

City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center 300 S. Church Street Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk April Leggett

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman joined the meeting at approximately 4:03 p.m.

Present 4 - Joe Hafner; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent 3 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams and Brian Emison

3. Approval of minutes

MIN-23:061 Minutes for the Finance Committee Meeting on June 27, 2023

Attachments: Minutes

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

Aye: 3 - John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 3 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams and Brian Emison

4. New Business

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

RES-23:120

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 405 STATE, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144171-03500, OWNED BY CHARLES E NOELL JR. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: 405 State Affidavit

405 State

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Joe Hafner; Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony

Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison

RES-23:121 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 500 ALLEN, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144181-30100, OWNED BY KENNY

COLEMAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: 500 Allen Affidavit

500 Allen

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Anthony Coleman, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison

RES-23:122 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 500 WOODROW, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144073-18400, OWNED BY ANTHONY

MGBODILE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: 500 Woodrow Affidavit

500 Woodrow

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison

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

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 816 HOOVER, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144181-14800, OWNED BY ROBERT

WHITAKER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175

<u>Sponsors:</u> Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: 816 Hoover Affidavit

816 Hoover

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Anthony Coleman, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison

RES-23:124

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1020 HOPE, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144173-04400, OWNED BY GARY TOOMBS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: 1020 Hope Affidavit

1020 Hope

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Anthony Coleman, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison

RES-23:125

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1313 PARDEW, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144212-20200, OWNED BY MICHELLE NUTT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

<u>Attachments:</u> 1313 Pardew Affidavit

1313 Pardew

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Anthony Coleman, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison

RES-23:126

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1601 ANGELA LEE, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144082-00500, OWNED BY THOMAS M. UMERSKI IN THE AMOUNT OF \$215

<u>Sponsors:</u> Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: 1601 Angela Lee Affidavit

1601 Angela Lee

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Anthony Coleman, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison

RES-23:127

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2501 MARY JANE, JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144272-24200, OWNED BY KENNETH L & DENA BRADWAY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: 2501 Mary Jane

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Anthony Coleman, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison

RES-23:128

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4304 RACE ST., JONESBORO, AR 72401, PARCEL 01-144271-19900, OWNED BY CHARLES CRAIG CONYERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$175

Sponsors: Code Enforcement and Finance

Attachments: 4304 Race Affidavit

4304 Race

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison

5. Pending Items

6. Other Business

Chairman Joe Hafner said, I just have a couple of things under Other Business, and some of this you all might have to get back to me on. I know that work is being currently done on the police pay subject. I know meetings have been had, and discussions continue with the hopes of getting something ready to present at the next Public Safety meeting. I don't have any more details right now. Hopefully later in the week I may have some more information. But I know how important it is to make sure that our police are paid fairly and competitively through all levels, so that's my goal.

I had a question, Christy. I don't know who this question is for, either you or Brian. But when I was looking at the May financials, sorry to blindside you; but like I said, you can get back to me on this. This is related to the American Rescue fund. Three of the items that we've got appropriations for caught my eye. The first one is mosquito abatement. We appropriated \$250,000 back in August of last year, and it looks like we've only spent \$60,396. So are those additional sprayings happening this year?

Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium and said, yes,

we talked with Jim about that, and also some of that money is for some potential research, grant support for Arkansas State University. But we've talked with Vector some about potentially adding some additional sprayings, and they are going to look at that and see what the cost estimate for that would be because there is still some money left aside there. Chairman Joe Hafner said, yes, we still have \$189,000, almost \$190,000 out of what we allocated of the \$250,000. As bad as the mosquitos are getting, I hope we are using that. I know there was a letter about how much it would cost for an additional seven sprayings and stuff like that, so the money is there. Hopefully Vector is using that. I mean, I don't want to leave it sitting on the table. Mr. Richardson said, right now I believe they are scheduled for a weekly aerials now through September 14 or that second week in September, I believe. But I think depending on their availability, as far as to be able to do more, that's certainly something that we can look into.

Chairman Joe Hafner said, this is almost like an additional spraying each week if they are doing eight or whatever. It just caught my eye. I know they were talking about it in Public Safety last week. There are also a couple of Public Safety items that were appropriated. One we did back in November of '21, looks like it was \$1.8 million. It looks like it still has about \$725,000 unspent. I can give this to you after. I don't know if there is like just one item or two items that we're waiting on availability for. Mr. Richardson said, a lot of that stuff is equipment that has been ordered and we are just waiting for it to actually come in. Chairman Joe Hafner said, what caught my eye on here, since we haven't spent \$725,000, I mean, there's one item alone that says fire station, Motorola alert system that is \$740,000. We may just be waiting on. I just wanted updates on the two Public Safety items that are on here, because the other one, we just did back in March of this year. Mr. Richardson said, I doubt Christy has a schedule in here. Chairman Joe Hafner said, you can get it for me. If I wanted it at this meeting, I would have emailed you beforehand, but I was looking at this afternoon and I was just like, I can ask them and you can get back to me. So, that's all I've got. Does anybody else have any other business for the committee?

Councilmember David McClain said, I have a quick question in regards to the police pay. We've got to fund it, so is that going to go before Public Safety or is that going to come here? Chairman Joe Hafner said, I would think that since it was first on Public Safety, that will be where it will initially get presented. I mean, if we need to have a joint Public Safety/Finance meeting or something, we can do that; but Public Safety is where it said it was going to be presented at next. Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson said, yes, that would be my opinion as far as the internals of the planning giNven the structure and it may be a discussion that we need to have because there is going to have to be some funds appropriated to help pay for that. Public Safety has made those types of decisions before. Chairman Joe Hafner said, yes, but if I need to call a specially called Finance meeting just to make sure it keeps moving forward, I won't hesitate to do that.

Councilmember David McClain said, I had a few other questions in regards to the financial report that was sent out. My email has been messed up, so I can email it straight to you or Christy. I responded to the young man, Andrew, I think that's his name, a few questions. But I can send them to you directly if you want. Mr. Richardson said, that's fine. But I think that he was working on some stuff for that, so you may have it or you may not. Councilmember David McClain said, like I said, I've been locked out of my email. And then the last thing, in regards to the mosquito, you know, the mayor mentioned last time in our last Council meeting that the aerial was the best way right now to treat mosquitos. I was wondering how Vector came to that conclusion when they haven't studied the effectiveness of what they are spraying and how effective

everything is playing together, the truck, the airplanes. I would love to have them give us a report so we know how effective things are, what they are doing, what are some other things that people are using besides the aerial and the truck sprays. I think that's something we should have, especially since we are paying them as much as we are paying them.

Mr. Richardson said, I can certainly make that request with them; and I think that from the aerial versus truck application, I think it's just the sheer amount of acreage that can be covered in a single application that probably makes it more widespread immediately effective than individual trucks driving around at certain routes. Plus they are able to target that based off of where they are seeing the most trap activity at. But, you know, just like last year how we appropriated additional funds for mosquitos, we are willing to do whatever we can. But I do think that we also have to keep in mind that mosquitos are going to be here, and I think that points out some of the great work that code enforcement and planning and engineering have been doing as far as trying to make sure that we eradicate as much high grass and trash that may be holding stagnant water; because, ultimately we can spray all that we want, but all that hard work is eliminated by a handful of tires that spawns 10,000 mosquitos. I do think that there is a two-prong effort between both cleanliness and spraying.

Councilmember John Street said, I'll tell you what we've learned over the years since we've had Vector as far as aerial, about half the city, which is 82 and a half square miles, is kind of rural. The canopy that we've got, because of the tree cover, it does a better job of killing because this spray that they are using is a contact killer. Unless the mosquitos actually hit with the spray, it doesn't do anything. The trucks going up and down the road are actually really limited. If I were king, I would eliminate them and go to total aerial because it kills more mosquitos. It does a better job. If we kill every mosquito in town today, the southwesterly winds keep blowing them back in. So the rice fields southwest of Jonesboro keep generating mosquitos and they are just blowing in. Well, the tires you mentioned and the birdbaths and anything that holds water at all, even bad drainage will lead to more mosquito breeding. And another issue that we had a real problem with was the ditches like the big creek that runs through town. We've got, what? 800 something miles of ditches, but they don't all totally drain. So there are little pockets of water along them all over the place. They were treating them with a larvocide, which that helps a lot when they did that. I don't know if that is something that they are still doing in big volume or not, but that is something that they used to do over time that helped. From all of the stuff that they've done in the past, aerial application actually did a better job when they checked their traps and stuff after that. I think the trucks just chase the mosquitos out of the road up into my yard. I can tell a big difference, and I live out south by the forest. I mean, when they fly, mosquitos are gone for a couple of days. When they run those trucks, all they do is run them up in the yard.

Chairman Joe Hafner said, well, I will say too that I think there has been mention that they are having manpower issues too. So if we appropriate more money, I want to make sure that this is stuff that they can do. We shouldn't appropriate the money if they don't have the manpower to increase their services to us. Mr. Richardson said, that is why I referenced their availability to help to do some of that. You know, that appropriation is somewhat flexible as far as if there are any other types of investments or services that they could recommend or that ASU would recommend. I think that is something that could be looked into. For instance, a lot of it comes down to timeliness too as far as, were we lucky enough that we got that big rain the other day on the edge of a hatch season that maybe washed some of those eggs away? I don't know. I guess we will find out here in a couple of days, but it did create a lot of mud, and there is

going to be some stagnant water left over from that. So again, we can certainly continue to invest in spraying, but also just help spread the word that obviously we all know but it still happens. If you have items that are collecting stagnant water in your yard, please drain them, because you are creating a wonderful biosphere for growing mosquitos. Everything that we can do to help reduce that, the better off we're going to be.

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

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

Aye: 4 - Charles Coleman; John Street; David McClain and Anthony Coleman

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and Brian Emison