



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Public Safety Council Committee

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

5:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk April Leggett

Present 7 - Mitch Johnson;David McClain;Chris Moore;Brian Emison;Janice Porter;Chris Gibson and LJ Bryant

3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-23:006](#)

MINUTES FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING ON JANUARY 17, 2023

Attachments: [Public Safety Minutes 01172023](#)

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

4. New Business

ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED

[ORD-23:006](#)

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 Chris Gibson, 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

[ORD-23:007](#)

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 Chris Moore, seconded by Chris Gibson, 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

[ORD-23:009](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES TO UPDATE ADMINISTRATIVE FEES CHARGED BY THE CITY IN THE CORRECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEFICIENCIES IN THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Councilmember Chris Moore said, I would like to make a motion to amend as presented. In Section 1 where it has property cleanup minimum of \$250 and maximum \$500. I would like to amend that to remove the maximum. For instance, over at the Ice House that went on for months and months. I'm in concurrence with the minimum, but there's no doubt in my mind there's properties we cleanup that the administrative oversight on that is going to exceed the \$500. So, I would just leave the maximum blank.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, I will amend my motion to reflect that.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, ok, so that should read in Section 1 property cleanup minimum \$250; delete and maximum of \$500. I'll then second that motion.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to amend ORD-23:009 Section 1 to read property cleanup minimum \$250. All voted aye.

Councilmember David McClain said, Mr. Chairman I had a question as well. On the condemnation is that going to be the maximum due? Is it supposed to be two different fees? City Attorney Carol Duncan said the actual expense involved in whatever the abatement is, is separate from the administrative fee.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, I didn't want to make too many amendments at one time, but I would also be in favor when it comes to the full council or we can do it here. Where it says condemnation \$1,000; I think that should read minimum \$1,000 because it's the same logical argument I just made. We might get on a piece of property like the Ice House that drags out for years. Carol has to go to court six or eight times, so the administrative fees could far exceed \$1,000. We can either make amendment to change that to minimum \$1,000 here or we can wait and do it at the Council.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, I think based on our procedural rules we need to go ahead and make it at the committee level. So, I will amend my motion to reflect that as well.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to amend condemnation \$1,000 to condemnation minimum \$1,000. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Chris Gibson, seconded by Brian Emison, 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

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-23:037](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 223 Miller St. Jonesboro, AR 72401; Parcel #: 01-144181-58000; OWNER: Ronnie & Jacqueline Stanback

Sponsors: Code Enforcement

- Attachments:** [223 Miller Inspection Report](#)
[223 Miller Map](#)
[223 Miller Pre-Condemnation Notice Certified Daughter](#)
[223 Miller Pre-Condemnation Notice Certified Owner](#)
[223 Miller Returned Certified Pre-Condemnation Daughter](#)
[223 Miller Returned Certified Pre-Condemnation Owner](#)
[WIN 20220603 14 22 01 Pro](#)
[WIN 20220603 14 22 25 Pro](#)
[WIN 20220603 14 22 54 Pro](#)
[WIN 20220603 14 23 14 Pro](#)
[WIN 20220603 14 23 35 Pro](#)
[WIN 20220603 14 23 38 Pro](#)
[WIN 20220603 14 24 13 Pro](#)
[WIN 20220603 14 24 33 Pro](#)
[WIN 20220603 14 24 48 Pro](#)

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

[RES-23:038](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 716 W Washington Ave. Jonesboro, AR 72401; Parcel #: 01-143134-17800; OWNER: HRB PROPERTIES INC

Sponsors: Code Enforcement

- Attachments:** [716 W Washington Map](#)
[716 W Washington Pre-Condemnation Notice Certified](#)
[716 W Washington Returned Certified Pre-Condemnation](#)
[716 W. Washington Inspection Report](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 53 19 Pro 10615289](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 53 36 Pro 10615290](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 53 42 Pro 10615291](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 53 55 Pro 10615269](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 54 04 Pro 10615272](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 54 20 Pro 10615274](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 55 00 Pro 10615276](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 55 22 Pro 10615277](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 55 49 Pro 10615279](#)
[WIN 20220526 15 56 00 Pro 10615280](#)

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

[RES-23:039](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 5306 E. Nettleton Ave. Jonesboro, AR 72401; Parcel #: 01-144271-04900; OWNER: David & Gail Oesterblad

Sponsors: Code Enforcement

- Attachments:**
- [5306 E Nettleton Pre-Condemnation Notice Certified](#)
 - [5306 E Nettleton Returned Signature Card](#)
 - [5306 E Nettleton Map](#)
 - [5306 Nettleton Inspection Report](#)
 - [WIN 20210319 09 58 56 Pro](#)
 - [WIN 20210319 09 59 16 Pro](#)
 - [WIN 20210319 09 59 26 Pro](#)
 - [WIN 20210319 09 59 42 Pro](#)
 - [WIN 20210319 09 59 47 Pro](#)
 - [WIN 20210319 09 59 58 Pro](#)
 - [WIN 20210319 10 00 02 Pro](#)
 - [WIN 20210319 10 02 15 Pro](#)
 - [WIN 20210319 10 02 18 Pro](#)

A motion was made by Chris Moore, seconded by Brian Emison, 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

[RES-23:041](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH JAIL FEES BETWEEN THE CITY OF JONESBORO AND CRAIGHEAD COUNTY AND TO AMEND THE 2023 BUDGET FOR JAIL FEES

Sponsors: Mayor's Office and Police Department

Attachments: [Scan0201](#)

Councilmember L.J. Bryant said, Mr. Chairman could anyone speak to how this has changed or increased or anything from the administration? Chief Operation Officer Tony Thomas approached the podium, good evening. Honestly this is just a continuation of a contractual obligation that we have with Craighead County. I think the increase comes up to a 1-2% each year that we just assist in covering the cost associated with housing prisoners at the county's detention center. We have gone through a couple of scenarios with the county judge as far as they do detail and show their math in relation to how they come up with their budget and how we should share that cost based upon how many prisoners are housed each year are from the city of Jonesboro. Councilmember L.J. Bryant said, so it's a marginal increase on a percentage. Tony said, it is. It's just a small increase each year in order to cover increased expenses there at the county facility.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, Tony can you explain why less than 30 days after approving the mayor's budget we now having an amendment? Tony said, my

understanding is that the dollar amount is already included in the budget. I'll confirm that but my understanding is that Steve Purtee did include the additional \$250 in the budget for each month, so the council has already approved that in the budget. A budget amendment is not necessary. The agreement would be related to the new contract amount. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I'd be interested in when that comes to full council you will clarify that we have approved the money and now we're approving the contract. Tony said, correct. That is my understanding and recollection of the budget process is that we included the dollar amount in the budget because we anticipated the same cost of living increase each year from the county. The additional time here from January to February just gives us the opportunity to go through the process of reviewing the documentation that's provided to ensure that COLA is agreeable.

Chairman Mitch Johnson said, Tony the agreement here, I don't see where there's anything here that stipulates the increase unless I'm just over looking it. But as we look at if it's in the budget as well, can we maybe see where this falls into line as far as a percentage increase? Tony said, I can give you that exact number. I have been at the county as well as the city and those numbers just continue to roll over in my head from year to year. I know we were looking at 1% and that's my recollection, but I will get those numbers for you as well as confirm whether or not that is in the budget and we can get the language modified in the document if necessary.

A motion was made by Chris Gibson, seconded by Brian Emison, 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

6. Other Business

Councilmember Chris Moore said, Mr. Chair I called Tony and the Mayor this week because last Saturday night when I was downtown. There's an extraordinary number of street lights that are not burning. More than or maybe equal to half of the CWL regular lights and then our ornamental lights and not to mention the string lights, there's several of those. I think Tony indicated that Jonesboro Downtown Association was going to redo the string lights, but I would ask and mention that we need to make sure that CWL is looking at the entire downtown area and making sure all the lights are working. It was dark. There was no street light burning on Union from the new pavilion all the way down to First Methodist Church. I think I counted nine other street lights on Main and Union that were the ornamental ones that were not burning, so it's pretty dark down there. I hadn't been home fifteen minutes, the phone rings and Steve Gillis calls me and says I just came down Johnson, several of the street lights are not working in the vicinity of where we've had pedestrian accidents. I would ask that Tony and the mayor follow up on that and make sure that downtown corridor and Johnson, at least the lights are working at night. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, yeah I think as we stress pedestrian safety more and more; it's important that we shed all the light that we can at any location. Councilmember Chris Moore said, well Saturday night when the weather was nice, there were a lot of people on foot downtown. I mean, all the way from the bridge all the way down near First Methodist Church. A lot of them crossing the street so we need to make sure the lights all work down there.

Police Chief Rick Elliot approached the podium, a quick note about the lights on

Johnson. We've been in contact with CWL and we're looking to revamp all of Johnson because we don't think it's adequate. Everything from Main Street back that way, we have already had that talk with them and they're taking a look at upgrading that lighting to better light due to the high volume of pedestrian traffic. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, are we still metal halide heads down through there? I'm assuming LED has been put on there or do you know Chief, right off hand? Chief Elliot said, there's some but we're going to take a look. If it requires more lighting to be closer together then, I think that's part of the conversation, that we do know have a set distance between poles but we may have to bring some in to get that lighted. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, updating those heads makes a world of difference. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I'm sure that a better lighting plan would be efficient, but in the meantime if we could just put bulbs in the ones that we've got. I don't speak electrician I speak plumber but it's the old style ones it's not the new LEDs that are not working.

Chief Operating Officer Tony Thomas approached the podium, I encourage any citizen, that has this issue because I use it quite often, I call when I get messages from individuals but as a citizen, on the JonesboroCWL.org website has a reporting issue feature and one of those issues that you can report is a street light out. So, if there's a street light out in your neighborhood or a light out in other places that you see around our community and you're a citizen, by all means take advantage of that. As always you can reach out to us and we'll convey that information as well, but I just want to make sure that individuals are aware of that availability also. Councilmember Chris Moore said, did you forward the three that I sent you? Tony said, yes. We actually called and they said they would actually get those taking care of. I wrote down the ones that you mentioned tonight and we'll forward those as well.

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, I was reviewing real quick because I knew there was a reason that we picked the \$1,000 maximum on some of those. Under Arkansas law, the city can only collect \$1,000 as a fine and I know we are calling it a fee, but I need to make sure what that does with our collection. Whether it could be collected by the district court if we raise it above \$1,000 or if somehow we would have to collect that ourselves. So, let me look into that and get back with you at council, as to whether that makes a difference and how, because obviously it's easier to collect it as a fine because the court collects it for you. Councilmember Chris Moore said, it's definitely not a fine. Carol said, correct it is an administrative fee, but in the past our administrative fees have been collected along with the court fees as a fine, essentially. Let me do some looking into that. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I suspect that we've been spending a lot more time with man hours and your hours. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, I think it's important to not only follow the law, but as Councilmember Moore has said, these fees have been here for a long time and we certainly need to recoup the cost. Carol said, if it's ordered in district court on a payment plan you're a lot more likely to collect it than if it's an administrative fee that we have to take to small claims and garnish something to collect. Just let me look into the collection and get back to you when it gets to council.

[COM-23:007](#)

UPDATE FROM JIM STARKS WITH VECTOR DISEASE CONTROL, INC. ON MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Attachments: [Vector Update 02212023](#)

Chairman Mitch Johnson said, Jim the floor is yours. We appreciate you being here sir and we appreciate all you do for us. Jim Stark with Vector Disease Control approached the podium, so glad to be here, anytime, anyplace. I see a lot of new

faces. Some of y'all don't know me. Come July and August I will probably be in each one of your minds. Whether that's good or bad, I don't know, we'll find out. I was asked here today to go over the report from last year and to kind of give an overview of what we're going to do this year or hope to do this season. Each one of you should have a report in front of you. This is the last page of the October year-end report. As you can see we did quite a bit. We treated 191,000 acres, that's by truck. That's about 5,000 miles of actual ground. Service request 101, now that's not counting the ones that call in wanting a spray truck at night, so if you want to add another 100 to that. This is individual call-ins during the daytime. We did not log the ones we do at night because we are out there anyway. Larviciding, there were 84 sites inspected. A lot of them were the same sites over and over again, but they were inspected and treated. Total mosquitoes collected was 3,500. I don't know where they got that number but the average was 694 over the year. Which isn't bad. It's not good but it's not bad.

Everybody's interested in the aerals. We did 12 aerial flights. We did eight consecutive then you were charged for four other flights. It's like \$1.40 an acre. We used 570 gallons of chemicals, treated 107,700 acres. There could have been two or three more flights. The weather held us in a little bit, a maintenance problem, but we did manage to get 12 in. You asked if it helped, yes, I think it did. It didn't hurt, let me put it that way.

Before I go into this season in April. April 5th I would have been with Vector 30 years. 28 years of that is here. Jonesboro is a solid rock and it's due to the government, the people and the confidence in us and it's something Jonesboro needs to be proud of. Other contracts come and go but y'all have been the longest standing. I know we've had our ups and downs, good years and bad years, but that's the way it goes in mosquito control. I don't know what the future holds for this season. We'll just have to wait and see. It may be an early spring and if it is well it will be early for us as well.

As far as changing anything around. We're adding four new trucks this year. Two or three will go to Jonesboro for sure. I run eight contracts out of Jonesboro, I think most of you are aware of that. These new trucks will be in Jonesboro if we can find the people to drive them. The aerial flights will continue. You'll get your eight consecutive and then every week after that we'll try to fly again. I can't promise, you know I've always been up front with you. The weather will stop us most of the time and sometimes it's maintenance. We're just going to continue like we always have in the past. You all have my number and if you don't ask a fellow member to give you my telephone number. I'm available day and night, 24 hours a day. Any questions, concerns or anything I need to talk about?

Councilmember David McClain said, you said our plan for this year, eight consecutive flights and how many new trucks? Mr. Stark said, I have four new trucks coming and two or three will be in Jonesboro for sure. That's in addition to the other trucks that we have. These are new units, again, finding individuals that want to work is tough. Councilmember David McClain said, Jim how is that larvicide applied? Jim said, larvicide is applied by granular. We do it by hand, that's roadside, ditches, swells, swamps, any low-lying areas, and individual homes if they have a sewer leak, washing machine drain or anything like that. Councilmember David McClain said, so the mosquitos collected, was that up or down from previous years? Jim said, I would probably say that it's down. Last year wasn't bad. I've seen it a whole lot worse. That's what got me worried about this coming up season. You know it goes up and down. A lot of that depends on the rice, flooding of the rice and irrigation, how much rain we get, all that factures into it. Councilmember David McClain said, with us

thinking it may be worse, our plan is almost the same as last year? Jim said, I can't say. If it's worse than last year then our efforts will go beyond what we did last year. If we get high numbers accounts above will be in that area, which always seems to be south of town where most of the rice is. But yes, if we need to go more we go more. Your eight consecutive flights will start somewhere around the fourth of July and it will go eight flights as in the contract. Then from those eight flights until the mosquitos start to die down a little bit which is usually around the first of September we'll try to go every week with the aircraft. Y'all get a map of those every month.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, I know Mr. McClain asked back in October/November the mayor to look into a collaboration with ASU. Did anything every go with that? Jim said, I heard about it and it was in the grapevine. No one ever contacted me or showed any interest in doing anything. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I think the mayor is fixing to give us an answer right here. Mayor Harold Copenhaver approached the podium, so councilmember yes, as a matter of fact we meet again about two months ago with ASU and the grant funding is still there. I believe there is \$50,000 resources so the university is looking to see what that can utilize from under studies and interns to work with Vector to where they can go to the yards and have the access for the individuals that he was talking about due to low turnout of employees. Then, Danny used an experimental drone out at some of our sports facilities complexes as well, so we can have direct saturation on mosquitoes as well. I know that Vector is getting into the drone. Jim said, yes we are getting into that. The only problem with drone and applying adulticiding is that they haven't gotten the droplets down yet. Now, we can larvicide with it on a large area like a swamp. As far as the droplet size coming out of the drone that's still in the works, but it will get worked out and when that happens I will let y'all know. Then some of these ball fields and parks around here we can use the drone. Mayor Copenhaver said, what we'll do is give you an update. We'll have them come talk together. Councilmember Chris Moore said, maybe at our next Public Safety meeting just to know what the plan is and what we can do to help.

Chairman Mitch Johnson said, it's your busy season Jim but we may ask you to stop in a few times throughout the season. Jim said, I will. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, I can't remember if it's 16, 18, to 20 light traps but how many of those are on the south side of the bypass? Jim said, I think it's pretty much even. It's eleven on one side and maybe nine or ten on the north side. Chairman Mitch Johnson said, you had three species listed here, and goodness the name of these things, has these species gone down from what we've had here? Jim said, in the spring time you will get the species which is a temporary flood water like ditches, swells and low-lying area. Once the agriculture comes on you will get the anopheles and that's the ones that come out right after dark and swarm you to daylight. Then there's the species that come and bite you day and night. It's the big black mosquitos like when you're mowing your yard you'll stir them up. That's the prominent species. Not saying there's not others but that's the main ones.

Chairman Mitch Johnson said, we sure appreciate all you do for us. It's a thankless job and you're not a very popular guy in the middle of the season I know. I think we've proven in attempt that we've tried before, that your company is certainly the class act for us and you've always taken care of us. I'm very grateful to have you out on the streets. Jim said, I am very grateful to be working for Jonesboro. That's who I work for, I work for y'all. 28 years is a milestone really.

Councilmember L.J. Bryant said, I was thinking some about how Greene County and Paragould collaborated on the Farmer's Market and they did so under the guys that

like 70% of people in the county went to Paragould to use the farmers market. I would say that Jonesboro was probably the 70% of the population in the county and the other 30% coming to eat at our restaurants and do businesses so we really need the county's help to work on this problem. We appreciate your help and we need to work on our side to find more resources with our partners. It's one of the most significant problems that we have. Whether you play golf, ride a bike, play soccer or whatever it greatly impacts the quality of life in this community so we appreciate your work. Jim said, I appreciate that. I live in Jonesboro out in Valley View so if there bad I know it. Any time you need me or any questions, day or night, I'm just a phone call away and I'll do anything I can to help y'all.

Filed

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

A motion was made by LJ Bryant, seconded by Brian Emison, 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