



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING AT 4:30 P.M.

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

PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:20 P.M.

Mayor Harold Perrin asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the public hearing regarding abandoning and vacating the right-of-way and drainage easements in the Jackson Minor Plat of part of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 11, Township 14 north, Range 4 east by George Hamman on behalf of Jackson Innovation, LLC. No one spoke in opposition.

PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:25 P.M.

Mayor Harold Perrin asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the public hearing regarding the abandonment of a 15' x 350' alley on the west side of lots 1 through 7, Block A of Earl Kiech Second Edition by Fisher and Arnold on behalf of CMU Investments, LLC. No one spoke in opposition.

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Mayor Harold Perrin was in attendance.

Present 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent 1 - John Street

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-19:082](#) Proclamation from Mayor Perrin to Coach Jason Morgan, JHS Tennis 5A State Champions

Read

[COM-19:083](#) Proclamation from Mayor Perrin to Coach Craig Cummings, Jonesboro High School,

5A State Volleyball State Champions

Read

[COM-19:084](#)

Proclamation from Mayor Perrin to Coach Margie McGee, Valley View Coach of the Year, And 4A State Volleyball Champions

Read

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Harold Perrin stated that Councilmember Bobby Long asked that RES-19:210 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Ann Williams, to remove RES-19:210 from the Consent Agenda and to adopt the Consent Agenda. All voted aye.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

[MIN-19:117](#)

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 2, 2019

Attachments: [CC Minutes 12022019](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

[RES-19:184](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 651 W. HUNTINGTON, PARCEL 01-144183-17700, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY KAREN HUGHES

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 651 W. Huntington](#)
[651 W. Huntington](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-181-2019

[RES-19:185](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 708 N. CARAWAY, PARCEL 01-144093-03800, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY HAROLD FRAZIER

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 708 N. Caraway](#)
[708 N. Caraway](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-182-2019

[RES-19:186](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1014 W. JEFFERSON, PARCEL 01-143134-35000, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY JULIE MORRIS GOODWIN

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 1014 W. Jefferson
1014 W. Jefferson](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-183-2019

[RES-19:187](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1305 DARLENE COVE, PARCEL 01-144053-12700, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY JUDITH ROBINSON

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 1305 Darlene Cove
1305 Darlene Cove](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-184-2019

[RES-19:188](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1325 W. MONROE, PARCEL 01-142133-15100, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY BOBBIE HINDMAN

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 1325 W. Monroe
1325 W. Monroe](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-185-2019

[RES-19:189](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1601 ANGELA LEE, PARCEL 01-144082-00500, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY THOMAS UMERSKI

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 1601 Angela Lee
1601 Angela Lee](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-186-2019

[RES-19:190](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5920 SOUTHWEST DRIVE, PARCEL 12-133102-00500, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY

CHRISTINA HANEY

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 5920 Southwest
5920 Southwest Drive](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-187-2019

[RES-19:192](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 527 KREWSON, PARCEL 01-144183-35100, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY ALESHA BRADLEY

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 527 Krewson
527 Krewson](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-188-2019

[RES-19:193](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 308 MOCKINGBIRD COVE, PARCEL 01-144303-27900, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY CHARLES HENDRIX

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 308 Mockingbird Cove
308 Mockingbird](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-189-2019

[RES-19:196](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 616 E. OAK, PARCEL 01-144191-17500, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY JOYCE SCARBOROUGH

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 616 E. Oak
616 E. Oak](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-190-2019

[RES-19:197](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF JONESBORO AND CRAIGHEAD COUNTY FOR THE HESTER STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Attachments: [Agreement, Craighead County - Hester Street Bridge](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-191-2019

[RES-19:208](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONTINUE A

JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF TWO STREAMGAGES IN JONESBORO

Attachments: [2020 USGS Agreement](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-192-2019

[RES-19:209](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE WARRANTY DEED RESTRICTION FOR 1904 DEERWOOD DRIVE, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS ACQUIRED WITH FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDS

Attachments: [Deed Restriction - 1904 Deerwood](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-193-2019

[RES-19:211](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING A SETTLEMENT ON THE JIMMY ASHLEY VS. CITY OF JONESBORO LAWSUIT

Attachments: [Ashley Settlement on ADA](#)
 [Ashley Settlement on ADA, signed page](#)

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-194-2019

[RES-19:212](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO ESTABLISHING THE JONESBORO SHOOTING SPORTS COMPLEX COMMITTEE AND ESTABLISHING A DEDICATED FUND IN THE CITY BUDGET TO RECEIVE CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER FUNDING FOR THE COMPLEX

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-195-2019

[RES-19:213](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO ESTABLISHING THE JONESBORO PUBLIC SAFETY SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE AND ESTABLISHING A DEDICATED FUND IN THE CITY BUDGET TO RECEIVE CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF SUCH EQUIPMENT AND OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY NEEDS

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-196-2019

[RES-19:214](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE JONESBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (JEDC) FOR AN EXTENSION TO THE JONESBORO INDUSTRIAL RAIL SPUR

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-197-2019

RESOLUTIONS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**[RES-19:210](#)**

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO SUPPORTING THE HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1018 OF 2019 (HJR 1018 OF 2019), PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION TO CONTINUE A LEVY OF A ONE-HALF PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX FOR STATE HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES; COUNTY ROUNDS, BRIDGES, AND OTHER SURFACE TRANSPORTATION; AND CITY STREETS, BRIDGES, AND OTHER SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AFTER THE RETIREMENT OF THE BONDS AUTHORIZED IN ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENT 91, AS SPECIAL REVENUE TO BE DISTRIBUTED UNDER THE ARKANSAS HIGHWAY REVENUE DISTRIBUTION LAW

Councilmember Bobby Long said, I just think that this is not a continuation, but a new tax. We just had 3 cents on a gallon of regular that was imposed this past summer along with five cents on diesel. The people were promised relief from this tax that was instituted and I think that they deserve that. \$1.4 billion in surplus over the past ten years, I think that there is other means of funding our roads rather than imposing a new tax on the people when they were promised relief when it first started.

Mayor Harold Perrin said, serving as President of the Arkansas Municipal League, all cities have been asked to present this resolution to their prospective cities to do that. I do not believe that this is a new tax. It is a continuation of a tax that is already on the books. The effects of Jonesboro, we would lose \$1.6 million in street funds. The county would lose \$975,000. This money goes for maintenance of roads, not new construction. This was a part of the Legislatures who passed this out to the people and the people voted on that overwhelmingly to do that. So, what the Municipal League has asked is that all cities present that to their council, get that approved. If so, send that down to them so they can deliver those to the Governor's office. I just want to make that comment. This is not a new tax in my opinion. It is simply a continuation of a tax that we already have. I don't know the exact amount, but we are averaging right now around \$1.5-\$1.6 million a year. I can tell you if I pull that \$1.6 million out of my budget, this budget, any budget, it is going to hurt dramatically. This is for maintenance of roads, not new construction, maintenance of roads. That is why the Legislature passed that was for roads, for bridges, because we have gone way too long in Arkansas not addressing the maintenance of the roads that we have, not new construction. In addition to this, they also passed the GARVEE Bonds which they did and that was for new construction of roads throughout the entire state for economic development to tie into northeast, northwest, the central, the entire state to get these products that we have as well as raw products coming into the state. So, I just want to make that comment. Everybody has got an opinion. I just want to make sure to be able to say that.

Councilmember Gene Vance said, I have got a question Mayor that maybe you can clarify. We are actually supporting this going to be extended amendment so it will actually be a vote of every voting citizen of the state of Arkansas. Mayor Perrin said, that is correct. Councilmember Vance said, it is not the legislature extending the tax. It is not us extending the tax. Mayor Perrin said, it is the people. Councilmember Vance said, it is saying that "we" as the City of Jonesboro support the Legislature's endeavor to extend that amendment tax. Mayor Perrin said, that is correct.

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

Aye: 10 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Nay: 1 - Bobby Long

Absent: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-198-2019

[RES-19:191](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT SOUTHWEST DRIVE, PARCEL 01-143361-01000, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS COMPANY

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - Southwest 01-143361-01000 Southwest Drive, Parcel 01-143361-01000](#)

Mayor Harold Perrin said, those people have come in and paid that lien. I need a motion to pull this off of the agenda.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Bobby Long, that this matter be Postponed Indefinitely . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

[RES-19:194](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 346 & 348 N. ALLIS, PARCEL 01-144181-01600, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY MICHAEL & BARBARA PEARSON

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 346 & 348 N. Allis 346 & 348 N. Allis](#)

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Gene Vance, to pass RES-19:194. All voted aye.

Councilmember Gene Vance said, I make a motion that we rescind the vote. City Attorney Carol Duncan, said a motion to reconsider. Councilmember Chris Moore said, reconsideration. Councilmember Vance said, a motion to bring up a reconsideration for the vote of RES-19:194. Councilmember Chris Moore seconded the motion. All voted aye.

Councilmember Gene Vance motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner to table indefinitely RES-19:194. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gene Vance, seconded by Councilperson Joe Hafner, that this matter be Postponed Indefinitely . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

[RES-19:195](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 412 W. FORREST, PARCEL 01-144073-28500, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, OWNED BY FRED QUALLS

Attachments: [Affidavit of Statutory Lien - 412 W. Forrest](#)
[412 W. Forrest](#)

Code Enforcement Director Michael Tyner said, if I may on that, the liens that were pulled off of the Consent Agenda were ones that were meant to be tabled. These are ones that have been paid. City Attorney Carol Duncan said, that was our question earlier. Mr. Tyner said, right, these three. Ms. Duncan asked, all three? Mr. Tyner said, yeah. The ones that remained on the Consent Agenda were the ones that needed to go forward for approval. The ones we pulled out have been paid or been taken care of. Mayor Perrin said, that is what I asked you when we started and the only one was RES-19:191, but you are saying RES-19:194 and RES-19:195 has also been taken care of. Mr. Tyner said, yes sir. Yes sir. I misunderstood your question there. RES-19:191 was pulled this week. Mayor Perrin said, I knew that. Ms. Duncan said, so we need, let's vote on RES-19:195 and then we will do a motion to reconsider. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I was fixing to say that we will need a motion to reconsider. Councilmember Joe Hafner asked, is this a motion to table. Ms. Duncan said, to table indefinitely.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Gene Vance, that this matter be Postponed Indefinitely . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

6. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[ORD-19:070](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON A 15' x 350' ALLEY ON THE WEST SIDE OF LOTS 1 THROUGH 7, BLOCK A OF EARL KIECH SECOND EDITION BY FISHER AND ARNOLD ON BEHALF OF CMU INVESTMENTS, LLC

Attachments: [Resolution Abandonment](#)
[Petition #1](#)
[Petition #2](#)
[Survey Plat](#)
[Vicinity Map](#)
[Notification - Winters](#)
[Notification Nettleton School](#)
[Abandonment Concurrence - Bevill - Keich second addition](#)
[CWL Letter - Earl Kiech 2nd Add](#)
[AT&T Abandonment Concurrence](#)
[CenterPoint Abandonment Concurrence](#)
[Suddenlink Abandonment Concurrence](#)
[Ritter Abandonment Concurrence](#)

Councilmember Gene Vance motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:070 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, Mayor, I would ask that we hold that to one reading.

Held at one reading

[ORD-19:073](#)

AN ORDINANCE ABANDONING AND VACATING RIGHT-OF-WAY AND DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENTS IN THE JACKSON MINOR PLAT OF PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 4 EAST

Attachments: [Abandonment conc - Civilogic - Jackson - George H signed petition](#)
[jackson minor plat subd plans 8-16-19](#)
[Engineering Abandonment Approval](#)
[ATT ABANDONMENT CONCURRENCE](#)
[CENTERPOINT ABANDONMENT CONCURRENCE](#)
[CWL ABANDONMENT CONCURRENCE](#)
[Ritter Abandonment Concurrence](#)
[Suddenlink Easement Abandonment 11-13-2019](#)

Councilmember Gene Vance motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:073 by title only. All voted aye.

Mayor Harold Perrin said, I know we will want to hold that too. Is that right Councilmember Moore? Councilmember Chris Moore said, yes, please.

Held at one reading

[ORD-19:074](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A 2% RAISE FOR THE CITY CLERK

Councilmember Charles Frierson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Gene Vance, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:074 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Mitch Johnson, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye except Councilmember David McClain and Councilmember Bobby Long who voted Nay.

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

Aye: 9 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Joe Hafner and LJ Bryant

Nay: 2 - Bobby Long and David McClain

Absent: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: O-EN-069-2019

[ORD-19:076](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING 2% RAISE FOR THE MAYOR

Councilmember Gene Vance motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:075 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Ann Williams, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye except Councilmember David McClain who voted Nay.

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

Aye: 9 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Joe Hafner and LJ Bryant

Nay: 2 - Bobby Long and David McClain

Absent: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: O-EN-070-2019

[ORD-19:077](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A 2% RAISE FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:077 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Ann Williams, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye except Councilmember David McClain and Councilmember Bobby Long who both voted Nay.

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, said, I sent you guys an email a little bit late this afternoon and I think we talked about this at the Finance meeting last week. I think that we need to look at the procedure of how we do the raises for elected officials with the employees. I gave you some suggestions about, I know we don't like committees, but I think we need to form a committee and make it even for everybody that they get the 2% and that it is written in either an ordinance or a policy. But, I also think there needs to be some conditions on whether or not there is money in the budget for that. And, so, I think there needs to be an amount on that. But, I think the plus thing on that when I started thinking about this is that 2020 is hopefully going to be a better year because you will have the taxes and the internet sales tax too. So, hopefully, there will be more money in that. So, I hope we can form a committee with Joe. You can read the memo. It is just some suggestions and ideas and so kind of work on that so we don't have to go through this every single year and it is a level playing field for everybody that works for the city. Ok. Mayor Perrin said, ok. Thank you very much Patti. I received that. You sent it to everybody on the council. I agree that any

committee really should be in the Finance Committee because it is the City Council's responsibility to do that so I think that the Finance Committee should pick that up, your ideas, and then come back with a recommendation to the full council. Thank you very much.

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

Aye: 9 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Joe Hafner and LJ Bryant

Nay: 2 - Bobby Long and David McClain

Absent: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: O-EN-071-2019

[ORD-19:078](#)

AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR QRT PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 2406 SOUTH CARAWAY ROAD

Attachments: [Private Club Permit Madden Crab Redacted](#)

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Gene Vance, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:078 by title only. All voted aye.

Jason Willett, P. O. Box 754, Jonesboro, said, QRT Properties is doing business as Madden Crab Restaurant. They are out of Tupelo, Mississippi. The applicant is Michael Ni and they have their board members and everything else in place as well. The non-profit exists, obviously, for charitable causes. I will have them here, of course, by the third reading. Mayor Perrin said, thank you very much. Mr. Willett said, thank you.

Held at one reading

[ORD-19:080](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL, R-2 TO COMMERCIAL, C-1 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 600 EAST OAK AVENUE TOGETHER WITH THE LAND ON EAST SIDE OF RAINS STREET BETWEEN GANT STREET AND EAST OAK AVENUE, AS REQUESTED BY ADAM BODEKER OF THE PERKINS LAW FIRM, P.A

Attachments: [Staff Summary -Council](#)
[Application](#)
[Rezoning Plat](#)
[Property Owner Signatures](#)
[School Email](#)
[Warranty Deed](#)
[Warranty Deed 2](#)
[Warranty Deed 3](#)
[Warranty Deed 4](#)
[Warranty Deed 5](#)
[USPS Receipts](#)

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember David McClain, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:080 by title only. All voted aye.

Jason Bodeker, Perkins Law Firm, 1115 S. Main, said, I am glad to answer any questions. We are just asking for a rezoning to let an existing structure be used as an office building. Mayor Perrin said, thank you very much.

Held at one reading

[ORD-19:081](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM C-3 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO CR-1 COMMERCIAL RESIDENCE MIXED USE DISTRICT FOR 1.11 ACRES +/- OF LAND LOCATED AT 2750 BROWNS LANE ADJACENT SOUTH OF 2606 BROWNS LANE AS REQUESTED BY ERIC BURCH OF BURCH HOMES LLC

Attachments: [Staff Summary - Council](#)
[Application](#)
[Application Answers](#)
[Rezoning Replat](#)
[School Email](#)
[Warranty Deed](#)
[Replat](#)
[Certified Mail to School](#)
[Certified Mail Receipts](#)

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember LJ Bryant, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:081 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

[ORD-19:082](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM C-3, GENERAL COMMERCIAL TO PD-R PLANNED RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3420 OLD GREENSBORO ROAD AS REQUESTED BY CARLOS WOOD ON BEHALF OF ONSTEAD PROPERTIES, LLC

Attachments: [Staff Summary - Council](#)
[Application](#)
[Plat](#)
[Conceptual Layout](#)
[Elevations](#)
[Rezoning-PLAT](#)
[Sage Property Owner Notification Letter](#)
[Sage Property Owner Notification List](#)
[School Email](#)
[USPS Receipts](#)

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Charles Frierson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:082 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-19:069](#) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM COMMERCIAL, C-3 TO RESIDENTIAL, RS-7 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2702 AND 2704 FRED STREET AS REQUESTED BY CARLOS WOOD ON BEHALF OF HAROLD RAY SIMPSON AND LINDA Y. SIMPSON

Attachments: [Staff Summary - City Council](#)
 [Rezoning Plat](#)
 [Application_1](#)
 [Rezoning Plat - Planning](#)
 [USPS Receipts](#)

Held at second reading

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-19:065](#) AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE 117-255 Section C OF THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO HEIGHT LIMITATIONS OF ACCESSORY BUILDINGS IN THE CITY OF JONESBORO

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: O-EN-072-2019

[ORD-19:066](#) AN ORDINANCE FOR THE APPROVAL OF A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR NORTH HILLS SOCIAL CLUB, D/B/A THE EDGE EATERY

Attachments: [Private Club Permit Application_Redacted](#)

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: O-EN-073-2019

[ORD-19:068](#) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM COMMERCIAL, C-2 TO COMMERCIAL, C-3 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2401 RACE STREET AS REQUESTED BY GEORGE HAMMAN OF CIVILOGIC

Attachments: [Staff Summary - City Council rezoning plat 2401 Race Application Rezoning Plat USPS Receipts](#)

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: O-EN-074-2019

ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD IN COUNCIL

[RES-19:201](#)

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, FOR THE TWELVE (12) MONTHS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2020 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020, APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR EACH ITEM OF EXPENDITURE THEREIN PROVIDED FOR; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Attachments: [2020 Approved Budget](#)
[2020 Budget](#)
[Jonesboro Budget 2020](#)

Councilmember Chris Moore said, Mr. Mayor, I ran the last council meeting and there was no objection to this. I just asked that it be held until you could be here in case someone had a question.

Mayor Harold Perrin said, I would like to make just a few comments if I can. First of all, the City Council and others have had a copy of the budget approximately almost a month now, but I want to bring your attention to the cover sheet in the budget. I just want to read a couple of things and make a couple of comments. On the first page, it says projected 2020 revenues on O&M and Capital Improvements will be approximately \$53.4 million. Budget expenditures for 2020 will be somewhere at \$57.0 million. The 2020 budget in O&M plus Capital Improvements reflects a shortfall of \$3.6 million of reserves over expenditures. However, this is definitely an improvement over the 2018 budget of \$14.9 million and the 2019 budget of \$6.6 million. Now, during the year, this year, we also approved approximately around \$1 million in addition to the \$6.6 million and that was primarily for two sanitation trucks, the knuckleboom, and some other things that we purchased on that. You all, on the council, have received and I think it has been on the website, but you received, November's financials. Now, take in mind in 2019, we budgeted the \$6.6 million during the year. We also purchased another million dollars worth of equipment in capital expense on that. I am pleased to tell you that in November, at the end of November, the city is at a \$500,000 surplus. So, in reality, what that is is that is approximately a \$7 million, almost an \$8 million swing. So, through November of this year, the city is not running at a deficit. We do have one more month to complete as you know and that is this month of December. Through November, the City of Jonesboro had a \$500,000 surplus. I say that to tell you that I

commend our employees, our directors, our department heads because they have absolutely done an incredible job this year of controlling expenses. I also want to say thanks to our Finance Department and Department Heads of how much time it took to put this budget together. It took a lot of time in that budget process and so I just wanted to kindly share that with the public on that. I will go into more detail in our "State of the City" when I do that probably in January or the first of February by state law to do that. Now, also, let me just say this, the state law requires that any city in the state of Arkansas must keep 15% of its expenditures in O&M. In this case, in this budget, it will be \$7.8 million. Now, this budget also has and reflects an excess reserves at the end of 2020 if all things go well that we will have a required reserves, excess reserves of \$20.4 million. So, I just wanted to tell you that this budget has been tight, but at the same time, it will also tell you that. It takes approximately \$4.2-\$4.5 million a month to operate this city on a monthly basis. You can see with a \$20 million plus that is that is approximately around 4 months, almost 3.5 or 4 months should something happen to our city. I pray and hope that doesn't happen, but I have also been through two tornados and I have also had an ice storm being Mayor which cost this city \$1.9 million to clean up. But, I am saying to you is that I feel extremely comfortable in this budget of having \$20 million of excess reserves and also through November of this year, having a \$500,000 surplus when we budgeted a \$6.6 million and added an additional \$1 million of expenditures. By law, we always do a cleanup budget, that is normally in about the third month of the year that we have to reconcile everything that is purchased in December flows over on a cash basis so again, we will do that in March and do a cleanup budget. But, I am very pleased for my staff. I have an incredible staff and I just want to say thanks to them publically to you all. There have been some questions maybe raised and I would be glad to answer any of those questions. Also, I have Steve Purtee who is our Director of Finance that is here that would be glad to answer any questions to you on any line item. Are there any questions on any line items of this budget?

Councilmember David McClain said, I have a couple of questions Mayor and you and I talked about this a little bit. Just looking at and Mike and I exchanged emails back and forth a little bit about the budget and how we cut it. Looking at sidewalks, looking at overlays, looking at different things that we cut so going forward, we had a surplus of \$500,000 so going forward in 2020, if we continue to see that improve, are we going to add money back to where we can go ahead and continue. The last thing I want to see is for us to cut overlays and then, I get a call, hey a road over here is falling apart and it just continues, that is the last thing I want. Mayor Perrin said, and you and I visited this morning and I am going to talk about that in a minute of who we met with this morning. We always at the end of June in six months, the first quarter of any year, most of our department heads are spending those funds trying to get equipment in and trying to get all of the things in so I always look at the six months and also at the 9th month or in September. If the budget goes as planned, we always go back and we pull those items that were not in the budget such as, you are talking about the overlays of \$500,000, we may take that to a full \$1 million. And, that would be in June which is still in the season of getting the overlays done and the sidewalks. The budget also increased. The first one had \$125,000 and it is now at \$250,000 and that is tied back as you all know to the lawsuit that we have. To answer your question, absolutely. If the funds go as planned in this budget, and we went through this full budget again this afternoon, to make sure, but and I would anticipate last year. Let me give you an example of this year. In June, we had some, we were doing real well and you can see where we are at in November, the Police Chief came to me and needed some additional cars and etc. and we were able to purchase four or five more cars on there for the Police Department. There are other items in Capital Improvement. I can't just tell you one single department because all of them might have certain needs that they

put in there. But, anything that has been pulled out of this budget in discussion and that is three discussions, normally with the directors. If there is anything that is out there on that line item, and let's take Streets Superintendent Steve Tippitt for example, and if Steve needed another excavator or whatever of that nature, if the funds are there, there is no question, I never let someone go without not having the equipment or something to do their job. So, it is a great question. And, in answer to your question, is yes. We will definitely look at that in June, possibly a little before, but normally, you have got to reconcile your accounts to get them back and then it would be somewhere around May or June.

Councilmember McClain said, alright, last question. So, it looked like we removed the Caraway project, is that correct? Mayor Perrin said, the Caraway project is still being designed for that. The right-of-way has already been moved by CWL and etc. As far as the approximate cost of that, once we get that, we will know what it is. I am going to anticipate that is going to be somewhere between \$7-\$8 million to do the five-lanes down to Fox Meadow school which is desperately needed. So, if, in fact, those funds are there that we might be able to do some of that and get it going. Councilmember McClain asked, the same thing? Mayor Perrin said, yes sir, absolutely. Like I have said, we have never tried to let anyone go without any equipment they need in the City of Jonesboro. Councilmember McClain said, okay, thank you.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, hey Mayor, two questions. I know you said these numbers, but I just don't remember them. So 2018 going into 2019, what percentage increase did we project in the sales tax and then what actually happened? Mayor Perrin said, in this year's budget, we projected sales tax to be somewhere around 3.5%, correct me if I am wrong Steve on anything that I do. In the 2020 budget, we have projected 5% on the sales tax. Someone mentioned that a while ago about the internet sales tax. Well, you can see the effect that it is already coming in. We are currently right now at 6.02% on our sales tax. So, it has gone up. It has averaged somewhere in the last 2-3 years, 2.5%-3%, maybe 3.25%-3.5%. This year, we are already through November at 6.02% above last year's collections of sales tax. So, we budgeted a 5% level for sales tax for 2020. Councilmember Bryant said, got ya. One last question, I know you had to make tough choices in the budget, but I saw the Land Bank took a little bit of a hit. And, I know, of course, everybody is trying to sacrifice, but kind of what do we feel about the long term in the Land Bank? Mayor Perrin said, the Land Bank is going to be a very valuable tool in my opinion for redevelopment and revitalization for our city. We did put more in than we did last year. We put \$50,000 in the Land Bank and that is for the acquisition of properties. Now, in visiting with the Grants as we went through this process and in Code Enforcement, we do have additional funds in their budget for demolition of any property if we had to buy something and do a demo. So, we feel very comfortable. I met with Dr. Warner who is Chair of the Land Bank. And, we feel comfortable with the \$50,000 at this time. Now, again, if in fact things go well in June and we see a certain area of the city, then we will do that. The City Council, as you all know, has been very gracious to us and we have passed a boarding issue. We are meeting tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. to make sure that we have everything in place, the signage, what they cost, how we are going to do that through Code Enforcement, what that boarding ordinance says is that if Code Enforcement shows beyond a reasonable doubt that there is no power or whatever there and it is not habitable, then we will go in and ask the owner to board every window and every door and paint it the same color of the house. In six months if those people do not come in here and do any permit or get a permit to do rehab or whatever, then at the next step would be is that we would start demoing that facility. So, we want to make sure and that is why we are meeting tomorrow I believe at 2:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. to make sure that we have all of our things in place. I have asked the Police

Chief, the Fire Chief, Code Enforcement, the Chief Building Inspector, all of us will sit down tomorrow and make sure that we have that program. We will also be doing a press release on that and getting it out to the public so everyone understands what this boarding ordinance is. Okay. Councilmember Bryant said, thanks Mayor. Mayor Perrin said, you are quite welcome.

Councilmember Bobby Long said, just one other question. Mayor Perrin said, yes Bobby. Councilmember Long said, so in the 2020 budget, we are looking at about a \$3.5 million shortfall going into the reserves. So, what are we looking at? What are your ideas for 2020 that could get us to at least a breakeven budget going into 2021? Because that should be our goal is to reduce to zero the deficit spending. Mayor Perrin said, right. Well, if we continue as we are now and if in fact we have additional revenue and I will be glad to let Steve comment on this as well on that and we watch our expenses pretty well, I feel comfortable that we probably will be below that \$3.5 million deficit spending. I can't tell you how much it is at, but we are also going to have to start looking January 1 of additional revenue and where that revenue is going to have to come from. Alright, this is the budget for 2020. There are many things in these departments that need for long-range, what I call a total comprehensive plan, way out that we need to be looking at. We know with the growth in our city that we are going to have to buy or build another fire station soon to keep that ISO rating at one. I will just use that as an example. If the funds are here and it looks good in June, then we may take some of those funds and buy the property, get ready to build that fire station when we feel like we can do that. But, I think we are going to have to look at additional revenue. And, I think, that we are going to have to again, we will have to watch the expenses very closely as we go forward. My goal has always been to have a balanced budget without pulling down from excess reserves.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, Mayor, kind of to follow up on that. Is it and this may not be totally accurate, but is it kind of safe to say that the budget you are proposing is hopefully worse case. And, what I mean by that is, like this year's budget, was \$6.6 million, but due to some increased revenue, some controlled spending, you know through eleven months, we are at a surplus. Mayor Perrin said, that is right. Councilmember Hafner said, so, I think as you go into 2020, and you see what revenue is doing, if it is above budget or below budget, then you can make some adjustments on what capital, on what projects get done, I think you do that year end and year out, you try to manage the budget. Mayor Perrin said, yes. Councilmember Hafner said, compared to a \$1.5 million deficit a few years ago, we beat that by \$9 million or whatever, I can't remember exactly. But, I think you constantly monitor that. Mayor Perrin said, I try to be ultra conservative in the fact that anything that we can do to improve that. I can tell you in a city this size, to have the \$7.6 million and have a \$500,000 surplus through November, I would expect and I want to jump out here a little bit and Steve, correct me if I am wrong, I think we will end the year at a \$1 million surplus. If you have a \$1 million surplus and you add that back to that \$7.6 million, that is an \$8.6 million swing. So, yes, I try to build very conservative in here so I can have that flexibility and you, anything we do comes back to you all, the council. Any of these things that we look at in May and June, I will certainly bring those back to you and say "hey, this is what we feel like is very much needed, a necessity, such as the overlays. We have got \$500,000. We know we need more money in there so I am going to recommend an additional \$500,000 in there. It depends on how the money is flowing. But, yes, we look at it very closely.

Councilmember Hafner said, I guess one more comment I want to make, you mentioned internet sales tax and obviously that is having a positive impact on our finances, but that is not the answer to everything. I mean that might help us from an

O&M deficit standpoint right now. But, it is not going to be what we need, you know, unless it dramatically keeps going up to fix and build fire stations and other items that I think we need. Mayor Perrin said, no, and that is what I am saying is that on the comprehensive plan in the long range, if you all will remember we looked at what I called Vision 2030 and that was back in 2010 we put that out. We did not adopt it. We just said, this is kindly a boiler plate if you will of what we are going to look at. Well, I update that every year. I am totally amazed at what we have done with that 2030 Vision. The answer to your question is no. It will not take care of your long-term needs again for public safety, again of needing more police officers, etc. That will not take care of that. This is just simply taking care of the O&M of what I call the day-to-day, open the door, go to work, take care of everybody, but not the long-term capital expenditures and things that we are going to need, additional personnel in police and fire. As you saw in the budget, this budget, this is a 7.3% increase in the Police Department budget. It also has in there, a new fire station for fire, but it also has three new additional firefighters that will be getting trained very quickly and send them to the academy to get those trained to be ready for when we open up that new fire station. You are going to have to hire sixteen new firefighters. So, we have been lucky all of these years to move from one fire station to another and we have swapped land, some with CWL, and it really didn't cost anything on the land. And, then we just had to build the building. We didn't have to hire any firefighters. The next one you build, you are going to have to buy the land, you are going to have to build the building, you are going to have to buy three to four pieces of equipment to put in there, the big trucks, and you are going to have to be ready to hire sixteen firefighters at \$100,000 a year for the first year for them to be certified, accredited, and equipment. So, if you got that land at \$500,000, the building is going to cost you \$3-\$4 million. You are going to have these trucks at \$755,000 a piece, and then you add \$1.6 million onto that. I have to look at that and make sure in the long run that we have those funds to do that. Currently, we do not. Okay. Any other questions?

Councilmember Chris Moore said, I will repeat my motion to adopt. Councilmember Chris Gibson, seconded the motion.

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, said, I had a question and I sent it to Steve the other day and you answered it, but I would appreciate because I know there are a lot of people that are kind of curious about that and put it kind of in layman terms, okay. And, then I will have another comment. Finance Director Steve Purtee, said, I will try to do that. Mrs. Lack is referencing a question that she made what I will consider on behalf of the public regarding our budget, relative to our salary budget. If you look at the summary page comparing our personnel costs, the first line item of that page is salary expense. Our budgeting process considers previous budget compared to current budget. Obviously, that means that we are looking at the 2019 budget in this particularly proposed budget comparing to the proposed 2020 budget. The difference in those two numbers is representing about \$128,000. So, when you look at applying the step program to that or also a 2% adjustment relative to our elected officials and you consider that we are working with a budget of about \$25 million in salaries, that equates to an increase of about \$500,000 when you look at that. So, the question that Mrs. Lack has is, "why is it only \$128,000 comparing those two pages or two numbers?" The one thing that I guess my proposal for budgeting is always considering actual data. Just as we have already referenced this evening, we approached this 2019 calendar year, expecting a \$6.5 million deficit position. And as the Mayor has pointed out, we added to that \$1 million throughout the course of the year so we fully expect that we will be somewhere in the range of \$7.5 million negative. But, as he also pointed out, we are \$500,000 positive through the first eleven months. So, when you look at that, I don't know that the budget comparison is a completely accurate position. So,

through the efforts of Finance Manager Christy Wall and the Finance Department, basically, we re-spread all employee's salaries for the year. We have considered open positions. We have considered retirements that the Directors had indicated would be occurring. We, basically, are only three new hires if you will are three firefighters through our SAFER grant, so we will pick up about 25% of that expense. But, after all of that, the best barometer, if you will, is a comparison of actual salaries. We projected actual salaries through year end 2019 to be at \$23.4 million in O&M. That's what the reference is to that page that is in the binder. One other thing to consider is that the O&M does not include our JETS program. It doesn't include our CDBG funds. It does not include MPO either. So, those salaries are not in the O&M picture of the budget. But, if you compare that \$24.3 million, we projected at yearend, that is going to be a \$24.3 projection and our budget is going to be \$24.9 million. So, effectively, for 2019, we are going to be about \$620,000 better than budget relative to what is in the budget binder. So, again, looking at actual data, we are projecting again that \$24.3 million and then our 2019-2020 budget is \$25.2 million. So, we are projecting that is going to increase looking at O&M only about \$420,000. When you add in taxes and a LOPFI adjustment, it is going to bring it right up to \$497,000. So, that is the picture that we are looking at relative to the budget and actual comparison of actual data compared to a projected 2020. So, that is kind of the conclusion of that conversation. I am hopeful that I was able to answer the question for Mrs. Lack. I would certainly be glad to address any other questions for her or for anyone else going forward. Mayor Perrin said, one thing in addition to that is that when we budget those figures for salaries, the things that we do not know, but what has helped us this year basically is attrition in the fact that people have left and we were able to take those positions and combine some of those in the departments with the approval of the Department Head, obviously, to see if they feel like they can handle that. Again, in the Police Department, the Chief has told you many times, the figure that is in the budget is fully staffed all of the time. I feel and I am not speaking for the Chief, but I feel that is not going to be the reality. You are never going to have the Police Department fully staffed all of the time because you are going to have folks coming and going from the Police Department and so that is really when you take the \$128,000 and you take it off of the \$500,000, that is really what we are talking about Patti. I think that is what he was saying there is that he would rather look at reality and that is what they done when they went back. I don't know how many hours it took them, for Christy to go back on every person, every employee, take the base salary, take the increase of the step plan, take the FICA, take all of that and calculate that up and then go back and butt that against the year before and stuff like that. We find that we do have attrition, not only in just the Police Department, but in some other places. And, we have been very, very blessed in the fact that we could take that position in some cases and combine that with somebody else, somebody in the department say, "hey I think I can take that load on" and again that is fine, but if it didn't work, we would have to go back and replace that person. But, so far, it has been very good that we haven't had to do that. Thank you Steve. Any other questions? Did you have another question for Steve? Councilmember Long said, hang on, I had one other question for him. And you may know this right off the top of your head, but what percentage of salaries and benefits is it to the overall total budget? Do you know what that percentage is? Mr. Purtee said, it is just approximately 60%. Councilmember Long asked, approximately 60%? Mr. Purtee said, 57%, I believe is the number. Councilmember Long said, 57%. Is that in line with what you feel that percentage needs to be? Are we high on that percentage? Are we low or are we just about where we need to be? Mr. Purtee said, well, you know we are in the people business. We don't sell products. We don't have inventories. So, our only asset if you will are our personnel. So, to provide service. When you consider that sales tax revenues, if you will, all sales activities equate to about 75% of our revenue budget and then probably 55% of that is represented by personnel costs, obviously, it tells

you that we are very heavily dependent on sales tax revenues relative to that operation of our current budget. I don't have a good barometer for understanding if we are high or low relative to personnel costs in relation to the total budget. Councilmember Long said, okay. Mayor Perrin said, if you look at other cities Bobby, you will find that we will be just a little bit higher and I had a concern on that, but when I started going back and looking at North Little Rock and Conway, they are 42 sq. miles. We are 82. So, it takes more people in our city for sanitation routes, police, fire, all of our services to do that. And, so, we are still having our growing pains of the major annexation that occurred when the city annexed 25 sq. miles. I mean good news, bad news. The good news is that we did do that, but at the same time, you have to build in that annexation and that is when I said that any annexation we do, I would want to do a cost analysis on that before I ever brought it to you because we couldn't afford to do that. Councilmember Long said, I think another good thing is we are growing into our skin. Mayor Perrin said, exactly, exactly. I'm sorry Patti, do you have another one?

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, said, one other comment I have and it is concerning the shooting range. You know last week, I had talked to the Finance Department and that it was just going to leave the \$1.3 million in Capital Improvements on that. I guess my only thing that I just want to say to you is that here is a project that we have that is going to go up there and we are going to spend the \$2 million and I hope with the project out there at the shooting range that we keep really close eye on what is being done and how the money is being spent. I only say this because of the bike trail out on Craighead Forest Road. You know, I think that was, um, it is still being worked on and it needs to be completed and I think until we really start putting more money and more money into the shooting range and when we do, I hope we keep track of that because I think that is a lot of money for putting out there and we need to watch out where the money goes to on that. Okay. Mayor Perrin said, thank you very much Patti. Does anybody else have any questions? Thank you and we appreciate your trust in our administration. We are always at your disposal anytime. Feel free to give us a call and that also goes for the public. We know who pays our salary. So, any questions that you have got, whatever, feel free to give us a call.

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-199-2019

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Perrin reported on the following items:

I have got a few items and I am going to run through these if I can.

Our Master Street Plan will be presented to the Jonesboro City Council on January 7, 2020. They have done a tremendous amount of work. They had several things that came up on the rezonings. They wanted the zonings and Master Street Plan to match.

Our Shop with a Cop, hats off to our Police Department. They did 150 kids this year going out and taking those kids this past Saturday to shop. Each child was given an x

amount to spend.

SkyCop Cameras have paid off, no question so far. Some of the things that you read in the paper, I won't go into details, but some of the things that have occurred within a few hours, those people have been arrested. They were on film. I hope that we get two more this week. I don't know if they are ready. The next two that come in will be the ones that also read the license plates as well as the motion where it will automatically go to that point if there is a shot fired and lock in. So, again, we appreciate that very much.

The Ice House asbestos removal will start December 18, 2019. The Ice House demolition will occur in the second week of January. So, the Ice House will be coming down in January.

In our Grants Department, we received word that Walmart has given \$10,000 in a grant. Rotary Club matched that \$10,000. We have an additional \$22,000 in the bank and this is for the Skate Park. So, you can see that we will get on that and start getting that redesigned at Allen Park and make that much larger with a lot more things that they can do out there.

Christmas in the Park has been highly successful. As of through this weekend, we had 8,543 vehicles go through that park, Joe Mack Campbell Park.

The Grants Department had two audits. One was HUD which came in and looked at all of our grants and how our money is spent. They got a complete clean audit. Also, the outside audit that we have to do annually with Thomas and Speights was the same thing. That audit was clean and hats off to the Grants Division, Regina and your people.

On the STIP, I want to bring this up on the STIP. If you all remember, the Highway Department was able to give us \$90 million in STIP. We allocated \$7.8 million and set aside that for to encumber that money. But, I can tell you that Main Street and Southwest Drive will be bid in April 2020. Caraway Road intersection improvement will be bid January 8, 2020 and that is where the old Coke plant is there. That will be a double two left, two straight, and one right, just like the one right in front of Centennial Bank. Highway 49 and Parker will be bid in August 2020. Highway I-555 and Highway 49 interchange will be bid on November 1, 2020. Highway 351 and Airport railroad overpass will also be bid. It is already at 90% design and that should be bid. Highway 1 project will probably be bid also. What that is telling you is that we are going to have seven major projects with orange barrels. So, be patient. We are going to have this town under construction in 2020 on our STIP projects.

Also, the Union Street, if you all have been by Union, CWL is our partner to do the boring underneath and help us on that. We are putting the green lights on Union just like the one on Main Street, the street lights there. And, then the Downtown Association has got the funds to put the string lights so Union will look like Main Street, hopefully, within the next six months or so.

Also, the City of Jonesboro employees have done a magnificent video to say Merry Christmas to everyone. So, that should be edited and out by Friday. So, be sure to tune in. You will get a laugh or two on that one.

I also want to thank Chris Moore for conducting the last meeting. I was out with acute bronchitis and am very glad that I am back with you all this evening. I never had anything to keep me down that long.

The next thing is that the Pro-Tempore of the Senate appointed me back to the State Aid Street Committee through 2023. That is the committee that appoints where the money goes in Arkansas. Your city has received two major projects this last year. We did CW Post Road all the way down and that was at no cost to us. And, the other one was the street in front of Sam's and Race Street all the way down and also on Caraway. In January, we will send another letter out to do that.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman, myself, and Councilmember David McClain had a wonderful experience today to meet with the Assistant Secretary of Education from Washington, D.C. His specialty is in elementary and secondary education. The two schools that he visited here today was Nettleton School District and also Valley View. I had a lot of comments and this gentleman, Secretary Frank Brogan is very much in this. He was a chancellor of two universities, two commissioners of two states, was Lt. Governor of Florida under Jeb Bush administration when he was Governor. We learned a great deal I think today in that and I really appreciate that.

The other thing is the article came out yesterday and it said that the best place to work in manufacturing in 2019 in Jonesboro came in 5th in the whole United States. I am extremely proud of that, particularly when we all took a big plane ride and went to Greenville, South Carolina and they came in 7th. So, we did learn something while we were there. We might have stolen a few ideas, but that is ok. That is a big honor and I know the press release will go out on that tomorrow. But, that is a big honor.

Last thing is I do want to wish every one of you all, seriously, a very Merry Christmas. I hope you have time to be with your family and have a great Christmas holiday season. More importantly, let's remember why we do celebrate Christmas. Also, I am proud that you all let me wear my tie tonight. This was kindly a little deal that the ladies upstairs said I will give it to you if you will wear it to the Council meeting. So, it is on. It looks good. I may just keep this tie. Okay. With that, I have nothing. I will now turn it over to Council reports.

[COM-19:078](#)

October 2019 Financial Reports

Attachments: [Observations Regarding October 2019 Financial Statements](#)
[Statement of Rev, Exp and Changes in FB October 2019](#)
[Required Reserves October 2019](#)
[Cash Deposit Collateralization Report October 2019](#)
[Revenue Report October 2019](#)
[Expenditure Report October 2019](#)
[Combined Sales Tax Report October 2019](#)
[Combined State Turnback Report October 2019](#)

Filed

[COM-19:081](#)

JONESBORO AIRPORT COMMISSION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2019

Attachments: [JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 11_2019](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-19:215. All voted aye.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson said, we are adding this Mayor, just as a reference, to capture some funding streams that are available and the fact that our current agreement expires at the end of this year.

[RES-19:215](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN CRAIGHEAD COUNTY AND THE CITIES WITHIN CRAIGHEAD COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTINUING A JOINT 911 EMERGENCY AND DISPATCH CENTER

Attachments: [E911 Agreement](#)

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-19:215. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-200-2019

Councilmember Mitch Johnson said, other than that, I would like to echo your same comments Mayor, just a very Merry Christmas to everyone here, our terrific city employees, and our citizens as a whole.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, just Merry Christmas to everyone.

Councilmember David McClain said, Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, just a quick reminder, Nominating and Rules after this meeting reverts over to the other side of the council chambers and I assume that Councilmember David McClain will be the Chair of that committee again. I would ask that all of the committees are realigned according to our policies and procedures moving forward.

Councilmember Ann Williams asked, if someone wants to make a change in their committee membership, can they do that or at that time or what is the policy? We have had various input as far as policy on that. Mayor Perrin said, normally, each Councilmember will submit to the Chair of what committees they would like to serve on. Again, the Committee Chairman will look at that and bring that back to the Rules and Nominating committee and discuss it. Councilmember Williams said, okay. Generally, everyone stays the same, but every once in a while, you can sign up or ask for an additional committee. There is no limit on how many committees. If you are on

two and would like to be on another committee in addition, I think, sometimes, we forget that. If you wish to do it, sign up for another committee.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, Merry Christmas Mayor. I am glad you are back. Mayor Perrin said, thank you.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, Merry Christmas.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - John Street

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk