



City of Jonesboro

900 West Monroe
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Thursday, March 4, 2010

6:30 PM

Huntington Building

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 6:00 P.M.

SPECIAL CALLED FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AT 6:15 P.M.

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Present 7 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Jim Hargis; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance and Chris Gibson

Absent 5 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; Tim McCall; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Presentation to the Rotary Clubs of Jonesboro

Mayor Perrin expressed the City's appreciation for their work with the construction and design of Fort Rotary Park at Craighead Forest Park. He explained the playground equipment for Fort Rotary was custom-made by Landscape Structures and was based on a concept drawing made by Jeff Owens of the Parks Department. He stated Rotary members pledged \$240,000 towards the fort-themed playground project. He added none of this would have been possible without the visionary leadership of the Rotary Clubs of Jonesboro and their commitment to children, families and Craighead Forest Park. He noted because of their dedication the Rotary Clubs of Jonesboro were presented with the Group Organization of the Year Award for 2009 by the Arkansas Recreation & Parks Association.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

6. NEW BUSINESS

Due to RES-10:019 being amended, the following two items were taken off the Consent Agenda and voted on separately under New Business.

MIN-10:017

Minutes for the City Council meeting on February 16, 2010.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilman

John Street, that this Minutes be Passed. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 7 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Jim Hargis; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance and Chris Gibson

Absent: 5 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; Tim McCall; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

RES-10:019

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OR REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE MAYOR.

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Mayor Perrin stated Herschel Gaines indicated she would not be able to be a member of the JETS Advisory Committee, so they would like to replace her appointment with LV Montgomery. Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Johnson, to amend the resolution as stated by Mayor Perrin. All voted aye.

Councilman Hargis questioned whether the committees are given tasks to be completed in a certain amount of time. Mayor Perrin answered yes, each of the committees do have a definite purpose. He added there is no specific timeline for them, but he does have a general timeline for tasks to be completed. He discussed the property deeds book made by the Engineering Department and stated they are still working on the properties.

This matter was Passed

Aye: 7 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Jim Hargis; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance and Chris Gibson

Absent: 5 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; Tim McCall; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Enactment No: R-EN-025-2010

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Perrin reported on the following items:

He thanked the City Council for allowing them the opportunity to fly to Washington, D.C. during the annual Chamber of Commerce fly-in. He explained they learned they will have to work with different agencies on funding because the government is looking to see how many areas funding can touch. For example, when applying for public housing funding the government will also be looking at public transit available in the area. He discussed their visits with the different agencies.

He stated he, along with City Engineer Craig Light and City Surveyor Josh Bettis, met with local surveyors to discuss taking on a long-term GPS project.

911 Director Jeff Presley secured \$7,872 from the state 911 board for maintenance. He noted the check is already in the bank.

They are still working on the Employee Handbook and the 2011/2012 budgets.

FTN will be teaching city employees to drain the water in the pumps at the landfill. Samples will be taken to City Water and Light. Sanitation Director Royce Leonard is

project manager for that.

The real estate book has been updated by the Engineering Department. The Building and Facilities Committee is continuing to look at those properties to identify ones that the City does not need in order to put them up for sale or exchange them for other properties.

Migration to Springbrook version 7 will start around April 15, with a target online date of August 4. They do have the new chart of accounts.

The 2009 Legislative Audit has started. Data is already being pulled from 2009.

About 89% of privilege licenses have been renewed so far. There's about \$100,000 still delinquent. They are calling the entities that have not removed to make sure they are still in business. There will be an April cutoff date after which an ad will be published in the Jonesboro Sun listing the delinquent privilege licenses.

The air permit for the incinerator has been received. The consent order for the ash was received today and is being reviewed by the City Attorney. He will be giving out a copy of the consent order to the Council members along with other items of importance with the incinerator.

Sales tax revenues are down \$2,912 from a year ago. However, the budget shows a 2.5% loss over last year's sales tax, so the City is still up from what was budgeted. Sales tax trends are still downward and he does not think that will improve any time soon.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Johnson explained the Public Safety Committee had intended on holding their next regular meeting early in order to have a hearing concerning a local club's private liquor license. He further explained due to recent events the hearing will no longer be needed. Police Chief Michael Yates explained they had two concerns with setting a hearing date. He contacted the license holder and verbally notified him of the hearing, but afterwards City Attorney Phillip Crego discovered the ordinance that requires written notification of the hearing. Chief Yates added they have also been in contact with the state Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board. He stated the ABC Board is conducting a state-level investigation on the club and some of the same issues the City had with the club. He recommended waiting until ABC concludes their investigation before the City move ahead with a hearing.

Councilman Gibson commended Mr. Presley for obtaining the funds for 911.

Councilwoman Williams moved, seconded by Councilman Street, to suspend the rules and add ORD-10:012 to the agenda. All voted aye.

ORD-10:012

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF COMPELLENT SAN SYSTEM FOR THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

Sponsors: Information Systems

Councilwoman Williams offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Williams, to suspend the rules and waive second and third readings. All voted aye.

Councilwoman Williams motioned, seconded by Councilman Johnson, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye. In order to pass the measure, Mayor Perrin also voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ann Williams, seconded by Councilman Chris Gibson, that this Ordinance be Passed. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 7 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Jim Hargis; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance and Chris Gibson

Absent: 5 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; Tim McCall; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Enactment No: O-EN-008-2010

Councilman Hargis recommended moving forward with the transition of the retirement money to the new institution. City Treasurer Jim Eagan explained there were some legal issues that had to be addressed, but they are working with Principal to work them out. He added Principal has delayed the process, which they cannot control.

COM-10:019

Public Works facility building update

Councilman Vance presented the Council with an update on the construction of the Public Works facility building. He stated concrete should be poured in the next few weeks, weather permitting. He provided the Council with plans and further discussed the plans. He stated they are working with the different departments and hope to put the facility out to bid in April, but there is still a lot of design work to be done. He also noted the pictures he provided the Council were taken this afternoon. Councilman Hargis questioned what the cost of the building will be. Councilman Vance stated they won't know what the cost is until they bid it out, but they have a budget of \$5 million.

This item was Read.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilman Gene Vance, that this meeting be Adjourned. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 7 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Jim Hargis; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance and Chris Gibson

Absent: 5 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; Tim McCall; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

_____ Date: _____
Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____
Donna Jackson, City Clerk