



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, February 16, 2016

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

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

NOMINATING & RULES COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:15 P.M.

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

Councilman Vance left at 6:08 p.m.

Present 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

COM-16:012 State of the City presentation by Mayor Perrin

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Attachments: [2016 State of the City Address](#)
[2016 State of the City Address Slides](#)
[2016 State of the City Address Presentation](#)

This item was Read.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Gene Vance, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

MIN-16:015 Minutes for the City Council meeting on February 2, 2016

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

RES-16:007

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE LOW BID AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH GILLIS, INC. FOR THE CRAIGHEAD FOREST PARK CENTENNIAL & FORT ROTARY PARK DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS - 2016:01

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Bid Tab](#)
[Contract Documents 2016 01](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-010-2016

RES-16:010

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR SUMS RECEIVED AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH OFFENSES AND/OR VIOLATIONS COMMITTED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS JONESBORO, ARKANSAS BETWEEN THE CITY OF JONESBORO AND CRAIGHEAD COUNTY

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Attachments: [Interlocal Agreement](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-011-2016

RES-16:013

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH THE JONESBORO JETS

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [2016 City Pool Contract.pdf](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-012-2016

RES-16:020

RESOLUTION TO SET THE JUDGES, CLERKS AND ALTERNATE WORKERS FOR THE CITY WATER AND LIGHT PLANT ELECTION FOR 2016

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-013-2016

6. NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to suspend the rules and place ORD-16:014 on the agenda and hold it to one reading. All voted aye, with the exception of Councilmen Johnson and Vance who abstained from voting.

ORD-16:014

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF A PORTION OF DAYTON

AVENUE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: The East 60 feet of Lot 7 as shown on the Replat of Lot 6 of Floyred Commons, Recorded in Plat Cabinet "C", Page 221 in the public records of Craighead County at Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Councilman Dover offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

Councilman Dover asked that the ordinance was held at one reading.

Mayor Perrin explained he asked the Engineering Department to calculate the cost of bringing the road up to code. The cost of improving the street from Fairpark to the sign on Lot 7 is around \$81,000 with a 20% contingency. To improve it from Fairpark to Red Wolf Boulevard the total cost would be \$223,531. He would like to contact some of the owners next to the road, such as Centennial Bank, to see if they would share in the cost of bringing the road up to code and bring that back to Council. He wants the Council to get all of the facts and figures before making a decision.

Bankruptcy attorney Rick Ramsey stated he is under some time constraints due to the bankruptcy, but that doesn't mean he can't petition the bankruptcy court for an extension which is a possibility. He discussed the property, explaining the property is under bankruptcy by the Craighead County Fairgrounds Association. He has been appointed as a distribution agent for the confirmed bankruptcy plan to liquidate the assets of the estate. The property is subdivided into lots, but the road that he is discussing was not dedicated to the city. He has Lot 7 under contract to sell. He explained the reasons for an exception by the city for this case. He noted the road is an important connector to two main arteries in the city. If the city decides not to accept the donation, there's a possibility the road could be closed and that should be a factor that is considered. There is no requirement that the road be brought up to code. He also stated they will give the city enough land in the donation that if they decide to bring the road up to code, then there will be ample room for the improvements. Mr. Ramsey further discussed the road. He noted the property will be sold, if not through him then at a point in the future. He stated if the city wants the road, he is now offering it to the city at no cost.

Councilman Dover asked how many other lots are adjacent to this road. Mr. Ramsey answered none because Academy Sports is on the other side of the road. Mayor Perrin added Centennial Bank is also adjacent to the road.

This ordinance was Held at one reading.

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

ORD-16:011

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 14, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM R-1 TO RS-8 LOCATED ON AGGIE ROAD AS REQUESTED BY DEAN TYRER

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[MAPC Report](#)

Councilman Street offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

Councilman Street asked if the city planner will be discussing the rezoning. City Attorney Carol Duncan explained the requirement by the court is that the Council go through all of the criteria that the city has set out for rezonings. Discussion will have to be held at some point in the process. Mayor Perrin stated he has asked the city

planner to present his comments to the rezoning that way it can be discussed at the next Council meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Darrel Dover, seconded by Councilman Chris Moore, that this matter be Held at one reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

ORD-16:012

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO AMEND THE 2016 ANNUAL BUDGET TO ADD \$1,079,325 FOR SALARY INCREASES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY FOR THE OPERATIONAL CONTINUITY OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

Sponsors: Mayor's Office and Finance

Attachments: [Exhibit A](#)
[Salary Administration Plan revision Feb 2016 Final Presentation from Feb. 16 meeting](#)

Councilman Street offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

Councilman Gibson abstained from voting and discussion on this ordinance due to a potential conflict of interest.

Chief Financial Officer Suzanne Allen gave a presentation to the Council detailing the salary increases (see presentation attached to ordinance). She noted the Salary/Longevity Committee will be meeting in the future concerning an incentive plan and make their recommendation. She also explained everyone will be at least at the minimum for their salary grade. The plan moves the city 3% closer to market. Ms. Allen stated the committee will also be looking at some job positions due to the jobs not being rated since 2012. Some jobs may have shifted since then. She explained the salary plan will be funded through sales tax growth and reserves. A committee will be formed to make recommendations for the amount the city should hold in reserves.

Employees in their current position for at least 2 years and less than 9 will receive a \$75 increase per year in their base pay up to a maximum of \$600 for compression pay. Department heads are excluded from compression pay. Longevity pay will be \$75 per year of service starting at year two and capping at year 30. The incentive plan will be brought forth in the future.

Councilman Dover thanked the committee for their work. He explained they worked very diligently and they had a lot of good meetings. They came up with a lot of good ideas. From his standpoint, this plan is fair and equitable.

Larry Jackson, 614 Forrest Park Road, stated he thinks, as does the rest of the Employee Representative Committee, that this plan is a good start. He noted there are city employees who receive government subsidies because of their pay. The employees should not have salaries in which they also get food stamps or free lunches for their children. He questioned why the longevity pay stops at 30 years. But, he noted he thinks most of the employees think it's a good plan.

Councilman Dover noted this is just a start and will be reviewed each year. The plan may change in the future depending on the funding available. Mayor Perrin also commended the committee for their work. He stated it was a big project.

Wayne Rogers, 5437 Summer Place, stated he was on the committee and they did work very hard. He thinks the Police Department is still underpaid and that should be addressed in the future.

Harold Carter stated the police think there will be more issues that may require more money to solve their original problems. He then questioned how the plan would be paid for on an ongoing basis because it cannot be paid for just out of reserves. Mayor Perrin explained the plan would be paid for through sales tax income and reserves. The sales tax brings in about \$800,000 per year and the balance will come out of reserves. He added that is why they would like to look at how much Jonesboro really needs in reserves. He hopes they don't have to pull too much money out of reserves. It may have to be adjusted in the future or the city may have to ask for a tax to pay for other things. Ms. Allen further explained they have looked at the sales tax projections. They will have to take from reserves for a few years, but they hope that after a while the sales tax income will pay for the plan.

Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye, with the exception of Councilman Gibson who abstained from voting.

After passage of the ordinance, Councilman Coleman motioned, seconded by Councilman Frierson, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye, with the exception of Councilman Gibson who abstained from voting.

Mayor Perrin thanked the Council for approving the ordinance.

A motion was made by Councilman Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 9 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

Abstain: 1 - Chris Gibson

Enactment No: O-EN-010-2016

ORD-16:013

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM R-2 & C-2 LUO TO C-1 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 903 EAST MATTHEWS AS REQUESTED BY JOSH OLSON

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[MAPC Report](#)

Councilman Johnson offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

Councilman Dover asked if there was any opposition to the rezoning. City Planner Otis Spriggs answered no.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, to Waive Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 10 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

RES-15:171

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS to condemn property at 3628 E. Nettleton, Owner: David Abernathy

Sponsors: Code Enforcement

- Attachments:** [3628 E. Nettleton inspection report](#)
[Abernathy county data](#)
[Abernathy title search](#)
[Abernathy 1](#)
[Abernathy 2](#)
[Abernathy 3](#)
[Abernathy 4](#)

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

Aye: 10 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

Enactment No: R-EN-014-2016

RES-16:005

RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ABANDONMENT OF AN UNDEVELOPED ALLEYWAY LOCATED NORTH OF GRIFFIN STREET AS REQUESTED BY BOB HARRISON AND CESAR ISLAS

- Attachments:** [Plat](#)
[Petition](#)
[Engineering & Planning Letter](#)
[Utility Letters](#)

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

Aye: 10 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

Enactment No: R-EN-015-2016

RES-16:014

RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ABANDONMENT OF AN UNDEVELOPED STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY ON EAST STREET AND CATE AVENUE AS REQUESTED BY OAK STREET PROPERTIES, LLC.

Attachments: [Petition](#)
[Plat](#)
[Utility Letters](#)
[Engineering & Planning Dept. Letter](#)

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

Aye: 10 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

Enactment No: R-EN-016-2016

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

ORD-16:010

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, ARTICLE III, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM R-1 TO C-3 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3008 ROOK ROAD AS REQUESTED BY THE ROOK FAMILY

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[MAPC Report](#)

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

Aye: 10 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

Enactment No: O-EN-011-2016

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Perrin reported on the following items:

He, along with Ms. Allen and Grants Administrator Kimberly Marshall visited Washington, D.C. last week. They met with all of the delegation, as well as the Department of Justice. There is a Violence Reduction Conference in Little Rock today which Ms. Marshall attended to look at grants. There will also be a new grant to monitor prescription drug usage. Discussion with the EPA was also held concerning north Jonesboro. Some of the homes in north Jonesboro are not hooked up to sewer and they have been doing that with CDBG funding, at about 8 to 10 per year. At the Department of Transportation, they learned of a new Tiger Grant the city will be applying for. The grant will be used to add the Unicom system at more intersections in Jonesboro. It will be used for the police and fire vehicles. Jonesboro may also be a pilot program for the state for this service.

They are also looking at partnering with the National Park Services for grant funding.

He was asked to serve on a national committee through the EPA.

This Thursday, Arkansas Game & Fish will be in town to meet with the city concerning the firing range.

Mark Roberts will be in town to discuss the International Property Maintenance Code tomorrow during two meetings. The meetings will be held in the Council Chambers.

They are discussing the Zika virus with Vector Mosquito to see how they plan on combating that in Jonesboro. He stated this is a very serious disease, so they want to make sure the vendor is doing everything they can.

City Attorney Duncan gave an update concerning the condemnation on the old home ice business. The property owner filed a notice of appeal to appeal the condemnation in Circuit Court in September, 2015. Since then, the property owner has done nothing. They have since determined the property owner's time has run out to file a claim. In response, the city filed a motion to dismiss in which they found out today that Judge Honeycutt approved the motion to dismiss with prejudice. So, Code Enforcement can move forward with the condemnation process.

COM-16:014

Financial statement for the Jonesboro Airport Commission for January 31, 2016

Sponsors: Municipal Airport Commission

Attachments: [Financial statement](#)

This item was Filed.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Street asked about the recycling program. Mayor Perrin explained all of the mayors in the county met at Legacy Landfill two weeks ago and came up with the idea of a 50 cent tipping fee increase to cover the cost of the recycling program. They are also looking at doing tote bags instead of the blue bags. They will be meeting again next month.

Councilman Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to suspend the rules and place ORD-16:008 on the agenda. All voted aye.

ORD-16:008

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PISTOLS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sponsors: Finance and Police Department

Councilman Dover offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

Councilman Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye.

After passage of the ordinance, Councilman Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

Mayor Perrin noted if there is an emergency clause on an ordinance the department heads need to state what the emergency is. A lot of times the clause isn't enough to justify an emergency.

A motion was made by Councilman Darrel Dover, seconded by Councilman John Street, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 10 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

Enactment No: O-EN-012-2016

Councilman Street, Johnson, Dover and Woods thanked the Salary/Longevity Committee for the work they put in on the salary plan.

Councilman Burton motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to suspend the rules and place RES-16:022 on the agenda. All voted aye, with the exception of Councilmen Street and Frierson who abstained from voting.

RES-16:022

RESOLUTION TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE CITY WATER AND LIGHT BOARD AND THE JONESBORO PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR PERRIN

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

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

Aye: 8 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

Abstain: 2 - Charles Frierson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-017-2016

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Phillip Cook, 5216 Richardson Drive, stated he doesn't think the Salary/Longevity Committee went as far as he would have liked them to, but he understands because there was only so much money to work with. He added he was proud of the law enforcement and Fire Department response to the recent lockdown at Arkansas State.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 10 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Gene Vance

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk