



City of Jonesboro

Meeting Minutes

City Council

900 West Monroe
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Thursday, January 3, 2008

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

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

PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:15 P.M.

No opposition was voiced at the public hearing.

1. Call to order by the Mayor at 6:30 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

3. Roll Call by the City Clerk

Present 12 - Judy Furr; Darrel Dover; Faye McCall; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Cecil Province; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; Harold Perrin; John Street; Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

4. Special Presentations

5. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Moore, seconded by Councilperson Harold Perrin, to Approve the Consent Agenda. A motion was made that these files be approved by consent voice vote

Aye: 12 - Judy Furr; Darrel Dover; Faye McCall; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Cecil Province; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; Harold Perrin; John Street; Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

MIN-07:1903 Minutes for the December 18, 2007, City Council meeting.

Attachments: [121807](#)

The motion passed BY VOICE VOTE.

RES-07:2559 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ASSOCIATED ENGINEERING AND TESTING LLC TO PROVIDE LAND SURVEYOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE PATRICK STREET IMPROVEMENTS;

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Agreement - Patrick Street](#)

The motion passed BY VOICE VOTE.

Enactment No: R-EN-001-2008

RES-07:2560 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HAYWOOD, KENWARD, BARE & ASSOCIATES, INC. TO PROVIDE LAND SURVEYOR SERVICES RELATED TO THE RACE STREET IMPROVEMENTS;

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Agreement - Race Street](#)

The motion passed BY VOICE VOTE.

Enactment No: R-EN-002-2008

RES-07:2566 RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH HARRY HARDWICK FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING PROPERTY RIGHTS AND RIGHT OF WAYS FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND CONSTRUCTION

Sponsors: Human Resources

The motion passed BY VOICE VOTE.

Enactment No: R-EN-003-2008

RES-07:2584 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CITY OF JONESBORO PAY PLAN

The motion passed BY VOICE VOTE.

Enactment No: R-EN-004-2008

6. New Business

Ordinances on First Reading

ORD-07:3167 AN ORDINANCE GRANTING RITTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC., D/B/A RITTER COMMUNICATIONS, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, A NONEXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF JONESBORO AND LEVYING A FRANCHISE FEE IN CONNECTION WITH RITTER'S PROVISION OF CABLE TELEVISION SERVICE IN THE CITY OF JONESBORO; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Sponsors: Mayor's Office and Finance & Administration Council Committee

Councilman Street offered the ordinance by Title Only for the first reading.

Councilman Moore moved, seconded by Councilman Street to suspend with the second and third readings. A voice vote was taken resulting in all members voting aye. The motion carried.

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

Aye: 12 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Faye McCall;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

Enactment No: O-EN-001-2008

ORD-07:3170 AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON A 55' STREET RIGHT OF WAY LOCATED ON E STREET AS REQUESTED BY JUDITH CHESTER

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[Utility Letters](#)
[Petition](#)

Councilman Street offered the ordinance for first reading by Title Only.

Councilman Moore moved, seconded by Councilman Street to suspend with the second and third readings. A voice vote was taken resulting in all members voting aye. The motion carried.

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

Aye: 12 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Faye McCall;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

Enactment No: O-EN-002-2008

7. Unfinished Business

Ordinances on Second Reading

ORD-07:3171 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING CERTAIN LANDS ANNEXED TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, BY ORDER OF THE COUNTY COURT OF CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS; ASSIGNING SAID ANNEXED TERRITORIES TO A PARTICULAR WARD; DECLARING THE ZONING FOR THE ANNEXED TRACT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Attachments: [Plat A](#)
[Plat B](#)
[Procedure for Annexation as prepared by Planning Office](#)
[MAPC Report](#)
[Order of Annexation](#)
[Order of Confirmation of Annexation](#)

Councilman Frierson moved, seconded by Councilman Perrin to suspend with the third reading of the ordinance. A voice vote was taken resulting in all members voting aye, with the exception of Councilman Tim McCall who abstained from voting due to being related to the petitioner.

Councilman Moore explained he does not want to annex the property, only to have the city responsible for the street work, and again questioned if the streets met city standards. Councilman Perrin questioned if Otis Spriggs, City Planner had prepared a punch list for annexations as was requested at the last city council meeting. Mr. Spriggs stated he does not have a list, but had coordinated efforts with the Fire and Police departments. Mr. Spriggs stated the development would not cause any undo services to the City of Jonesboro, and additional right of way had been obtained to the west of the county road,

and Shipley Lane. He explained because the property is an abutment to an improved street the city would not be asked to improve the county road. Mr. Spriggs stated the city is only annexing the parcel itself. Councilman Frierson stated accepting right of way does not obligate the city to do anything with the street with in that right of way. Mr. Spriggs explained the plat could note that the City of Jonesboro would not be responsible for the street.

Councilman Moore moved, seconded by Councilman Johnson for the adoption of the emergency clause. A roll call vote was taken resulting in all members voting aye, with the exception of Councilman Tim McCall who abstained from voting. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Charles Frierson, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED by an unanimous vote

Aye: 11 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Faye McCall;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street and Mitch Johnson

Abstain: 1 - Tim McCall

Enactment No: O-EN-003-2008

8. Mayor's Reports

Mayor Formon welcomed Craig Light as the newly hired City Engineer, replacing Kelly Panneck.

Mayor Formon apologized for being unable to contact city council members of his decision to not seek re-election. He explained once he made his announcement his office was inundated with calls. Mayor Formon stated he and his staff would continue to work hard until his term is up.

9. City Council Reports

Councilman Hargis asked about the coordination of traffic signals. Misty Micenhamer, Operations Director responded saying signals and the master control switch have been connected and installed. She stated Mr. Lyons and the Highway Department would be helping to coordinate the signals. Councilman Hargis requested information be provided to the City Council and the public on this endeavor.

Councilman Hargis inquired who his neighbors should contact regarding a gas company drilling through their sewer lines. He was instructed to have the neighbors contact the gas company.

Mayor Formon requested the Inspections Department to check on a house which burned over two years ago across the street from the Library. Mayor Formon was told by Mr. Erick Woodruff a letter of notice was sent out last week.

Councilman Moore questioned when Ritter Communications would be able to provide cable service. It was explained they would begin providing service in two weeks to individuals who already have internet and telephone service with Ritter. Ritter explained expansion would take two years.

ORD-08:001 AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CONTINUED AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING UNDER THE 2007 BUDGET EXCLUDING FIXED ASSETS AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Councilwoman Williams moved, seconded by Councilwoman Furr to suspend the rules placing an ordinance on the agenda. The motion carried.

Councilwoman Williams offered the ordinance for first reading.

Councilwoman Williams moved, seconded by Councilman Dover to suspend with the second and third readings. A voice vote was taken resulting in all members voting aye.

Councilman Dover moved, seconded by Councilwoman Furr for the adoption of the emergency clause. A roll call vote was taken resulting in all members voting aye. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Ann Williams, seconded by Councilperson Judy Furr, that this Ordinance be Passed. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 12 - Judy Furr; Darrel Dover; Faye McCall; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Cecil Province; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; Harold Perrin; John Street; Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

Enactment No: O-EN-004-2008

Councilwoman Williams nominated Councilwoman Furr as Mayor Pro Temp for the 2008 year. All voted aye, with the exception of Councilwoman Furr who abstained from voting. The motion carried.

Councilwoman Furr moved, seconded by Councilman Perrin to nominate Tim McCall, Ann Williams, Cecil Province, and Chris Moore to continue to serve on the Nominating and Rules Committee. All voted aye with the exception of Tim McCall, Ann Williams, Cecil Province, and Chris Moore who abstained from voting. The motion carried.

Councilman Tim McCall requested the City check on the status of Parkside Drive, saying only 1/2 of the street is paved.

Councilwoman Furr provided the following email pertaining to the Animal Shelter: " I received a call from a concerned citizen with regard to the "cuts" being made at the new Animal Shelter. At my request, Sgt. Larry Rogers took me out there this morning and Kyle (the construction superintendent) gave me a walk through. The project came in at \$985,000, I understand. We had, I believe, allocated something more than this in the long-range capital improvement plan adopted in 12/06. The cuts being made are generally inside with one exception and that being the elimination of the overhang on the front entry. With a standing seam roof and a pitch downward, I see this is highly irregular in that anyone entering the building in the rain will be subjected to massive amounts of water. In the case of ice and thawing, I don't even want to think about what could happen. The areas inside are the puppy/kitten room and the space that was originally designed for veterinarian care/surgery/recovery. As you know we made a conscious decision not to do this type of care on site. So, my recollection was that this would be roughed out and finished off later for other needed purposes. The problem with this is that the roughing out part is exposed insulation - in the puppy and kitten room also - no electrical and just basically less than any of us would want in our garages. I spoke with Adam Seiter today about this. He tells me that about \$35,000 was deducted for the interior parts that would not be finished. Kyle told me he thought the over-hang was (estimated) \$7,000 or \$8,000. A million-dollar project is a million dollar project whether it is \$985,000 or \$1,030,000. Taxpayers going into this facility IF we do not finish the job are going to be less than thrilled with what they got for their money. Also, the cost of going back and doing this finish work is estimated to be more than 150% of the cost if it's done now. This is just not good business, in my opinion. We need to finish this work while the contractor is on

site. All of this can be done with change orders, however, the time is crucial since the building is getting to the stage it needs to have these things done now....IF they are to be done at all. I would very much like something discussed on this tonight, if possible. If we wait any longer, it's going to be too long and will not let the project flow as necessary. Thanks to all of you. Judy Furr"

Councilman Frierson moved, seconded by Councilman Province to suspend the rules and place the matter on the agenda. All vote aye. Councilman Dover moved, seconded by Councilman Frierson to amend the contract to include work on the over-hang and to finish out the puppy/kitten room with the understanding that the work should not go over \$50,000, and Police Chief Yates would bring the matter back to the Finance Committee if the project becomes more costly. All voted aye. The motion carried.

10. Public Comment

Ms. Monica Brodie, a former Accounting Tech for JETS addressed the Jonesboro City Council stating she resigned her position on December 31, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. due to unfavorable responses from her supervisor, Mr. Joel Gardner. Ms. Brodie explained the City Council adopted a resolution on November 20, 2007 creating the position of Transit Supervisor, a position that she was told she could not apply for, but did anyway. She further stated she was told by Mr. Gardner that she would not be considered for the position and was not considered for the position. Ms. Brodie stated she request in writing on November 30th, 2007 information from Mr. Gardner, regarding how he formulated a conclusion that he needed a second Transit Supervisor, but has not received the requested information, even though Mr. Gardner provided a letter stating he would provide the information on December 11, 2007. Ms. Brodie stated since she did not receive a response she emailed six random council members as well as Gloria Rorak, Human Resources, Tony Thomas, Operations Director, and Joel Gardner, JETS Director. She stated she was a disgruntled employee and has filed an EEOC complaint against the City of Jonesboro.

11. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson Tim McCall, that the meeting be Adjourned. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 12 - Judy Furr;Darrel Dover;Faye McCall;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Cecil Province;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;Harold Perrin;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Tim McCall

_____ **Date:** _____
Doug Formon, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____
Donna Jackson, City Clerk