrooms on both floors. The third floor is unfinished, but it is heated and cooled. One thing I want you to note, the church, as a charitable entity, is exempt from real estate taxes. So, under a triple-rent lease, that would save the city approximately \$35,000 a year.

The base rent, we did not increase the base rent in our proposal from what we initially put before you, \$31,250 per month. That works out to \$9.10 a foot, which is about half of the market rate. We also were asked about some tentative improvement money, if the city is interested in that. We don't know for sure. I haven't heard yet. Maybe Mr. Cook has put together some numbers, but he was tasked with developing a rough guesstimate, I think, of what it would take to do some renovations and finish out the third floor for use. The church would be willing to add \$600,000 in tentative improvements if that is something the city is interested in exploring. That would take your rent to \$36,000 a month, or \$10.28 a foot. Or if the tentative improvement costs were more than that, the church would be willing to spend up to a \$1,000,000 in tentative improvements, and the lease rate would go to \$39,000 a month, at \$11.35 a foot. There have also been some of you that have asked either the church or through the chief if there would be an opportunity to purchase the building. The Board of Trustees of the church has agreed to include an option to purchase the building at such time, during any time in the lease, that the city would like to exercise that option at an appraised value. To be done at the time, usually in a mutually agreed or an average of two. I will say that First United Methodist Church is one of two large churches left downtown, and we are committed to staying downtown and committed to be a good partner downtown. We would love to partner with the city on this building and keep the police department downtown. And I would welcome any questions you all may have about our revised proposal.

Councilmember Kevin Miller said, just one real quick. You said that if the city decided to purchase the building, that would be an option at the appraised value. Just for ballpark, as of now, what's the building appraised at? I don't know if it's \$2 million or \$22 million. Don Parker said, I have no idea. I don't have a copy of the appraisal when the building was built or finished in 2020. I'm sure the bank has an appraisal when they probably did as built or a projected appraisal back in probably 2018. But I do not have a copy of it. The church does not have a copy of it. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, ok. I was just trying to get an idea. If we decided we wanted to purchase it two years, five years, whatever, what would that look like? Don Parker said, Mr. Cook has advised us when we walked through the property that construction costs, if I recall what he said, for a new facility, it would be in the \$500 to \$600 foot range. And so doing the math, if I do my math correctly, that's somewhere in the \$16 million to \$18 million range. Now, I don't think a five or six-year-old building would appraise quite for that, but that's what you'd be looking at to build that same

building today. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, I'm just curious what the current building may be valued at.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, I'm going to ask the same question that I asked Carol at the last meeting that you and I discussed just briefly. Any opportunity for a portion of that rent to go toward that purchase price? Don Parker said, well, with the square footage the way it is and the foot for price at \$9 a foot, probably that would not be agreeable, but I have not... we could consider that with the Board of Trustees, but I don't think that that would probably work out too well. Councilmember Chris Gibson said, understood. Potentially after a five-year term? Don Parker said, perhaps.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, do we have a cost estimate on the development or the remodel of the First United Methodist Church property? Chairman Brian Emison said, we do not at this time. Councilmember Chris Moore said, so we don't know how much it will cost to make it functional? Chairman Brian Emison said, it's still out to engineers at this point in time. Don't necessarily have an ETA. I would say that it would be in the next 30 days before the next Public Safety meeting, and at that point I think that it would be worthwhile to all parties to probably, due to the duration and the amount of information that we really need to sift through on this, is that we would call a specially held meeting to be able to go over that information because that would be our last piece to the puzzle. Councilmember Chris Moore said, who's in charge of putting that estimate together? Is that Craig? Chairman Brian Emison said, that would be Craig, and he's working in conjunction with Mr. Kyle Cook. Councilmember Chris Moore said, do you think it will be here by our next meeting? Chairman Brian Emison said, Craig, do you think that's fair? Engineering Director Craig Light said, that's what we're shooting for. Councilmember David McClain said, will it be on both facilities? Chairman Brian Emison said, yes. Councilmember David McClain said, that's what I thought. Councilmember Chris Moore said, that's what I want on both. I want to know what the construction costs are going to be on both properties.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Chairman, just one quick question for Mr. Parker. Just to educate me on the as far as the Methodist denomination goes. The Board of Trustees can solely make that decision if we exercise the option. Y'all don't have to go to Little Rock or any other higher authority to sell. Don Parker said, if you exercise the option, after we get a contract together, we are required under the United Methodist Book of Discipline to seek approval from the Arkansas Conference. The Arkansas Conference, in this situation, I can almost absolutely tell you there would not be any problem at all in getting the conference to approve the sale. And it's really not an approval, it's a release of the trust clause. In the United Methodist Church, all properties owned by a local church are held in trust for the larger denomination. And so, it's just a matter of checking a box, if you will, and getting their approval. For example, we just sold a property, the old Nettleton United Methodist Church, and it was strictly formality.

Chairman Brian Emison said, ok. And from our friends at the Caraway Road facility. Mr. Caldwell, if you don't mind, state your name and address for the record, please. Carroll Caldwell with Coldwell Banker Village Communities approached the podium and said, Carroll Caldwell. I'm sitting here listening both times, and I really y'all are listening to two proposals that are one's an apple and one's an orange. 12,000 square feet, \$16,000 a month, 41,000 square feet, or whatever, \$30-something thousand a month. It's really what y'all need. The square foot price doesn't make any difference. It's location, cost of construction, their's is going to be a lot more than this one is. Without saying any numbers. I don't know any numbers on them. You know, we're willing to give \$200,000 for tenant improvements, and I'd say the most that they're going to come back with is maybe another \$100,000. So, it's just apples and oranges. Y'all can decide if you want the apple or you want the orange. We've got

*12,000 square feet with several acres behind it that could be available if you ever wanted to expand. We're putting a new roof on the building, and if y'all do the deal, it's with the lease, we're going to put a new roof on it, immediately.*

*So, to summarize the lease, it's a five-year lease with two five-year options with no increase in rent during those 15 years. You can buy it any time you want to, based on the appraised value. You can have the lease, it says that y'all can have it appraised. If we agree with the number, we'll take it. If we don't agree, we get to have an appraisal, and we can take the average. I think that's the only fair way you can do it. So, we're pretty open-minded to that. And then our key is we've got land behind it, if you ever did go there on the apple instead of the orange, and it turned out that you want to stay and you wanted to expand it, we've got the land. We've got a whole lot more parking spots. About another 70. They could be resurfaced easily without a lot of cost. So really, that's, you know, I don't think this is going to take a sales job from Don or from me. It's apples to oranges. So, we've got a really good apple, and they've got a really good orange. So that's what y'all are going to have to make your mind up on. Any questions?*

*Councilmember Chris Gibson said, Carroll, would the roof cost come out of the \$200,000? Carroll Caldwell said, no, we're paying for that. Councilmember Chris Gibson said, ok. Carroll Caldwell said, it's \$125,000 for a roof. Councilmember Chris Gibson said, ok. I knew that that was going to be pretty expensive. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, we'll still have the \$200,000 buffer. Carroll Caldwell said, yeah. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, same question I asked earlier. If we were to buy, how much... do you have an idea of roughly what the land is valued at right now? Carroll Caldwell said, a little over \$2 million. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, \$2 million. Ballpark. And I understand the future price, but in ballpark we're looking at \$2 million if we decide to buy. Carroll Caldwell said, a little over \$2 million. Councilmember Kevin Miller said, ok.*

*Councilmember Chris Moore said, I believe at our last meeting, chief and Ms. Waterworth both confirmed that either building was big enough for their operation. So, I'm assuming the 12,000 square feet that Carroll has, that's large enough for the police department. Mr. Parker has 41,000. I'm not sure what we would do with the extra, and if we're buying it by the square foot or paying for it by the square foot on rental, I think that's an important aspect. Carroll Caldwell said, any questions?*

*Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Chairman, not a question for Carroll, but a comment. I think it would just be helpful in the next 30 days for PD administration, kind of along the lines of what Councilman Moore is saying, just to summarize and say if it was Caraway Road, we'd do this, this, and this, and this would stay here, and this still doesn't fix this problem, leaves this problem, fixes this problem. If we did the Methodist building, it fixes this problem, but then we'll still have, if we're going to only occupy 28,000 of the 40. I know it's a little bit of guessing. It can't be precise, but since we've got a little bit of time, it would be really helpful to fully understand what it is we would do with each space and what problem it does and doesn't fix and what division does and doesn't go where and so on and so forth. Chairman Brian Emison said, I would agree. I think that's insight that we have to have as we move forward on this, and I think our next steps on this, our next trigger point is once Mr. Cook gets us the additional information on what the build-outs would necessarily look like for each facility. I think at that point, if it's far enough away from our next Public Safety meeting that we would call a special meeting just because I see this being very, a lot of people having different insights to different directions on this and what necessarily the future of the city beholds and helps us make this decision between the apple and the orange, if you will. I would say just depending on when that information comes in from the engineers, we can make that determination, and we'll be sure to have police*

administration there as it coincides with their schedule.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, one last comment, Chairman. I think both Conway and Fayetteville have built a new PD building recently. I say recently. I think in the last five-ish years just from reading the news. I'd be curious what it would cost them, how big is it. I know we're not exactly apples to apples in population and blah, blah, blah, but I'd still be interested just to know how some of the similar-sized cities have X amount of square footage and so forth. Chairman Brian Emison said, sure.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, that's an important aspect because what we're considering is we're considering leasing something temporary because we're going to build a new facility. I don't know of any discussion to purchase either one of these buildings that's been serious. I mean, our goal is to build a new PD right down here on Washington that we've already approved, so we have to keep that in mind also. We're just going to be passing by a tourist on this.

Councilmember David McClain said, Mr. Chairman, if I could, just a quick comment. I was looking at both. I think LJ is touching on what I feel like I need and really need to hear from our chief, from our police department, just what is our vision and plan. Yes, part of it is to go down on Washington. But really we need to look at the next five to ten years so we're not renting buildings or buying different buildings across town, but we need to really come up with a plan if we have to reach out to some consultants and try and get some help and some guidance because maybe a big building downtown or whatever is not what we need. Maybe we need to start looking at precincts in different parts of the city as our city continues to grow. In my opinion, we really need to have some time and some thought put into what is it that we need in the next five to ten years so we're not chasing our tail and doing this again in the next few years. Councilmember Chris Gibson said, well, to your point, I think we need to even look further down the road. I think we need to look 25 years out rather than five or ten because five or ten is going to be here before you know it. Councilmember David McClain said, yes, it's going to be here real quick.

Carroll Caldwell said, any questions for me. Chairman Brian Emison said, no sir. Thank you Mr. Caldwell. Great. Ok. I think that is everything that we've got on the agenda through communications. We'll be back in touch with the committee and the parties that are involved.

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## **7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, approached the podium and said, so we have apples and oranges, and now I've got a lemon. And the lemon is from the citizens of Jonesboro. You know, this has been pretty quiet for the last month since it was brought up in the last meeting. There's been no information in the newspaper and nothing mentioned in any of the city meetings. Except for today's paper. I saw it on the newsstand. I saw that this was going to be brought up. I guess the reason is that I think there are so many citizens wondering why we need this, because the police department is still in business. You know, is it because we need more office space? Is it because we need more parking spaces? That's not been explained. We just want it. Mr. Moore, you put on the building down on Washington. And I think if you all remember that it hasn't even been a year ago that the special committee voted against purchasing the property on Caraway next to the police station. It hasn't even been a year since then. And that committee loudly voted against putting it there and having office on Washington eventually next to the E911 Center. Not at the First United Methodist Church building and not on the South Caraway building. That's not included. Our intentions are to have it on Washington. Very few citizens have even heard about this issue, which I think is very disappointing. When you look at the

*property, when we were talking about the E911 Center, is that that was an emergency. We had to get those people out of that building, close the building, and reroute them to different locations. Right now, all the police department has a location, so I'm not understanding why. Because we're still in business. I'm not understanding why we're having to spend this money. Is it because that we're looking for a space to rent, or is it because we're looking for parking spots? I don't know, and it has not been explained. If you look for office space, is that, I think, next to the fire station on Washington? There's a building there. How many office spaces do we need? There's also a building on Congress Drive that the city owns, that we could use that. The police department owns that building right there. The parking is that there's plenty of parking on Washington and on Congress. I think on the property on Caraway, looking at the lease agreement, is that it says that additional parking would be available if we have a parking lease agreement. So the price is going to go up if we're looking at parking on there. And I have to tell you guys, this is kind of like a story of me wanting a new car. I want a new car. I want it today. But guess what? I don't have the money for it. I have to save up, and I want to make sure that I get exactly what I want when I purchase it. Not something that's okay, but something that's going to fit everything at that point. And once again, we're in business right now. They all have a place to stay, so why are we spending this extra money? I'm not understanding and the citizens are not. I don't think it's a good time. This is not an emergency like getting those people out of the Justice Building, and I think you all realize that. And I think what we need to do is that we need to focus on what's important to our city right now, and that's, one, retaining the police officers that we have, keeping them here, and keeping our citizens safe instead of thinking, I'd like to have a new building because it's on my wish list. So, I don't even know why we're even talking about doing this right now because it's not necessary. Thank you.*

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Aye:** 6 - Janice Porter;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Kevin Miller