



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

5:30 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:20 P.M.

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, good evening everybody. We do have a public hearing. We will go ahead. It is 5:23 p.m. We are a couple of minutes late on that. This is a public hearing regarding an appeal hearing for the denial of a conditional use request for River Advertising, 2701 Paula Drive, Jonesboro, Arkansas by the MAPC. Is there anybody here to speak in this public format?

George Hamman, with Civilogic, 203 Southwest Drive, said, we prepared the application and the drawings and made the presentation before the Planning Commission at whatever date that was. I can't remember exactly. But, what we didn't make clear in the presentation, the only question we were asking the Planning Commission with the conditional use is for an existing sign to be exchanged from a static display to a digital display. It is a more modern sign and will have a much cleaner look and the size of the sign became a topic of discussion, but the new sign will be the same size as the existing sign and so the appeal is just to try to get the decision reversed for that to be a digital display.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, Mr. Hamman, a condition for us to overthrow a MAPC decision as Charles Frierson has often expanded on would be that you would have to show that they made a technical mistake in their applying the rules. Do you have a technical mistake that you think the MAPC committed because we would have to have a reason to overthrow their decision? Mr. Hamman said, well, from what I know, I believe that some questions arose based on the configuration of the sign, the physical shape of the sign when that was not the question being posed to them. The question posed to them is can we exchange this from a static display to a digital display. They got some issues, had some questions about the size of the sign which will all be within code and will all be the same size as the existing sign. But, that was not the question that we had asked them. Councilmember Moore said, okay. I am sure there was discussion of the size and the type and the lighting and whatever. I don't doubt that, but what I am saying is, can you present to us what you think they erred on technically. There should be a reason for us. We can't just arbitrarily overthrow a MAPC decision. We have to have for you to appeal it to us, you have to be saying there is a cause of action. Mr. Hamman said, I think they addressed a question that was not being asked so that would be the technical. They were answer a question about the size and configuration of the sign rather than whether it can be digital versus static meaning their vote did not reflect the answer to the question posed. Councilmember Moore said, alright Mr. Mayor, I guess we are going to have to hear from someone from the MAPC. Mayor Copenhaver said, there are representatives here from MAPC. Councilmember Moore said, they are a citizen committee that makes recommendations to the full council. If they erred, by all means, an appeal is warranted, but you have to show the error.

Ryan Robeson, Senior Planner with the city, said, we do have three members from the Planning Commission here tonight and I would like to bring them up to speak. Lonnie Roberts, Chair of the MAPC, said, I have with me, Jim Little and Dennis Zolper with the Planning Commission. Councilmember Moore said, do you want me to ask them the question Mr. Mayor? Mayor Copenhaver said, I think they should go ahead and present. You heard what the gentleman before you said and if you want to go ahead and reference his comments.

Mr. Roberts said, yes, that became an issue, the size of the sign. From what I heard from the commissioners, the size of the sign did become the issue. City Attorney Carol Duncan said, from my memory, there was something to do with whether it was going to be vertical or horizontal. Mr. Roberts said, it was the horizontal width of the sign that was the issue. Ms. Duncan said, the dimensions were going to be the same. It was just going to be flipped. Mr. Roberts said, it was the actual overall square footage is the same. But, what we went from was a 12x24 stacked on top of a 12x24 to a 12x48. So, the square footage is the same. The concern from some of the commissioners and I think Mr. Little had a concern with that was the actual width of the sign going from 24 to 48 although the square footage is the same. However, in the past, we have approved signs of that size and even since this meeting, we approved a sign of that size. But, I do know there were some concerns about the size of this particular sign.

Mr. Little said, what Lonnie is saying is correct. The sign as it sits now in front of Walmart on Parker Road is a double stacked sign. It is two signs basically on top of each other. There is another sign that is 48 feet about 450 feet across the bypass from this sign. They were going to reconfigure the sign to be long. And, when we were estimating, it is about as big as this room which is kind of normal sized of a sign. So, we really didn't have images to see what this was going to look like. So, we had questions about well, is that going to look good? Why does it have to be so long? And, I also had the question of there is a rule about that signs need to be 1,000 feet from each other. Well, there is another sign across the bypass that is about 400 feet away. So, now, this is existing, nonconforming and if they just left it in its existing configuration and wanted to make it digital, that is another question. But, they were not leaving it in its existing configuration. They were making it twice as wide and it is too close to the other sign. If they tried to get a permit to do that sign right now, they couldn't do it because it is too close to the other one. So, that was my issue.

Councilmember Moore asked, Mr. Zolper, you are a lawyer. You know the point I am trying to make here. In order for the proponent to prevail here, he has to show that you all failed to address some technical aspect. Did you all consider the size as just routine business in the review process? Mr. Zolper said, well, in a way, it was a situation. I voted for the sign because I didn't see that there was any reason not to because it was replacing an existing sign. What I think he is getting to is that really we were only to address whether we thought it was a good place to put a digital sign versus a static sign. And, we got off. We really didn't address that issue. That was all we were really supposed to address. It wasn't brought to us about the looks of the sign or do we have the right, authority, or whatever term you want to use to say well we can deny it because it is too big. The ordinance really doesn't say that. So, I think that is what George is getting at. We took into consideration as a commission that it was just too dang big.

Mayor Copenhaver said, so, Lonnie from your recommendation from the MAPC, your stance is where at this point? Are you still with the denial? Do you still want to uphold

the denial request. Mr. Roberts said, well, let me look at the minutes. Councilmember Mitch Johnson said, it was 4-3 according to the minutes. Mr. Roberts said, it was 4-3. That is really your decision if you want to rehear it or not. But, I also do know, I mean the commissioners may have gotten hung up on the size, but apparently, they had the right to get hung up on the size and ask any questions. But, at the same time, it, I guess we are kind of in this position of you guys making the decision because while it does match every other sign in Jonesboro that we have approved, we learned tonight that it was within 400 feet of the other sign. That is what I consider new evidence. Mr. Zolper said, yeah, that is new.

Randy Wheeler said, I am the billboard guy around here. The ordinance states that on the bypass, it is 1,000 foot spacing from each sign straight down only on your side to side of the bypass. The 400 feet doesn't come into application on the bypass. Everywhere else, we have got the 1,500 feet circumference rule. So, basically, there is hardly any spots left anywhere. But, the one thing too that might not be totally clear is that we are totally removing this sign and it would be a legal spot even with the sign being totally removed. It is not like it is an illegal nonconforming sign we are wanting to alter. We are totally taking it down, starting all over, and by doing that, if we just went by the current ordinance right now and we applied for a sign to be built, you know, 14-48 or 12-48 or whatever, it all falls legal under the existing ordinance. And, so, that is what we are doing. We are removing the old one and starting all over and just putting another one there, but the other day we were just asking MAPC, can we put a digital there. Just a more modern sign. You don't have to get on to change the artwork. It is safer. It is easier. It is more modern. So, that is exactly what Mr. Zolper was saying, we were asking for the conditional use the other day.

Mr. Little said, I have another thing to add there. I just asked and Ryan, you might be able to speak to this. I asked him that question. Is it 1,000 feet on the same side of the bypass or does it count that it is across the bypass? And the way he read the ordinance to me, it does count. It is supposed to be 1,000 feet in any direction. So, I can let Ryan answer that. Mr. Robeson said, the two ordinances of spacing, one is that no off premise sign shall be established within 1,000 feet of any other off premise sign measured along the same side of Interstate 63 to which the sign is oriented. The second is no off premise sign shall be established within 1,500 feet of any other off premise sign measured from any angle or direction to which any sign is oriented in all other commercial areas of the city. So, one deals with Interstate 63 and the other deals with all other billboard signs within the city.

Councilmember Bobby Long said, so this one would be conforming. Mr. Robeson said, it would be conforming, yes, if it is on the other side of the street. Councilmember Long said, it would be conforming the way that they would want it to orient. Mr. Robeson said, yes sir. Councilmember Johnson said, according to the minutes, the distance never came into question. The only question was, Mr. Little stated, at 48 wide seems really wide. And, then you got off on the subject of the size of the sign. It was never considered distance or anything that would make it not conform to the ordinance. Mr. Robeson said, that is correct. Ms. Duncan said, but, George, correct me if I am wrong, but weren't you all asking for a different size? Mr. Hamman said, a different size. Ms. Duncan said, yes, a standard size versus ? Councilmember Johnson said, the standard size they asked for was 14x48 and as they got down and discussed it, Mr. Hamman said, that it could be amended to a 12 feet high by 48 feet wide. Ms. Duncan said, right. I think that is where the discussion got off base. Mr. Roberts said, that was based off of a suggestion of a commissioner. If you match the square footage, they would be in favor of it. Mr. Hamman said, correct. Councilmember Johnson said, apparently 14x48 is the standard nationwide according to what is in the minutes here.

Mr. Zolper said, that is my understanding. Councilmember Johnson said, I think that is what Mr. Wheeler stated in here.

Mr. Zolper said, maybe all would be better just sending this back to us for further consideration. Mr. Roberts said, we would reconsider it based on the new evidence and based on the new directives if that is your pleasure. Ms. Duncan said, I think if you voted to remand it back, there wouldn't be any waiting period like there would be if there was a new application kind of thing. It would just be on the next meeting. Mr. Roberts said, I would agree with that. I would think that based on the idea that we did chase a rabbit so to speak. I think that in fairness, we would listen to it without the six month delay. Councilmember Long asked, do you see any reason why we wouldn't just overturn it now if your intention would be hear it again and just approve it, why would we not just overturn it right now and let it stand. What would be the difference? Councilmember Moore said, I think the answer to that would be public comment. I think you would want to send it back and let the public have input on it Bobby. Councilmember Long said, okay, gotcha.

Mayor Copenhaver said, we are to vote on this later after the consent agenda so we will readdress that when it comes up. Councilmember Moore said, but I like the idea of no six month wait for Mr. Hamman. Mayor Copenhaver said, I do too. Councilmember Long said, I agree. Councilmember Frierson said, I move to do that. Councilmember Moore and Mayor Copenhaver said, it is coming up after the consent agenda.

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR HAROLD COPENHAVER AT 5:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Present 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-21:054](#)

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE VALLEY VIEW 4A VOLLEYBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

The Valley View Girls Volleyball team was recognized Tuesday night by Mayor Harold Copenhaver for winning their 4A State Championship.

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, I would like to do a proclamation honoring the Valley View Volleyball team. Whereas the Valley View High School Volleyball team defeated accomplished a remarkable, yet common feat last month in the Arkansas State 4A State Championship for the seventh consecutive year. That is amazing, seven consecutive. The Blazers have won 16 state championships. You all place a lot of pressure on yourselves. The most of any school in the State of Arkansas. And, Whereas, in every state finals, you have been there since 2003. Wow. What an accomplishment. Whereas Senior Natalie Supine was named state MVP and was joined by Junior Morgan Weaver who had 10 kills as they swept the finals at Brookland. Whereas, Coach Margie McGee, she has nine Seniors, they finished 16-0 in conference 4A3 Champions. And, Whereas, these young ladies represent Valley

View High School and the City of Jonesboro in distinction not only on the court but their daily habits that created such success for your team. I, therefore, now, Harold Copenhaver, Mayor of the City of Jonesboro, by the virtue of the authority vested in me in the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby recognize and honor the Valley View High School Volleyball team for its state championship, congratulating them on a job well done and wishing you more success in the future. Congratulations.

Read

[COM-21:056](#)

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE VALLEY VIEW 4A GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM

The Valley View Girls Cross Country team was recognized Tuesday night by Mayor Harold Copenhaver for winning their State Championship.

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, cross country, wow, how many miles is that? The team stated 2.1 miles. I am really proud of you all. The Valley View Girls Cross Country team won the 4A State Championship. And, Whereas, four of the girls were chosen for all state lead by Elsie Knight who is third in the state in individual competition and won first place in the Conference 4A3 Championship. And, Whereas, Kendall Minton, Sophie Pope and Emma Jarrett also won all state honors. In Whereas, Kailey Byington, Morgan Rothwell, and Lauren Box joined the top four on the all-Conference list. Coach Becton's team won three other meets during their championship season. The Valley View Girls represented themselves and their school in Jonesboro in exemplary fashion. So, it is wonderful about your academics as well. You all are high achievers. We appreciate that in the community because you all are leading by example. I, therefore, now, Harold Copenhaver, Mayor of the City of Jonesboro, by the virtue of the authority vested in me in the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim Valley View Cross Country Day in the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas. Congratulations.

Read

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to adopt the Consent Agenda less RES-21:226. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Moore, seconded by Councilperson Chris Gibson, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

[MIN-21:099](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON NOVEMBER 16, 2021

Attachments: [CC Minutes 11162021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

[RES-21:251](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 200 MULBERRY,
JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144074-09600, OWNED BY LEON JONES

Attachments: [200 Mulberry10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-247-2021

[RES-21:252](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,
TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 200 S ALLIS,
JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144181-40800, OWNED BY MICHAEL DUANE
DARLING

Attachments: [200 S. Allis10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-248-2021

[RES-21:253](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,
TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 204 WOODROW,
JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144073-23400, OWNED BY NEWELL COOTS

Attachments: [204 Woodrow10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-249-2021

[RES-21:254](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,
TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 405 STATE STREET,
JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144171-03500, OWNED BY CHARLES E
NOELL JR

Attachments: [405 State10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-250-2021

[RES-21:255](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,
TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 409 N FISHER,
JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144181-10500, OWNED BY PAUL GAMBILL

Attachments: [409 N. Fisher10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-251-2021

[RES-21:256](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,
TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 816 HOOVER,
JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144181-14800, OWNED BY ROBERT
WHITAKER

Attachments: [816 Hoover10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-252-2021

[RES-21:257](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1014 S CULBERHOUSE, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144192-21300, OWNED BY CHARLES E NOELL JR

Attachments: [1014 S. Culberhouse10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-253-2021

[RES-21:259](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1328 W HUNTINGTON, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-143133-18100, OWNED BY DKI LLC

Attachments: [1328 W. Huntington10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-254-2021

[RES-21:258](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1313 PARDEW, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144212-20200, OWNED BY MICHELLE NUTT

Attachments: [1313 Pardew10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-255-2021

[RES-21:260](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1501 GRANGER, JONESBORO, AR 72405, PARCEL 01-144082-06000, OWNED BY BRUCE CHRISTOPHER HALL

Attachments: [1501 Granger10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-256-2021

[RES-21:261](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1717 HENRY, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144223-04700, OWNED BY NINE BLESSINGS LLC

Attachments: [1717 Henry10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-257-2021

[RES-21:262](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2037 JAMESTOWN, JONESBORO, AR 72404, PARCEL 01-133023-13800, OWNED BY BILL & DORALEA SMITH

Attachments: [2037 Jamestown10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-258-2021

[RES-21:263](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3600 BEACON, JONESBORO, AR 72404, PARCEL 01-134033-03600, OWNED BY SHINICE WALKER

Attachments: [3600 Beacon10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-259-2021

[RES-21:264](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4312 GLADYS, JONESBORO, AR 72404, PARCEL 01-134032-11700, OWNED BY JIMMY ODLE

Attachments: [4312 Gladys10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-260-2021

[RES-21:265](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5304 SOUTHWEST DRIVE, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-133023-10100, OWNED BY SHERRY STUMP

Attachments: [5304 Southwest10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-261-2021

[RES-21:266](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT GABRIEL CT., JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144151-19400, OWNED BY DIANE GASTON

Attachments: [Gabriel Ct10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-262-2021

[RES-21:275](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO APPLY FOR THE

CONTINUUM OF CARE (COC) GRANT THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-263-2021

[RES-21:276](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT S CARAWAY ROAD, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144283-08500, OWNED BY NE ARKANSAS HOSPITALITY LLC

Attachments: [S. Caraway10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-264-2021

[RES-21:277](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 409 N FISHER, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144181-10500, OWNED BY PAUL GAMBILL

Attachments: [409 N. Fisher10272021](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-265-2021

[RES-21:284](#)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE CONTENTS OF THE POLICY MANUAL OF THE JONESBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Attachments: [2020 Policy Manual-Complete](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-266-2021

[RES-21:285](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH PEPSI BEVERAGES COMPANY FOR SPONSORSHIP OF FIELDS AND EXCLUSIVE POURING RIGHTS AT JOE MACK CAMPBELL PARK, SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX, JONESBORO MIRACLE LEAGUE, JONESBORO POOL CENTER, ALLEN PARK COMMUNITY CENTER, PARKER PARK COMMUNITY CENTER AND EARL BELL COMMUNITY CENTER

Attachments: [Pepsi Beverage Sales Agreement](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-267-2021

[RES-21:286](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH CORINTH COCA-COLA BOTTLING COMPANY, INC. FOR EXCLUSIVE POURING RIGHTS AT THE JONESBORO SHOOTING SPORTS COMPLEX

Attachments: [Coca-Cola Jonesboro Shooting Sports Complex Contract](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-268-2021

[RES-21:288](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION'S BUS AND BUS FACILITIES COMPETITIVE GRANT FOR FY21.

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-269-2021

[RES-21:289](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH RITTER COMMUNICATIONS TO INSTALL FIBER CONNECTIVITY AT THE INTERSECTION OF MLK/HIGHLAND FOR TRAFFIC ANALYTICS AND TO EXPAND WI-FI CAPABILITIES AT THE E. BOONE WATSON COMMUNITY CENTER

Attachments: [Quote City of Jonesboro Traffic Light MLK and Highland 11 16 21](#)
[Quote City of Jonesboro 1005 Logan Fiber Optic Internet 50x15 11 16 21](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-270-2021

[RES-21:290](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ESTABLISH A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT CARRYOVER FUND FOR BUDGETED PROJECTS REMAINING IN PROCESS AT YEAR END 2021

Attachments: [Capital Improvement Carryover Fund](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-271-2021

RESOLUTION REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

[RES-21:226](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO REQUEST THAT THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ARDOT) TO LOWER SPEED LIMITS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS IN THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, Brian Richardson and I have been having conversations with ArDot and we want to explain this a little more in detail for council. Chief of Administration Brian Richardson said, we just had a technicality on some of the wording that we needed to clean up. I believe I have sent a copy of it to Mrs. Leggett. I don't know if it was forwarded to council. City Clerk April Leggett said, a copy was left with each councilmember. Mr. Richardson said, okay. On East Johnson, that is going to be from Red Wolf to Main Street so really there is no notable change there. But, the speed limit reduction that we are requesting a study for on Highland Drive is actually going to be in two phases. The first phase would be Highland Drive from Distributor Drive to Moore Road. And, phase two would be Moore Road to Barnhill which is a little further out. There is obviously a lot of dirt being moved and projects underway and I think it might be a little premature to go ahead and make that reduction now without further study to see how this first leg of this speed limit impacts potential of backing up traffic or safety concerns. So, I think there is a willingness there to look at that, but in two phases to where we make sure that is actually what we want to do in the long run. So, that is the notable kind of change here that I felt like

needed to be explained. Councilmember Bobby Long said, also the word study is highlighted as well. So, not to change it, but to study it. Mr. Richardson said, yes, that is a matter of practice. We officially request that ArDot review these things and of course, they have been looking at the Johnson Avenue speed so I expect that in the term of in kind of in the world of government to move pretty quickly. And, I don't have a timetable on the phase two study. Obviously, they are going to need a little bit of time to gather information on the second phase of Highland Drive. So, I certainly do not want to speak on behalf of ArDot, but I will speak on behalf of us and I would like to thank ArDot for working with us. I think that everybody is looking forward to potentially reducing some of the risk on Johnson that we have seen over the past few years and I would like to thank them for being willing to work with us on this and listen to our concerns. Mayor Copenhaver said, also, we have been working with Alec Farmer as well on this and so we all have been collaborating on this so we felt good with this adjustment to be done in the right way.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long, to amend RES-21:226 to reflect a change from "make" to "study" and change the wording under "Lower Speed Limit from 60 MPH on the following Route: Highway 18, Highland Drive from Distributor Drive to Barnhill Road" to: "Lower Speed Limit from 60 MPH on the following Route: Phase I Study: Highway 18, Highland Drive from Distributor Drive to Moore Road; Phase II Study: Highway 18, Moore Road to Barnhill Road." All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Joe Hafner, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Enactment No: R-EN-272-2021

RESOLUTION NOT ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

[RES-21:220](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 217 Gilbert

Attachments: [217 Gilbert notice](#)
[Invoice & Search](#)
[SITZES LESLIE OR DEBBIE-01-144072-15200 - ARCountyData.com](#)
[Supporting Docs](#)

Councilmember David McClain requested to abstain from discussion and voting on RES-21:220 due to having a working relationship with the owner of the property.

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Abstain: 1 - David McClain

Enactment No: R-EN-273-2021

RESOLUTION REQUESTING AN APPEAL OF A MAPC DENIAL

[RES-21:272](#)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONDITIONAL USE REQUEST FOR RIVER ADVERTISING, 2701 PAULA DRIVE, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

Attachments: [Letter of Request for Appeal Hearing on CU](#)
[Application](#)
[Narrative](#)
[Site Plan](#)
[Staff Summary - 2701 Paula Drive](#)
[Aerial View](#)
[Photo - Current View from East](#)
[Photo - Current View from West](#)
[Photo - Location](#)
[Adjoining Property Owner Notification](#)
[Certified Mail Receipt](#)
[Minutes for 10-26-21](#)

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman, to postpone temporarily until the MAPC can consider it at their next meeting. All voted aye.

George Hamman said, you mentioned going back to the Planning Commission and we are happy to do that. Can it also be part of the direction, I guess, for it to be at the next Planning Commission meeting which would be a week from tonight? Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, that is correct. Mr. Hamman said, thank you. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Moore, seconded by Councilperson Charles Coleman, that this matter be Postponed Temporarily . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

6. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[ORD-21:049](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-21:049 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

[ORD-21:052](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF FIVE GRIDSMAST SINGLE VIDEO DETECTION SYSTEMS FROM PINKLEY SALES COMPANY FOR THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN

EMERGENCY

Attachments: [Jonesboro - Gridsmart Quote 11-6-21](#)
 [Sole & Exclusive - Jonesboro](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember LJ Bryant, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-21:052 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye.

Information Systems Director Jason Ratliff said, we have one of the five GridSmart is already installed here on Main and Johnson. With the other four, they are looking at 6-8 weeks before they actually start installing more. I don't have a list where they will actually be installing them. In 6-8 weeks, they will start and they will probably finish in about a month for that whole project. This is just for the GridSmart though. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you for the update.

Councilmember Joe Hafner motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long, to adopt ORD-21:052. All voted aye.

Councilmember Joe Hafner motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye by roll call vote.

A motion was made by Councilperson Joe Hafner, seconded by Councilperson Bobby Long, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Enactment No: O-EN-047-2021

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING**[ORD-21:043](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Enactment No: O-EN-048-2021

[ORD-21:047](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ACTIVE NETWORK, LLC. FOR HOSTED REGISTRATION SOFTWARE FOR THE PARKS DEPARTMENT

Attachments: [10.26.2021 Activenet Jonesboro - ANet_V1, 6.30.21](#)
[10.26.2021 ActiveNet Jonesboro City of Sole Source Letter 08-18-21](#)
[10.26.2021 Active Net Breakdown](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Joe Hafner, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Enactment No: O-EN-049-2021

[ORD-21:048](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 62 OF THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES LEVYING A FOUR PERCENT (4%) GROSS RECEIPT TAX ON THE RENTING, LEASING, OR OTHERWISE FURNISHING OF HOTEL AND MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Attachments: [Citizen Comment](#)

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Enactment No: O-EN-050-2021

[ORD-21:050](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4600 E NETTLETON AVENUE

Attachments: [Minutes - Rezoning RZ 21-14 - 4600 E Nettleton](#)
[REZONING PLAT](#)
[Application](#)
[Arial View](#)
[Certified Mail Receipts](#)
[Mailing Receipt](#)
[Neighborhood Statement](#)
[Rezoning Sign Photos](#)
[Staff Summary](#)
[Warranty Deed](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Enactment No: O-EN-051-2021

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Copenhaver reported on the following:

As of today, this is the 80th anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day. I joined our veterans of foreign wars and others to commemorate this day as it lives as President Roosevelt said, this is a day of infamy. I commend Danny Honnoll who organized the event downtown and all of the veterans who have served our country and made it great.

We dropped in this afternoon at the ASU-Newport Campus in Jonesboro. It is sometimes overlooked because of its name, but ASU-Newport's campus provides a great educational opportunity for so many and today's holiday drop-in was a perfect illustration of all the opportunities for two-year students in our community. I was extremely proud to hear the announcement of Arkansas State University of its \$25 million donation from the Wingate Foundation. It will create the newest building on campus and plan to integrate technology in arts in ways that I think will benefit our students, our university and Jonesboro for decades to come.

Joy Fest was a tremendous success last weekend. It couldn't have been pulled off without remarkable teamwork. I wanted to make mention of the Downtown Association, the Downtown Alliance, but I really want to thank Sarah Rickart and Brandon Shrader for going above and beyond in making the event special. Please attend. It is quite an event and special and one to be proud of. Parks Director Danny Kapales has spent a lot of time reupping so to speak the commitment to the downtown area in what we are doing. It is the commitment that what we provided from the city that we can incorporate and bring people together in our community. So, I am really proud of that. Job well done Danny.

The Jonesboro Jaycees hosted one of the best Christmas Parades I think I have ever seen. It was due to their diligence, but the weather had a lot to do with it and people being in Covid. It was a great event and it drew thousands to our downtown community. I wanted to say thank you for our Fire Department and our Reserve Police Officers and Police Officers for making it go without a hitch. When you don't hear anything, things have gone well, but that is because there is a lot of hard work behind the scenes.

My leadership team sat down with JPD and local school leaders last week from Jonesboro and Nettleton. We had an in depth talk about youth violence. I commend our Street Crimes Unit for arresting every suspect in the November shootings, one of which was fatal. I think it is important that adults take time with teens and young adults right now. They don't have the perspective of years and maturity which sometimes leads to short sided actions. While our violent crime statistics are down almost across the board this year, the crime we are seeing is coming disproportionately from the teen and early twenties age group. My administration will continue all talks with all school leaders in our city to curb violence, but also to ensure our youth are being listened to and cared for.

Speaking of youth, I had the chance to meet and interact this past Sunday afternoon. We had an event with our Mayor's Youth Advancement Council and their parents and their families were asked to attend. I would say that we had over 100 people on our first floor facility and they also witnessed our fourth floor office as well. Many sat down in the chair and put their feet up on the desk so they got a big kick out of it. But, it is important to involve these youth in our community and getting their families here to see the relevance of what they are doing is key. So, I want to especially thank Shelly

Anderson and Tonya Hottel from our office who have worked very diligently with these young adults and are leading them in an exemplary way.

We met with the Secretary of State this week and his top aide as well as a new Director of Finance & Administration in Little Rock. We discussed grant opportunities from the state over the coming year. Our Grants Department has worked long and hard and many hours to ensure that no stone goes unturned as we continue to look for dollars from our penny sales tax. Folks this is key. We have to look for all avenues. Some we are not going to get and some we are. But, we can't receive any funds unless we ask for them. So, I commend your staff, Regina, for what their efforts are doing and we are also having an additional employee come full-time in January. We are real excited about that to add to her staff.

While it is too soon to get into serious details, we are seeing opportunities that I am confident that will lead to needed infrastructure aid in the near future. We have created a list of needs and they pair with our opportunities. We have made some very important connections and those connections will pay off for our citizens and you the councilmembers.

We are headlong into the holidays now and that means congestion on the streets and store isles. It is usually a time of increased accidents, thefts, and random troubles in our shopping centers and on our roads. I urge everyone to take a deep breath, respect those around you, and understand that patience will be required while driving and also shopping.

[COM-21:051](#)

JONESBORO AIRPORT COMMISSION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(April 2021 through September 2021)

Attachments: [JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 04 2021](#)
[JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 05 2021](#)
[JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 06 21](#)
[JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 07 21](#)
[JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 08 21](#)
[JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 09 21](#)

Filed

[COM-21:053](#)

NAIDC Third Quarter Report 2021

Attachments: [NAIDC Report 3rd QTR 2021](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember John Street said, at the MPO meeting today, it was our pleasure to hear that the Jonesboro MPO won the Outstanding AMPO Award. It is an award for excellent small MPO's. It is a big deal because the best in the nation. So, it is really something to be proud of. The trophy came in broken and Alan is sick today. He wasn't able to make the meeting in person, but when we get the trophy in, we will get Alan and Nadia to come down and let them present that. It is a big deal and I know that goes back to the past MPO as well. They do an outstanding job. They work hard for us. I appreciate that. We did have one meeting tonight on the corridor. It was 4-7. It

is probably too late to make that one. But, the South Corridor meeting for the Highway Department is going to be held at Valley View Junior High School. They had initially said the Fine Arts building, but they changed it because of a scheduling change to the Junior High Library and that will be tomorrow from 4-7. It will be tomorrow evening from 4-7. Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, thank you so much for your comments Councilmember. I just want to reiterate that our MPO is very strong. We have had talent in the past and that has led to the additional talent. Alan has done a great job moving forward. We are also looking for MPO and directions from Washington as well, so we are looking for additional funding there that Alan is working with the city on.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, the only point and Mayor made a good point of it because I was reading that Secretary Buttigieg has \$100 billion at his disposal so I think we could go shine his shoes or get on a rotation schedule or whatever we need to do. Mayor Copenhaver said, we have broken it down and we have 47 categories and we are seeing how we can apply and ask for any funding for the City of Jonesboro. Councilmember Bryant said, very good.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, Nominating & Rules met earlier tonight and I would like to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-21:291 to tonight's agenda please. Councilmember Chris Moore seconded the motion. All voted aye.

[RES-21:291](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR HAROLD COPENHAVER

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and walk on RES-21:291. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

Enactment No: R-EN-274-2021

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, the only other thing I have is Nominating & Rules. I gave the committee the wrong date earlier tonight. We will be meeting on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 5:20 p.m. to turn the committee over to the other side and to elect a chair.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, I believe the health of the downtown reflects the health of our city. And, if that is the case, in the 25+ years that I have lived in the downtown, I have never seen a larger crowd than at our Christmas Parade. Literally, there was nowhere to park from Burke Street all the way to Nettleton in any body's parking lot. It was a fabulous turnout and the parade was fabulous. But, Joy Fest also, I met the Mayor and Danny down there. Joy Fest was a huge success, but it will be going on. The Ferris wheel will be going on Wednesday through Sunday nights. I would encourage anybody to come down and hang out in the downtown, eat dinner, ride the Ferris wheel, take your kids to the ice rink. It is really nice. Danny has some good ideas for the next year, improvements. If you haven't noticed, they have blocked off the entrance to Monroe Street and built a new sidewalk. We have a big opportunity there.

It is going to be nice. I spoke with Brian earlier and I think that we are going to have some information from legal experts over the Citizens Bank Building that may be presented in the next week or two. So, I look forward to hearing that and look forward to a meeting on that. Mayor Copenhagen said, we do too.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Joe Hafner, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Copenhagen, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

April Leggett, City Clerk