



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

4:00 PM

Municipal Center

1. Call To Order

Present 6 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

2. Roll Call by City Clerk Donna Jackson

Mayor Harold Perrin was in attendance.

Present 6 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Joe Hafner

3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-20:050](#) Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on May 26, 2020

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain and LJ Bryant

4. New Business

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-20:073](#) A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE BID AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH POWERHOUSE ELECTRIC FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A GENERATOR FOR THE E-911 DEPARTMENT AND TO AMEND THE CITY 2020 BUDGET

Sponsors: E911 and Finance

Attachments: [E911 Generator Bid Tabulation](#)

Councilmember John Street commented to Chairman Joe Hafner, you answered the question I had with the regard to the bid. There is about a \$10,000 difference, and I was curious to why the low bidder was not accepted. I do understand, and the law says you need to accept the best bid, not the lowest bid.

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

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[RES-20:074](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO SUBMIT A 2021 OUTDOOR RECREATION MATCHING GRANT APPLICATION FROM THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, HERITAGE AND TOURISM

Sponsors: Grants and Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [Union St Park, Project Budget 2020](#)
[Union Street Park](#)

Councilmember David McClain, said to Chairman Joe Hafner, I have a couple questions. I know that we had a grant that we pulled off of the agenda once. That grant was just for permission to apply. I did not know if we pulled off all of them or just that particular one. Mayor Harold Perrin explained the reason we pulled that one off is because, it was for \$1,000,000.00 and this one is for \$100,000. You can see our match amount over in the Parks Department for the Budget year 2021. They have looked ahead at projects that they want to do over the next two to three years. This is one of the main projects, which is on Monroe, between the parking lot and the United Way building which we own. That portion of the street would all be torn out to become a green space area with a playground, and fencing which will make it a safer place for anyone visiting the space. Mayor Perrin went on to explain that that is why we pulled the other one, I just didn't feel it was the right time to commit \$1,000,000.00. If we get this grant, which we will not know until 2021, we would only be pulling \$100,000 out of the Parks Department Budget. Parks Department Director Danny Kapales is prepared to do that because of the projects that he has got listed to do for next year. Councilmember David McClain said, okay.

Councilmember John Street asked Mayor Harold Perrin if he had spoken to City Water and Light in regards to what it would take to move the overhead power lines. Mayor Harold Perrin said that he has not spoken to Jake Rice with CWL about that. We are still talking to Mr. Rice about trying to take the alley. As you know we done the one alley last year where the Rotary Centennial Plaza is located. Councilmember John Street said, okay, that is the only concern I have. That could be more work than what it looks like. Mayor Harold Perrin said, right. Basically we are just taking the road out, and we have studied this several times with Street Department Superintendent Steve Tippitt, and our City Engineering Department. We have also looked at taking that parking lot out next to the United Way building, there would still be areas there where the United Way employees could park. That would also become a green space area.

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

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[RES-20:075](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH SAGA COMMUNICATIONS OF ARKANSAS LLC D/B/A JONESBORO RADIO GROUP FOR RENTAL OF SOUTHSIDE SPORTS COMPLEX

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [Rental Agreement, Jonesboro Radio Group, Southside Park](#)

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

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[RES-20:076](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH EAST ARKANSAS BROADCASTERS FOR RENTAL OF JOE MACK CAMPBELL SPORTS COMPLEX

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [Rental Agreement, East AR Broadcasters, Joe Mack Park](#)

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

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[RES-20:077](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE DELTA DENTAL ARKANSAS FOUNDATION TO RECEIVE COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDING

Sponsors: Grants

Attachments: [Delta Dental Award Agreement](#)

Mayor Harold Perrin said to Chairman Joe Hafner this would be a flow through to the HUB-Homeless Resource Center for supplies for the homeless. We also received a notice yesterday from Delta Dental because, of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and the tornado they are waving the month of July's premium on all of our dental plans. We will pay nothing in the month of July. All of the city's employees will have free dental for the month of July. I thought that was very honorable and I sent them a letter thanking them for this. Chairman Joe Hafner said, that is a great gesture by them.

Recommended to Council

[RES-20:078](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ATTORNEY TO CERTIFY FOR THE 2020 ANNUAL FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES FOR THE JONESBORO ECONOMICAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (JET)

Sponsors: JETS

Attachments: [JETS, 2020 Certifications and Assurances](#)
[JETS, 2020 Certifications & Assurances signature page](#)

Chairman Joe Hafner said to Mayor Harold Perrin the only comment I have, and it really doesn't pertain to this particular resolution, it is a comment on the overall JETS Department. With the COVID-19 money that we received it was stated that a master plan was being developed on how that money would be spent, can you give us an update on when that master plan might be ready.

Mayor Harold Perrin said, I would anticipate that it would be after the Council meeting

on June 16th. I would say probably the 1st of July, we should have everything ready. I want to show a map of the new stops that is proposed as well as the rest of the plan. JETS Director, Michael Black and the others have done a good job on it. I just want to make sure that we can have it on the easel boards so we can show you all that. Mayor Perrin said again, we will shoot for the first Council Meeting in July. Chairman Joe Hafner said, so it will have items like the bus stops, new busses and things like that. Mayor Harold Perrin said, it will have fixed assets, new bus stops, and concrete work that will need to be done, it will have all of the things we talked about on it.

Patti Lack, 4108 Forrest Hill Road. Patti asked Chairman Joe Hafner if he could explain this in a little bit more detail because, I don't understand it when reading it on the agenda. Chairman Joe Hafner said that Mayor Harold Perrin could probably better explain it. Chairman Hafner explained that this is basically an attestation that we are using the federal money the way that we are supposed to be using it. Mayor Harold Perrin explained that was correct, and based on the 5307 money that we get from the Federal Transportation Department we have to have a plan of action of how you are going to operate. We do this each year and have to get that approved in order to receive those funds on the 5307, and the 5331. Patti Lack asked, is there a certain amount of money that is involved with this? Mayor Perrin said no, this is free money that will be coming to us that we have to use to run and operate our Transit System. Mrs. Lack said, okay. Free money is always good, is there an amount to that? Chairman Joe Hafner said, yes give me just a minute to look at the budget to see how much was budgeted for 2020.

JETS Director Michael Black commented that his budget was right at \$1.6 million, and that is with local match, they are all together. The search and assurances are specific rules and regulations that we have got to follow in order to spend the money. This also does apply for our CARES ACT funding, and it will apply to our 2021 grant whenever we apply for it. Mayor Perrin explained to Mrs. Lack that what JETS Director Michael Black is basically saying is the budget to run the JETS System, salaries, everything included is about \$1.6 million. The City of Jonesboro out of that \$1.6 million subsidizes somewhere around \$250,000 to \$300,000 depending on the year. If you are asking what our match is, that is what it would be.

Patti Lack asked, with the 3.2 million CARES ACT money that we are going to get, this doesn't have anything to do with that right? Mayor Harold Perrin said, it does in the fact that you have to follow those guidelines even with the CARES ACT money as well as any year that you operate. So, with guidelines in here with the CARES money, whatever we say in this plan of how we spend that money, which is around \$2.6 million, whatever the total amount is on the CARES ACT is that we still have to go by these guidelines. Anything we show you the first of July would be approved by this master plan that the Federal FTA is saying that we can use the money for. Such as, any new vehicles, salaries, operating costs. But, again we are going to be building more sidewalks leading up to bus stops. We will probably be adding some new bus stops and we will have to buy the shelters for the new stops, there will be several items on that plan. Patti said, okay and with all of this money believes that the JETS Bus System is awesome for Jonesboro. If we use that money the right way it will also be awesome for the City.

Mayor Harold Perrin said, I agree with you. But, you can't take the CARES ACT money and use it for the deficit that the City is putting in to subsidize the JETS. To have the transit system that we have, and the City only subsidizing approximately \$300,000 a year is unreal for a city of our size. Patti Lack said, okay, and I appreciate it very much.

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

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain and LJ Bryant

5. Pending Items

6. Other Business

Mayor Harold Perrin said, to Chairman Joe Hafner, we have the May financials. You will be getting them in an e-mail no later than Friday. We are real pleased, even though through May of this year in the O&M you are about \$312,000.00 in deficit. We budgeted a 2.3 million dollar deficit through May. All of the ten goals we look at seven are favorable, and three would be unfavorable, that is the franchise fees are down 8%, which is around \$80,000. A&P Taxes are down 3%, which is about \$8,000.00, and alcoholic beverages is down 17%, which is \$33,000.00. All other things on sales tax as well as the one-half cent sales tax, even our fuel purchases are down, we saved \$165,000.00 through May. It is looking good, we are being tight with the money But, again let me say this you start getting the sales tax in for June, July, and August you are going to see a continued deficit. I don't anticipate us having to get into that reserve near as much as we thought we were going to have too. Let's just hope and pray that it continues to work that way.

Chairman Joe Hafner said that is good news. There will probably be more news on the franchise fees when we get the report. With the A&P and the alcohol tax being down, those are not a surprise with everything being shut down for basically two months. Mayor Harold Perrin said, let me say this regarding the Franchise Fee, sometimes you will get into your report and you will see that one of them you won't get until right at the end of the month so it doesn't count. It shows 8% now, but it could be neutral at the end of next month.

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

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

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain and LJ Bryant