



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Public Works Council Committee

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

5:00 PM

Municipal Center

1. Call To Order

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2. Roll Call by City Clerk Donna Jackson

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Councilman Dover arrived at 5:05 p.m.

Mayor Perrin was also in attendance.

Present 6 - Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Darrel Dover; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

Absent 1 - Gene Vance

3. Approval of minutes

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MIN-15:091

Minutes for the Public Works Committee meeting on October 5, 2015

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Attachments: [Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Councilman Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Chris Moore; Mitch Johnson; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

Absent: 2 - Gene Vance and Darrel Dover

4. New Business

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Ordinances To Be Introduced

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ORD-15:057

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL PAINT MACHINE EQUIPMENT

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Sponsors: Streets

Street Superintendent Steve Tippett explained they are upgrading their paint machine so they are able to paint two colors on the street without having to go back to the shop and change the colors like they currently do.

Chairman Street asked why the bidding was being waived. Mr. Tippett explained they are the only company with the part for that machine.

A motion was made by Councilman Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilman Charles Coleman, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Chris Moore; Mitch Johnson; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

Absent: 2 - Gene Vance and Darrel Dover

Resolutions To Be Introduced

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RES-15:158

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONTRACT WITH FISHER & ARNOLD, INC. TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE W COLLEGE AVENUE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, AHTD JOB NO. 100849

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Sponsors: Engineering and Grants

Attachments: [Agreement](#)

City Engineer Craig Light explained the grant is 80/20 and is for the design of the bridge on West College. The total project cost is estimated at \$379,500. The design contract will allow them to get the project approved by the Highway Department so construction can begin in the summer of 2016.

A motion was made by Councilman Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Chris Moore; Mitch Johnson; Darrel Dover; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

5. Pending Items

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6. Other Business

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COM-15:063

Discussion concerning proposed sidewalk ordinance

[play video](#)**Attachments:**[Proposed ordinance](#)[Jonesboro sidewalk policy and policies of other cities](#)[Sidewalk Recommendations](#)[1962 Jonesboro Code](#)

Chairman Street explained the city did pass an ordinance requiring sidewalks for new multi-family and commercial developments. Councilwoman Williams asked if those terms were at the discretion of the MAPC. City Planner Otis Spriggs agreed, stating the ordinance requires sidewalks for multi-family for five units or more and the MAPC has the discretion to require them for commercial developments. The problem is over the last ten to fifteen years that has not been enforced by the MAPC or the city. As a result, they have asked the Public Works Committee to look at the issue on at least two occasions to provide clarification. Mr. Spriggs noted an example is the new Kroger development on Caraway Road where the city could not require sidewalks because the code has not been consistently applied throughout the city.

Councilwoman Williams stated there needs to be some latitude in some cases, but she thinks there should be a change in wording from discretionary to required. Mr. Spriggs explained the last time the resolution was presented to the Public Works Committee it was tabled. He also added as an attachment a matrix of what other cities are doing where it relates to sidewalks.

Councilman Coleman expressed concern over the city using its own funding to put in sidewalks every year where there should've already been sidewalks. He would like to see the wording change from "might" to "shall." Councilwoman Williams agreed.

Mr. Spriggs noted there are no provisions requiring sidewalks for residential areas. That proposal was made to the MAPC and was met with a lot of opposition.

Councilman Coleman then expressed concern because in his experience he was asked to tear up a sidewalk and a driveway, then had to re-pour it because he was told by the Inspections Department that the city had a code regarding it. But, he was never shown the code. He questioned why one person would have to follow something, but not others. Mr. Spriggs explained that is the issue they are looking at. In some instances, there are existing sidewalks that need to be re-poured or repaired, which may have been the case.

Mr. Spriggs also noted there are some questions about future maintenance of the sidewalks if they are in the city's right-of-way. Councilwoman Williams stated there will always be the opportunity to get a waiver if needed.

Councilwoman Williams asked that the proposal be on the agenda for the next Public Works meeting.

Harold Carter, 901 Toni Drive, discussed the situation. He stated there are too many exceptions and too many waivers. He explained he doesn't like it because it makes things too hard on the City Council and developers. He doesn't see any reason for that much encouragement for discretion and waivers. He recommended getting rid of a lot of the language that allows too many discretions and waivers.

Mayor Perrin stated they need to do their homework and research everything. They

will gather the information and send it out before the next meeting so it can be reviewed by the committee members. Chairman Street added he hopes that the city includes information concerning ADA compliance because the city needs to keep up with that.

This item was Read.

7. Public Comments

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8. Adjournment

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

Aye: 5 - Chris Moore; Mitch Johnson; Darrel Dover; Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance