



City of Jonesboro

300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes - Final Public Safety Council Committee

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

5:00 PM

Municipal Center

1. Call To Order

Mayor Perrin was also in attendance. Councilman Moore presided over the meeting in the absence of Chairman Johnson.

Present 4 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Chris Moore and Mikel Fears

Absent 1 - Mitch Johnson

2. Approval of minutes

[MIN-13:071](#)

Minutes for the Public Safety Committee meeting on August 20, 2013

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilman Gene Vance, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

3. New Business

Ordinances To Be Introduced

[ORD-13:051](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, SECTION 117-226, (4) KNOWN AS THE GARAGE SALES ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN THE ENFORCEMENT AND RULES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO PROVIDE CLARITY IN THE EXISTING ORDINANCES

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Planning

Attachments: [Existing Code Mark-up Text Amendment](#)

Mayor Perrin explained when the City did the housing study they recommended some changes be done. He then discussed the changes concerning garage sales and advertising & signage. He added these changes will allow Code Enforcement to enforce the City's ordinances.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilman Mikel Fears, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

ORD-13:052

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 105, SECTION 105-230 KNOWN AS THE SWIMMING POOLS/ENCLOSURE ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN THE ENFORCEMENT AND RULES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO PROVIDE CLARITY IN THE EXISTING ORDINANCES AND THE PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC PEACE, HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR YOUTH

Sponsors: Code Enforcement, Planning and Inspections

Attachments: [Existing Code Mark-up Text Amendment Copy](#)

Mayor Perrin noted this is a cleanup ordinance. He added this ordinance requires a fence be installed around swimming pools. He added the fence has to be at least 4 foot high with no less than a 2 inch gap. He noted this ordinance applies to existing and new swimming pools and all gates have to be self locking.

Councilman Fears asked if this ordinance defines swimming pools. Lt. Todd Nelson answered this applies to all pools over 15 inches in depth. He added this ordinance better defines how to measure the distance a pool is from the fence. He noted the last ordinance allowed for Code Enforcement to use discretion, but that was removed from this ordinance.

A motion was made by Councilman Mikel Fears, seconded by Councilman Chris Gibson, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

ORD-13:054

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, SECTION 117-324 KNOWN AS THE OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING ORDINANCE, AMENDING SECTION 117-324, (g), OUTDOOR PARKING/STORAGE OF BOATS, TRAILERS AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, WHILE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN THE ENFORCEMENT AND RULES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO PROVIDE CLARITY IN THE EXISTING ORDINANCES

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Planning

Attachments: [Existing Code Text Amendment Mark-up Copy](#)

Councilman Moore stated there have been some changes made to this ordinance.

City Planner Otis Spriggs explained this ordinance will relax the standards on boats and RVs. He further explained this will allow for the boats and RVs to be placed on the side of the house and out of the driveway, which has been the majority of the problems the City has dealt with. He also discussed item Number 7, which addresses when a property is more secluded and sets back further than the standard 25 feet setback requirement.

Councilman Vance stated item number 7 in the ordinance reads "when the building setback exceeds 100 feet". Mr. Spriggs explained the building setback can be removed from the wording and leave the buildable line, which is where the home is built.

Councilman Moore explained that Councilman John Street pointed out that some people have long driveways and they should be able to keep their boat or RV in their driveway. Councilman Vance noted he agrees with this but the wording does not say that. Mr. Spriggs recommended changing the wording to say where the building is setback 100 feet. Councilman Vance recommended changing the wording to say 100 feet behind the setback.

Councilman Moore recommended this be sent to Council pending the changes from Mr. Spriggs.

Councilman Fears asked if this will override any neighborhood policies. Mr. Spriggs answered no. Councilman Moore noted the City is not making this more restrictive, but making it less restrictive.

Mayor Perrin explained no recreation vehicle should be parked in front of the street unless they are being loaded or unloaded.

A motion was made by Councilman Gene Vance, seconded by Councilman Chris Gibson, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

4. Pending Items

5. Other Business

[ORD-13:053](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 30, SECTION 30-1 THROUGH 30-10, KNOWN AS THE ENVIRONMENT ORDINANCE, REPEALING CONFLICTING SECTIONS WITHIN CHAPTERS 54 AND 66, AND PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN THE ENFORCEMENT AND RULES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO PROVIDE CLARITY IN THE EXISTING ORDINANCES AND THE PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC PEACE, HEALTH AND SAFETY WITHIN OUR COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Planning

Attachments: [Existing Code Section 30 Text Amendment Mark-up Copy](#)

Lt. Nelson stated the changes made concern inoperable vehicles and non-operating vehicles because of conflict between ordinances. He explained that the littering ordinance and illegal disposal ordinance were combined into one ordinance. He also discussed the changes made to mowing. He added the change will allow the City to require a large tract of land be mowed entirely. He noted the change to real property liens will mirror what State law says.

Police Chief Michael Yates explained this ordinance has an emergency clause because the Quality of Life unit is going to training and he would hate for the ordinance to change before the training was finished.

Councilman Gibson asked when the training starts. Lt. Nelson answered September 25.

Councilman Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilman Fears to walk on to tonight's

council agenda. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilman Mikel Fears, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

ORD-13:037

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 30-24, EXCEPTIONS FOR LARGE TRACTS OF LAND, FOR THE CUTTING OF GRASS, WEEDS, BRUSH, VINES, ETC., WITHIN THE CODE THAT FORMERLY ALLOWED SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR LARGER TRACTS OF LAND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY FOR THE REDUCTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCES AND THE PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC PEACE, HEALTH, AND SAFETY.

Sponsors: Planning and Code Enforcement

Councilman Moore stated that Mr. Spriggs has asked that this ordinance be tabled indefinitely. Mr. Spriggs explained the issue dealing with large tracts of land in this ordinance has been taken care of in ORD-13:053.

A motion was made by Councilman Mikel Fears, seconded by Councilman Chris Gibson, that this matter be Postponed Indefinitely . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

CALEA

Councilman Moore explained previously Chief Yates had asked that the City accept certification from CALEA because there was no State certification at the time . He added the City has been paying CALEA every year, but now the State will certify the City. He noted Chief Yates is going to quit CALEA and start using the State for certification.

Chief Yates stated when he joined the Police Department in 2005 their Policy and Procedures manual had not be updated in 15 years. He added since the City has received certification and recertification from CALEA, the Policy and Procedure manual has been update to industry standards. He noted numerous agencies in the state have used the City's manual.

Chief Yates explained the State is now able to certify the Police Department and their certification contains almost the same standards as CALEA, and costs less. He added CALEA costs the City's thousands of dollars a year, but the State will only cost the City a few hundred dollars. He further explained the State's model will disregard certain things from CALEA that don't apply to the State of Arkansas, but will include things that are specific to the State of Arkansas.

He noted the CALEA accreditation will be in effect for at least another year and he plans on having the State certification in place by that time.

Councilman Fears asked if not being CALEA certified will make the City slip. Chief Yates answered the State certification will have the same standards as CALEA.

Councilman Fears questioned if this is the direction the City needs go. Chief Yates

answered nothing is stopping the City from changing. He added the City is going to do the State certification anyway.

Councilman Moore asked if the City is required to do the State certification. Chief Yates answered it is voluntary like CALEA.

Councilman Moore then asked if Mayor Perrin recommended going to the State certification model. Mayor Perrin answered yes.

Councilman Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilman Fears, to adopt the State certification model and defund the CALEA model. All voted aye.

6. Public Comments

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilman Mikel Fears, that this meeting be Adjourned. The motion CARRIED with the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson