



# City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center  
300 S. Church Street  
Jonesboro, AR 72401

## Meeting Minutes Capital Improvement Bonds Task Force

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Tuesday, July 1, 2025

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S.Church

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### SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

#### 1. Call to Order

#### 2. Roll Call by City Clerk

**Present** 5 - Brian Emison; Joe Hafner; John Street; Chris Moore and Chris Gibson

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

[MIN-25:048](#)

Minutes for the Capital Improvement Bonds Task Force Committee meeting on Tuesday, June 3, 2025

**Attachments:** [Minutes](#)

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

**Aye:** 4 - Joe Hafner; John Street; Chris Moore and Chris Gibson

#### 4. New Business

[COM-25:023](#)

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY TASK FORCE MEMBERS

**Attachments:** [7.1.2025 - Questions.pdf](#)

[911 Real Time Crime Construction Cost Estimate - Craig Light - Outlook.pdf](#)

[2509 JB 911 RTC SD 06.10.25 PLAN.pdf](#)

*Chairman Brian Emison said, that's going to bring up the questions that have been submitted to the committee and to the administration for further answers since our last meeting. And thought that it would be best for the individuals that had submitted these questions to go through those, so they can have any kind of direct follow-up that they will need and to make sure that their questions are answered in their entirety.*

*And first, on my agenda I have today, is Mr. John Street. John, would you like to go through your list of questions, and we can call up whoever's needed to be able to answer those. Councilmember John Street said, I just want to see if anybody would look, or had looked, at a cost benefit analysis. You know, comparing the site on South Caraway as opposed to the one on Washington. It's kind of just a broad deal, but to see what the difference in benefits would be one way or the other. And what*

would be the estimated cost to demolish the existing improvements on the Washington Avenue site, and provide adequate solution for the drainage issue. Which to me is probably one of the most critical things we have to deal with at that particular site. And then, which site provides the best location regarding access by the citizens of Jonesboro from all parts of the city for access to the police department and their offices. And which site would best be suited for future expansion growth of their department. Because as I said before, we need to look ahead not just for what we can do now. But we don't need to build it to accommodate what we have now and then be out of room the minute we open the door. And then the final, how much excess land will be left on each site after it's development for current needs. I guess to provide room for future expansion if that's something that we're looking at in this deal. And then the pros and cons of each site's topography, drainage, etc.

Chairman Brian Emison said, good deal. Thank you, Mr. Street. You know, on the first item that's in your list of questions there. I know that we've done a spatial study of that site. As far as anything comparing that to the Washington site, it's none that I'm aware of. Brian, do you want to come up and speak to us about the possibilities of getting something or if we have anything already on the books for Washington... Excuse me, mayor, yes sir?

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, yeah, councilman. If you don't mind, and committee members, I'd just like to go ahead and make a statement here. Obviously, we've had a situation arise, last Friday afternoon, that might make some adjustments, and I kind of want you to keep this in the forefront. I've already visited with the judge. He's in the room here as well. And I'm going to mention this to council tonight, but we've had a situation at the Justice Complex on Washington. And you all know that it's currently closed. Estimates are being compiled this week to add support after the compromise rafter. Immediate bracing is underway right now to do a more thorough examination of the structure so it can be completed. It's possible the cause of the rafter damage is a larger issue that would greatly impact repair costs and make repair impractical. It was during a routine annual inspection that the drainage was discovered. This building has a history of maintenance issues, and we've already begun a planning process of leaving the facility with the funding of the new 9-1-1 center. Obviously, this is a very fluid situation with safety being the priority in some immediate response and reorganization was necessary. So council, we have temporarily placed all the city employees that were in that building. And I'm working with Judge Day, and the District Court judges Bowling and Fowler on accommodations for District Court. Judge Day has been very helpful and understanding of these unique circumstances, and I want to say thank you judge. We've also asked for an insurance investigator to come out and inspect the damage and determine if it was the result of a weather-related event. So, we will keep the council informed on that matter as soon as we're made aware as well. So that was the request was made yesterday, so hopefully an insurance auditor will come out early this week. So, I want to keep all that. So, a lot of things are coming into play all at once. So, as we answer some of the questions this afternoon, again, with the Washington building itself, that's in a dire situation. Just wanted to make y'all aware. Chairman Brian Emison said, thank you mayor.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, I just want to say that I think this first thing on Mr. Street's list is vital to what this task force is trying to do. I mean, we can't really make any decisions until we see the cost information for each location, and hopefully that's something we'll have soon. As far as the Washington, the Justice Complex, I really hate to see us keep throwing good money into a really bad building. So, I mean, I rather almost operate as we are right now until we have a final solution to what we're going to do. But getting the cost information that are listed one and two are key to what we're trying to do. I feel like we're spinning our wheels until we get that

*information on each location. I know we have the, as far as the 8,900 square feet location on Caraway, we had the cost estimate on that, as of what Mr. Cook from Brackett Krennerich sent on April 16th, but we need some information on Washington. Pronto.*

*Councilmember Chris Moore said, Mr. Chair, can I? Chairman Brian Emison said, yes, sir. Councilmember Chris Moore said, one of the things I talked with the mayor about today, I went up and saw him and Brian a little bit earlier. After the building incident on Friday, I think that the hole scope of our work may have changed. You know, one of the drawbacks to my plan of moving the city police department to the Washington... I wasn't... the ideal location to me was going to be facing Washington, not necessarily facing Monroe or Madison, because the location of the Justice Complex is on the highest part of the lot. It's the best section of property. But we were going to have to leave that in play for the employees and the court system while we constructed a new building if we decided to go. Now, with the revelation that the Justice Complex may need several hundred thousands of dollars worth of repairs and demolition may be its future. And I want to thank the judge, because it's my understanding that the judge provided facilities for District Court in their existing courthouse over there, and the mayor's relocated the employees. But if we demo that building, that opens up, the best piece of that property. Up on high ground, no need to play around. So, what I talked to the mayor about today was the possibility of instead of having one large project, we break it down into three smaller projects. We leave the entire motor pool right where it's at, which is an excellent location for the motor pool. We build a smaller admin building that would hold all the police and administration, the 9-1-1, and then we work a deal with a county to joint share court space between the District Court, Municipal Court. So, in other words, we wouldn't construct a new courtroom and court facilities over there on our property. And the advantage of that, of course, would be that we'd eliminate the one building, but we would also... we won't need 8,900 square feet of building. We're going to need something much smaller. And the cost should reflect that. So, I mean, in my opinion, the conditions after Friday, and Craig can probably speak he's an engineer. Last time, two years ago, we had preventative maintenance on that building, we put two posts in the courtroom and a beam, and it cost over \$50,000. This time, we're looking at putting six posts, three beams. Who knows what's going to be wrong with the roof, so the cost, I can see the cost escalating in the \$400,000 or \$500,000 range if we have to redo the roof. And I just don't see it on that building.*

*Councilmember Chris Gibson said, that's an expensive band-aid on a gapping wound.*

*Councilmember Chris Moore said, I think we'd be better off... and mayor, how much money did we have left in the Citizens Bank building? Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, \$261,000. Councilmember Chris Moore said, so, you're looking at maybe \$400,000 worth of repairs. You'd be looking at \$260,000 left from the Citizens Bank building. We wouldn't have to purchase \$1,500,000 piece of property. It looks to me that we're lining more up that it's be fiscally responsible to build a new building from scratch in the location of the... so in line with the information you want, that's, that's kind of what... the mayor gave me the spatial analysis study this morning. What we really would need to know is how much building would we need if we didn't move the motor pool and we didn't construct a new court facility. And until I know that dollar amount, I really don't know that I can move forward on making a decision.*

*Councilmember John Street said, I don't think we can just use the motor pool, though, and exit the rest of the building. Councilmember Chris Moore said, do what John? Councilmember John Street said, I don't believe we can just use the motor pool... are you talking about us leaving the rest of the facility out there and just use*

*the motor pool? Councilmember Chris Moore said, I'm talking about keeping the building on Caraway Road, keeping that entire facility right there, and then building a new building for the chief and his administration and all that on the Washington, and the facility on Caraway Road would be the motor pool and whatever other storage they need out there. That's what... Councilmember John Street said, I mean, CID and... well, you got your desk sergeant out there, you got... Councilmember Chris Moore said, well, I mean, we're going to have to construct a new building, and I would think you would accommodate those. Whatever the needs the chief has. That way we don't have to park 140 cars downtown or find parking for 140 cars on the Washington address. Councilmember John Street said, no, but again, you're separating your resources when you have two different campuses for that stuff. Councilmember Chris Moore said, if you call five of the largest police departments in Arkansas right now John, the motor pool is not at their admin. They build the motor pool on cheaper property, out of way from the admin and the police departments are built... Councilmember John Street said, I'd be concerned about making useful... I don't know but Carol might can answer this, if we don't use that building, we're going to forfeit. Councilmember Chris Moore said, no, no. No, I'm not saying, I'm saying we do use that building. We use and maintain the motor pool and whatever other offices the chief wants. Offices that the public does not come to. The public doesn't go to the motor pool. Councilmember John Street said, no. They don't go to CID usually. They do some but... Councilmember Chris Moore said, things that the public does not go to stay on the Caraway Road. Things that the public go to, like file police reports, see the police, Chief, whatever other admin, possibly Carol's office, all that would go down on the Washington. Councilmember John Street said, ok, again, without fixing the drainage, you're going to have a serious problem down there. As far as using that full time, it's not a big event when it happens, but when it does, you don't go down the street for about 30, 40 minutes. until the water goes away. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I don't think that's a problem if we remove the current building and build on that end. Councilmember John Street said, Craig, you got an opinion on that? On the drainage down at that building?*

*Engineering Department Director Craig Light approached the podium and said, if the building is built where the current structure stands, then the building itself should be out of flooding. But there's still flooding on Washington Street in the parking lot, at times, under a big rainfall event. If you take down the other building and open it up, you know, there may be some other things. There was a study done in 2007 recommending that the underground drainage system in downtown be upgraded, so it may be some of that work could be done to give some relief to the overall system, and how much of that work has to be done would have to be determined.*

*Councilmember Chris Moore said, also John, once we can remove the old fire station, City Hall building and have retention in that location, because that is in the middle of the low spot. Councilmember John Street said, yeah, I think... but I don't know if that would be enough. It would be great if it would work, but I think that first study required five acres of detention upstream. So that whole lot wouldn't cover what the recommendation for the... to handle the flood water with the existing drainage that we have through there. Councilmember Chris Moore said, currently as it stands, the building has never flooded in the current Justice Complex. Just as it is. Councilmember John Street said, I know that. Councilmember Chris Moore said, the only thing that's ever flooded is the fire department. Councilmember John Street said, yeah. Councilmember Chris Moore said, right there on the old City Hall and that is a momentary. It comes up and goes down relatively fast there. Councilmember John Street said, it does. Councilmember Chris Moore said, that would be the location that I'm talking about, that it might be we have to tear that building down and construct a retention bond as opposed to having to completely redo all the underground piping. Councilmember John Street said, again, I'd just love to see the cost difference*

*between what it would take to buy that lot out there and build next door as opposed to what it would take to build a whole system you're talking about from an architect or a contractor or something. So, we can see what we're getting the best...*

*Councilmember Chris Moore said, right here from Brackett and Krennerich, you've got an estimate to build you a building wherever you want it. You can build it on Washington, you can build it on Caraway. And they specifically say that on Caraway, there'll have to be additional dirt work because the steep slope of the lot, so there's going to be quite a bit of extra work. But here's the price of your building as it stands. It doesn't matter if you build it out there, you build it right down here. But what I'm saying is we may not need this big of building. I'm thinking if the mayor and the judge can figure out the court situation, and we leave the motor pool, we may be looking at a significantly smaller building. Maybe even smaller than the current Justice Complex. I'm not sure. Councilmember John Street said, I don't think there's any doubt we're going to have to something about the court system. Because, I agree with all of you, I think just throwing good money after bad to put more money in that building down there, it's just a money pit. Councilmember Chris Moore said, we've been doing it ever since I've been on the council. Councilmember John Street said, yeah, we've done it... Councilmember Chris Moore said, a matter of time between... Councilmember John Street said, twice since I've been here. Councilmember Joe Hafner said, just kicking the can down the road right.*

*Chairman Brian Emison said, Mr. Richardson. Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium and said, just a point of correction. The size of the building that is projected or proposed by Brackett and Krennerich for the 9-1-1 center, that doesn't change. So, wherever it's at, the sizing of that, it's the proposed 5.3 and million dollars and change, that would be the same size no matter where you built it. So, it's not going to get any smaller if you put it over on Washington or Caraway, or anywhere. So, I just want to make that clarification for the public. We're talking about two different buildings here. Councilmember John Street said, will there be room for expansion if you put that building down here? I mean, when you incorporate parking too, you have to have parking for those kinds of facilities. And then, as Craig alluded to, some of that is going to flood when we have an extraordinary rain event. Brian Richardson said, so I would say on that, because we haven't laid the floor plan of the proposed plans on the Washington property to see how much that fits. I know I sent some questions to Craig earlier that Councilman Emison sent me. Let him do a spatial analysis on that to see kind of what those plans on that look like. You know, obviously you've got the old fire station, City Hall building there that is going to take up some room, and you've got some drainage improvements. So, there'll have to be a little bit of math done on that. I think that Craig can probably get that done relatively quickly. And so, I would say on that, let's actually let an engineer and architect actually look at what that layout would be. Because obviously like the mayor had said, things have changed since Friday as far as what kind of space is going to be available. And of course, these were constructed with the... the current plans were kind of aligned with the thought process of all your public safety facilities would be together, and if that's something... if we need to look at a different scenario, that would take a little bit of recalculating. But nothing earth shattering long. But we can pull that together pretty quick. Councilmember Joe Hafner said, so, do you think you could have the information we're looking for by our next meeting if it's... Brian Richardson said, it depends on when the next meeting is called. If it's tomorrow probably not. Councilmember Chris Moore said, well here's the deal. I don't think we're going to have the engineering report and the cost estimates for a month, down here. Councilmember Joe Hafner said, I didn't think we'd call it... Councilmember Chris Moore said, Craig's working with the engineers, and that's going to kind of be one of our determining factors. We want to make, I mean, we want to know for sure that it's not going to be that we're going to have to take the building down. That the current building is not worth repairing, because once we*

*make that determination, if it has to go and we have to clean it up. That influences our decision also on where we might build. I mean, obviously, if you come back and it had \$20,000 of the damage, we might do \$20,000 worth of repair and get everybody back in there and use it until we can construct. It comes back, we have \$400,000 to \$500,000 worth we're probably going to change our course on what we do down there. And like I say, I can't make any decision until I know those figures, and I see the engineering report from Jordan Lane that confirms that the building's and work pretty bad shape. Brian Richardson said, so, I will say that to create some information as possible that we might have to, I guess, acquire some professional services to do some of these drawings. I know that Brackett and Krennerich created that obviously the documents that we've looked at so far. But we'll have to talk with Engineering and with Finance on what leeway there is to kind of respond to, I guess, I would almost consider this a extenuating circumstances. I think that we've got some flexibility there that we've also been working with Brackett and Krennerich previously on this. I'll get with Craig and with Finance and with Carol to make sure that we can allocate some funds, if necessary. They may be willing to do it, but if we're going to ask them for some more stuff in the scope of their current project entails if we're going to start looking at site plans for downtown as well.*

*Councilmember Chris Moore said, that brings me back to the first question I asked the mayor. How much money did we have left from the Citizens Bank building, \$260,000. Brian Richardson said, and that's still being finalized but it's going to be roughly. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I'm thinking we may have some of that money that can be used on engineering or design services down there, so that's a possibility.*

*Councilmember John Street said, two, I know chief hadn't had a lot of time, probably with the events down at the Justice Complex to think about this, but it's his department. I'd love to hear what his thoughts are concerning what direction we go and how that might work out. Police Department Chief Rick Elliot approached the podium and said, is that ok Mr. Chair? Chairman Brian Emison said, yes sir chief. Chief Rick Elliot said, my concerns are, the property on Washington will not be adequate for the future. We can build a brand new building on the high ground as you mentioned, that would be great. That lower area where all the employees have to park their cars and when it floods as it did a month ago, is the city going to buy them new cars? Councilmember Chris Moore said, chief, many cars have flooded behind the current city hall? Chief Rick Elliot said, well, that had to be moved... Councilmember Chris Moore said, I see you have 50 of them parked there. So how many have flooded in the last five years there? Because we've had record rainfalls in the last 12 months. Chief Rick Elliot said, yeah, along that line, that runs next to the fire bay... Councilmember Chris Moore said, no, next to fire bay. I'm talking about... Chief Rick Elliot said, around that parking lot, in the back of the old City Hall on a higher ground, no none. But along that road that cuts through by the fire bay, yeah, we've had cars that's had water in them. We've had the dumpsters float off down the street. Councilmember Chris Moore said, and that's where we're talking about building a retention pond at. Chief Rick Elliot said, so, now you're building a retention pond to take away your parking. You have to bare in mind, we're flip-flopping problems. The problem is we're fragmented as a police department. So now I'm going to take control from down here and Washington, move them on Caraway. I'm going to take admin on Caraway move them down here on Washington. My goal was to get everything under one roof to be more functional as a police department. Councilmember Chris Moore said, and I can appreciate that. Chief Rick Elliot said, so, you know, the council, y'all can decide. Y'all control the money. Y'all decide what you think looks best. But I think for a police department, better access control on Caraway. Room for growth on Caraway, we're landlocked down here. When we design this building, you're already talking about cutting quarters and dollars from*

*what's we big proposed. The spatial analysis included growth for the next 15, 20 plus years. We can't cut that. We can't build for what I've got today to last for the next 20 to 30 years. We keep doing that in this city, and every time, historically, the police department, we get leftovers. That's all we've done. We move to the leftovers. We acquired a leftover on Caraway, we moved in, we're full to the rim. I'm in three buildings now or I was in three buildings. I'm in six buildings now. So, for the next three, four years, because we can approve whatever today, by the time we get whatever built, wherever, we're three, four years out. Correct? Councilmember Chris Moore said, nobody's talking about building you any less building on Washington than you'd get on Caraway. Chief Rick Elliot said, well, you said a lesser design. What we had designed for Caraway... Councilmember Chris Moore said, talking about not building a District Court. Chief Rick Elliot said, that did not include the court. Councilmember Chris Moore said, it does now starting Friday. Starting Friday, that's now in play, because we no longer have a court room. So now our whole scheme has changed, chief. Chief Rick Elliot said, well with all due respect, the courtrooms are technically not the city's problem. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I'm just saying, starting on Friday, the whole dynamics of this job have changed, so not only are we looking at a police department, but we're also looking at having to figure out what we're going to do with District Court, the court clerk, the city attorney, there's more than just you. Chief Rick Elliot said, that's fine. If we're going to incorporate all that back into what we've got. Now we're back up to the least a two-story facility down here... Councilmember Chris Moore said, I'm hoping we're not going to incorporate it. I'm hoping the man in the corner right back there is going to take part of that load off of us. And that's what I'm saying. Chief Rick Elliot said, that goes to my design on Caraway or wherever, does not include the court room. That project or that phase was three to four years out. What we're trying to figure out is, what are we going to drop in 9-1-1 in the next three years. Councilmember Chris Moore said, what I'm saying is that might not be three to four years out, that may be three to four months out, chief. Chief Rick Elliot said, for what? Councilmember Chris Moore said, for building the whole building. Not just the 9-1-1. You're not following what I'm telling you. Chief Rick Elliot said, ok, there's the 9-1-1 square footage, and then what we are projected growth, that puts us back into a bigger space. Taking up the whole area down there on high ground, leaving the low ground for a retention pond. Now I've got a lot of cars, we've got to park, and then when I get... Councilmember Chris Moore said, what I'm saying is instead of doing it in two phases, the 9-1-1 and then another building later, I'm talking about incorporating the whole thing at once right here on the front end. Chief Rick Elliot said, we'll all just be so happy if that would happen. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I'd be happy for you. Chief Rick Elliot said, but my concern is, my biggest concern is on Washington there's not enough parking. By the time you put your retention pond in, there's not enough parking. Councilmember Chris Moore said, that's why we have engineers and architects, chief. They're smarter than me and you both on that. Chief Rick Elliot said, well I agree.*

*Councilmember John Street said, I'd like to see an engineer's analysis on that site before we go forward and see what their recommendation is and the cost to handle the drainage issue there. Because I know the site, the whole site won't take care of the drainage, Chris, based on the previous problem they recommended five acres, Craig can attest to that, of upstream detention. There wasn't five acres to get. The other was to bore under the, go under the railroad tracks over to Big Creek and that was just not feasible financially, and I'm sure today's not going to be cheaper. Councilmember Chris Moore said, what I'm saying is the only thing that floods down there right now is the engine bay to the west side. It's not going to be any worse. It can only be better... Chief Rick Elliot said, yeah, Washinton, the engine bay, and Monroe. Yes, they all flood when we have big rains. Absolutely.*

*Chairman Brian Emison said, Councilman Hafner. Councilmember Joe Hafner said,*

*Mr. Chairman if I may. Hey chief, does somebody remember, like this 8,900 square feet for the Real Time Crime Center and 9-1-1 was the first phases, and there were two more phases, right? Do we remember what the total square footage was for the expansion that we were looking at on Caraway Road? Chief Rick Elliot said, if I'm not mistaken, Craig, another 45,000 square foot. Councilmember Joe Hafner said, 45,000 or 4,500? 45,000? Chief Rick Elliot said, for a two story complex. So, with that concept, we'll be bringing Code back into the equation, freeing up space here at City Hall. So, we look at the master plan of talking about buildings as every city hall grows, IT grows downstairs, they're going to need space. We could get Code out of there and put them somewhere where the public can access to. They still fall under the police department. Again, trying to incorporate them back into the mix, wherever that mix may be. But again, I don't need to shrink square footage. That's my concern. We're going to drop the building. I just don't need to build for today. I need to build the future. Now, if we want to fill that whole high ground with the parking then we go to that retention pond and build me a two-story parking garage to accommodate everything then that would help everyone downtown. But we'll let the engineers look at parking analysis, and what we've got to park on a daily basis, and look at those costs on managing flood and having to move buildings and all that versus buying a piece of property that's pretty well open and ready to build on. Ok.*

*Chairman Brian Emison said, thank you Chief. Okay, Councilman Street, did that satisfy all your questions for today? Councilmember John Street said, yeah. Chairman Brian Emison said, ok. Gotcha. Councilmember John Street said, just getting back again, to the first one to look at an engineer's analysis of both sites. Make recommendations on what would be most feasible and efficient. And again, I thought... I know we're going to have to do something with the courtroom, but I look at that as two separate projects. Maybe it's happening at the same time, but I don't think they have any relation to each other. You could build the court right back on the same spot if you wanted to, and it doesn't affect putting the police department in one unit as the chief was talking about, so. It's just two different jobs at the same time. Chairman Brian Emison said, yes, sir. Gotcha. Thank you, Councilman Street.*

*Chairman Brian Emison said, Councilman Moore, do you have any input to any of your questions or are we... Councilmember Chris Moore said, mayor, on the first one, I didn't get an answer. Can the bond proposal, that we just passed, can it be used to purchase new property? Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, you know, we did not authorize that through City Council to purchase property, but yes, it would be a special via resolution if there was a real estate purchase contract similar to any other property purchase. Councilmember Chris Moore said, but it's currently approved it's not allowed. Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, that is correct. Councilmember Chris Moore said, and then the next question I had was about you consulting with the judge and see if we could find a courtroom space. Then I had my third question was why the motor pool, couldn't stay in its current building and administration be moved downtown. There was a question I had about if we stayed on the Washington location and built a new E911 on the Monroe side, would we be able to utilize the existing radio tower. And then my last question, what are the expected repairs on the current Justice Complex. I think we discussed all those just now. That was all. Chairman Brian Emison said, gotcha, thank you councilman. Anybody else on the committee have any follow up questions from what we've talked about today? Ok, seeing none, I will say that our next meeting is all going to be tied to whenever we do be responsive back from engineers and from the civil planning side of it. And we'll be setting that meeting once we get some more answers and some more things that we can weigh in on. And we can make the best decision for the police department, with the help of the chief and of course, with the help of the administration. And doing what we know is right for the city of Jonesboro, not just today, but for the direction that we're moving forward for the future. So, I do appreciate everybody's time today and for the*

discussion that we've had. Next meeting, we'll wait to see whenever this information does come in, and we'll get that set and we'll reconvene at that time.

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, approached the podium and said, I know at the last meeting that you all had, how you determined that it was just going to be specific the two locations. And I think, sometimes I think, you know, what happened to the Johnson property, you know. That still would be a good place to put it. Also too, a couple years ago we purchased a building out on Congress Circle that has building space in the back, and I don't know whether that's being used or not. So, if we're specifically talking about a E911 center, which I gathered that's what the money was going to be used for, it wasn't going to be used for working on designing a better police department. It was specifically for an E911 center, and I know that Mr. Street you said last meeting, is that we have to figure out who's going to be using this building. Well, I thought it was just going to be the E911. But we have to figure out who all is going to be using that building too. Another place that we never really even thought of is this building right here. I think we have a lot of open space that an E911 center could use here. I think we've got a lot of space on that. I've never thought of it. Just an idea. The Washington, I saw that on the news yesterday, and I know that I had requested as far as the plans what was for the Washington facility, and I never got that. So, I don't know really what you guys are looking at here, but I think with the Justice Department, I think this is really looking in a positive way. Only because, I know the other day I found out that the bond money is going to be coming here on July 22nd, I guess that's when the city gets it. So, we still have a little bit of time to figure out what we want because then you have three years from that point. But I think we've got to take advantage of this building that's being down here at Washington. Like you say, Chris, is that we keep on and if we keep on putting a band-aid on it, you know, we're going to keep on pouring more money, more money into it. As far as the flooding goes too, you know, is that, yeah, you know, Jonesboro gets a lot of rain, every once in a while, and the whole city floods. You know, it's just not that area that we have. So, a clue on that one might be is that we start cleaning out our ditches on a regular basis, so we don't have that problem. But I agree with you Chris, on that one, is that if you build it up higher, and you figure out what you want, you leave all the police cars on Caraway, and you use this facility. If you're looking at, you know, just a piece of property, why don't you build up on the police department on Caraway? You know, then you have everything built right there, and use the \$5,500,000 to use that instead of purchasing the land. The one on Caraway Street, I remember that back in September or October last year, and I think that was a couple city councilmen that opposed that, and I think that the reason why they were opposing it is that then the city has to purchase that piece of property. So where is the \$2,000,000 going to come from? You know, I think of it, is that if we had \$2,000,000 extra, then why did we spend, why did we have such a high bond? You know, if we have \$2,000,000 extra that we can purchase that piece of property, then why didn't we use that? Why are we asking for more money if we had that money? Also too, the purchase of the property and then the extra work on that property. I remembered the person selling the property had a lot of demands on the city as far as building a wall, having a street, the lights going a certain way. I don't know if there's been a contract, if the city has talked to the owner of the piece of property, but who knows what those are and are they the same that they were back last year? I don't know about that one, but you have to look at the extra cost on there. I think one thing that we've got to look at, too, I don't know if you've all seen that Trees and Trends is closing down. I went in there yesterday and what's worrisome is that they said that they're closing because they cannot get supplies, Christmas supplies from all their suppliers, because there's a slowdown with the economy that they say, and they don't know what the tariffs are going to be. So, my concern is, is that's another retail store here in Jonesboro that's closing because of that reason. So later on, whether a year from now or all that, we've got to look at our sales tax money, and

*we've got to be really watching how we spend our money. The one thing that concerns me and I remember this, and it was back in 2019 and it was at the MAPC meeting, and you guys weren't there, because you guys were in City Council. Is that there was a meeting because the owner of the piece of property on Caraway wanted to rezone some of the property behind him and he got denied. Now, doesn't have a lot of similarities, but it's concerning the piece of property that we are thinking about purchasing. And on there, I was kind of surprised, because it's been a while, is that at that time because that is the neighborhood of Birdland, is that you mayor spoke as a citizen on that issue. And you actually stated that you are in opposition of the request of what was going to be done with that piece of property. And when reading that is that talking about the neighborhood, concerned about the driveway, and I don't know if Mr. Parker is asking for a driveway, they increased traffic, but the idea was to have a development to go to Matthews and have another road on that. Not a lot of similarities, because I don't know what the plans are for that piece of property that we have for the city, but once again, is that there was a five to two no vote on that piece of property. So, I don't know if it includes a road going through the piece of property for Mr. Parker or on the other side. But once again, it's \$2,000,000 plus more that we have to come up with. So, I think the idea, Chris, of here at Washington, I think that's an excellent idea. And once again, yeah, you have to plan for the future, but you have to do with what you have right now. So, I hope you guys start looking at that and I think that would be a better choice than being on Caraway. So, thank you.*

**Filed**

## **5. Adjournment**

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

**Aye:** 4 - Joe Hafner; John Street; Chris Moore and Chris Gibson