



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 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

Present 8 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent 4 - Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-18:027](#) PROCLAMATION BY MAYOR PERRIN FOR NATIONAL BICYCLING MONTH

Read

[COM-18:030](#) LITIGATION UPDATE FROM CITY ATTORNEY CAROL DUNCAN

Attachments: [Legal Report 05142018.pdf](#)

Assistant City Attorney Jessica Coleman said that she passed out sheets before the meeting of what the City Attorney's office is currently handling, as well as, Burt Newell's office with APERMA is handling. There is nothing real specific there unless someone has a question. Mayor Harold Perrin asked if there were any questions. He said this is something that you all will want to take with you and review and if you have questions, feel free to call the City Attorney's office and they will be glad to give you an update. Each one of these either do have a date or a pending date coming up for trial or whatever. Councilmember Chris Moore said he had one question. He wanted some information about the Samuel Rosse vs. the City of Jonesboro case. I see that is coming up for trial on August 13-14, 2018. Can you explain to us what that was an appeal of? Ms. Coleman said it was originally a condemnation in 2014 or 2015. It has made it all the way up to the Court of Appeals. It was dismissed, but that was appealed. That came back as dismissed with prejudice. It was refiled and now we are back in Circuit Court. Councilmember Moore asked what is the point of appeal on that? What are they appealing? Are they saying we acted outside of our jurisdiction? Ms. Coleman said at this point they are arguing that it shouldn't be condemned. I have not seen any reports from anyone that has worked on the building to say otherwise. They have a right to argue at trial if they so choose. Councilmember Moore asked do

you think that is what they are appealing? Ms. Coleman said the plaintiff doesn't want the building torn down essentially. Councilmember David McClain asked if there was an update on Adam and Eve since there was a meeting today. Ms. Coleman said she has not heard of any update. It would have been with Burt Newell's office. We can get with him and get him to update us if there are any questions that we have. Mayor Perrin stated, take this information and if you have any questions, please feel free to call the City Attorney's office and they will be glad to give you a complete update.

Read

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilperson Charles Frierson, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 4 - Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

[MIN-18:046](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 1, 2018

Attachments: [CC Minutes 05012018.pdf](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:069](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH FAMILIES, INC. FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE OUTFIELD SIGN AT THE MIRACLE LEAGUE PARK

Attachments: [FAMILIES INC SIGN](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:070](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH STEAK 'N SHAKE FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE OUTFIELD SIGN AT SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

Attachments: [STEAK N SHAKE](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:071](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH SMOOTHIE KING FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE OUTFIELD SIGN AT THE SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

Attachments: [SMOOTHIE KING](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:072](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH DAIRY QUEEN FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE OUTFIELD SIGN AT THE SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

Attachments: [DAIRY QUEEN](#)

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

[RES-18:073](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH UNCLE MADDIO'S PIZZA FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE OUTFIELD SIGN AT THE SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

Attachments: [UNCLE MADDIOS PIZZA](#)

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

[RES-18:074](#)

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH BAYMONT INN SPONSORSHIP OF ONE OUTFIELD SIGN AT THE MIRACLE LEAGUE PARK

Attachments: [BAYMONT INN](#)

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

6. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[ORD-18:033](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO AMEND THE 2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND BUDGET AND FEDERAL FUNDS BUDGET FOR THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND SUBGRANT AGREEMENT WITH ARKANSAS STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION FOR THE JONESBORO SHOOTING SPORTS COMPLEX.

Mayor Perrin stated that he, Chief Financial Officer Bill Reznicek, Interim Chief Operations Officer Roy Ockert, and others had a meeting with the Arkansas Game & Fish today. What I would like to do, and I visited with Finance Committee Chairman Joe Hafner, is that I would like to get a motion to table this if I could back to the Finance Committee. We are going to have to make some changes to that after our discussion with the Arkansas Game & Fish today.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to postpone temporarily. All voted aye.

Councilmember David McClain asked if the Mayor wanted to postpone it or send it back to the Finance Committee. Councilmember Moore said postpone temporary until the Mayor or somebody brings it back to the Council. He may want to take it to the Finance Committee or may not. Mayor Perrin said that he will take it back to Finance because there are some things on there that we need to work on with Game & Fish based on their fiscal year and our fiscal year.

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

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 4 - Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:034](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE PURCHASE

OF USED DUMP TRUCK FOR THE PARKS DEPARTMENT

Attachments: [DUMP TRUCK](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:034 by title only. All voted aye.

Assistant City Attorney Jessica Coleman said that Section 4 in this ordinance is half of an emergency clause and I think we decided that it needed to be removed. There was some language in there that needed to be removed and I think we need a motion on that as well.

Councilmember Charles Frierson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to remove the emergency clause. City Clerk Donna Jackson asked if it was Section 4 or if it was an emergency clause. Ms. Coleman said it is Section 4. It doesn't actually say emergency clause, but it has some of the emergency clause language. Ms. Jackson said we are removing Section 4. Ms. Coleman said yes. All voted aye to remove Section 4 from the ordinance.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Charles Frierson, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings of ORD-18:034. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 4 - Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:035](#)

AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT

Attachments: [AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT.pdf](#)
[Alcohol Private Club Application Holiday Inn Kazi Redacted.pdf](#)

Mayor Perrin said that Councilmember Bobby Long, who could not be here tonight, asked if ORD-18:035 could be held.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:035 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street asked that ORD-18:035 be read at three readings.

Bob Hester, 7096 CR 333, said at some point he would like to speak. He said he is not prepared tonight because he just became aware of this. As long as he gets to speak at some point, he is fine. Mayor Perrin stated that he will have two more times. Mr. Hester said that would be great.

Mayor Perrin stated that we would hold this at the first reading.

Placed on second reading

[ORD-18:036](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL R-1 AND R-2 TO RESIDENTIAL RS-8 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) FOR PROPERTY

LOCATED ON STATE STREET, LOTS 143 THROUGH 160, COLLEGE PLACE
ADDITION AS REQUESTED BY GEORGE HAMMAN ON BEHALF OF HABITAT FOR
HUMANITY OF GREATER JONESBORO

Attachments: [Application.pdf](#)
 [City Council Staff Summary.pdf](#)
 [Layout.pdf](#)
 [rezoning plat.pdf](#)
 [Habitat for Humanity Rezoning Ordinance.pdf](#)

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Ann Williams, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:036 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore said that since this came from MAPC with a 5-0 recommendation, he will make a motion to suspend the rules and waive the second reading and hold it. Councilmember Charles Frierson seconded the motion. All voted aye.

Mayor Perrin said we do have the Director from Habitat for Humanity here today and some others in the audience. We do appreciate you providing homes for people. My understanding on this one is that there will be nine new homes with a park. The vote through MAPC was 5-0. That is developing over two acres in our city for people who do not have a home. We sincerely appreciate that.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Moore, seconded by Councilperson Charles Frierson, that this matter be Waived Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 4 - Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:037](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM AGRICULTURAL, AG-1 TO C-3, LUO; COMMERCIAL, LIMITED USE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2010 DISTRIBUTOR DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY GEORGE HAMMAN ON BEHALF OF BILL GREENWOOD

Attachments: [Application.pdf](#)
 [City Council Staff Summary.pdf](#)
 [Layout.pdf](#)
 [rezoning plat.pdf](#)
 [2010 Distributor Drive Rezoning Ordinance.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:037 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore said he is not familiar with what MAPC ruled on this. Was that another unanimous vote? Councilmember Joe Hafner said it was 5-0. Mayor Perrin agreed.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Gene Vance to suspend the rules and waive the second reading and hold it. All voted aye.

Mayor Perrin asked if George Hamman would give an update on that. Is that about a

6,000 sq. ft. building? Mr. Hamman said that is correct. That is what he is proposing to place on there and he will house his HVAC business out of there. It will be mostly warehouse with a little bit of office space. Councilmember Gene Vance asked why did the applicant go with C-3 instead of I-1. Mr. Hamman said that the applicant decided for resale sometime down the road, he would have a little more flexibility in the uses without having to go back to the MAPC.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Moore, seconded by Councilperson Gene Vance, that this matter be Waived Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 4 - Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:038](#) AN ORDINANCE FOR THE TRANSFER OF LOCATION OF PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT

Attachments: [City Ordinance Transfer of Location.pdf](#)
[Private Club Alcohol Transfer Permit - Casa Maya II, Inc - 2018 REVISED.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:038 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street asked that ORD-18:038 be held at three readings.

Placed on second reading

[ORD-18:039](#) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL, R-2 TO DOWNTOWN CORE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, C-1 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 415 E. OAK/CITIZEN/E. CHERRY - COBB/E. OAK AS REQUESTED BY TED HERGET

Attachments: [Application.pdf](#)
[Staff Summary for City Council.pdf](#)
[Plat.PDF](#)
[Cherry and Cobb - Marketing Site Plan.pdf](#)
[Property Owner Notification.pdf](#)
[USPS Receipts.pdf](#)
[AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:039 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore asked if that was another unanimous vote by MAPC. Councilmember Joe Hafner said it was 8-0. Mayor Perrin agreed and asked if Ted Herget would come and speak about it. Mayor Perrin said one of the things on here, if I am correct on this, it was an 8-0 vote and this is 1.1 acres in all of this location. I believe this would be Patio/Townhouse homes. Is this assisting us in that Earl Bell and all that development in there? It is cleaning all of that side up on it.

Ted Herget, 230 S. Main, said it is mimicking what we did across the street. Mayor Perrin said that it joins us. Mr. Herget said yes. Mayor Perrin said that it is cleaning that up and that is good.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to suspend the rules and waive the second reading and hold it there. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore said that is really nice what you have built down on that corner Mr. Herget. Mayor Perrin said we are real proud of that. Councilmember Moore said it is fabulous down there. Mr. Herget said thank you. Mayor Perrin said you have some good plans for that. Thank you Mr. Herget.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Moore, seconded by Councilperson John Street, that this matter be Waived Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 4 - Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-18:026](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 62-40 and 62-41 OF THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF MODIFYING THE DEFINITIONS TO INCLUDE AND LEVYING A TAX UPON RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS RENTALS

Attachments: [ORD 18-026 Revision.docx](#)

Councilmember John Street asked that ORD-18:026 be held at the second reading.

Doug Gilmore, 117 W. Oak, said he does not own an Airbnb, but he has stayed in a lot of them in Salt Lake, or Austin, or Nashville. It is a great opportunity for people to do business one on one. I know some cities are imposing taxes on that. I feel like I think that is somewhat of a disgrace, but cities do what they do. At this point, in Jonesboro, I know we have between 20-50 that people rent out through Airbnb. I know that I have talked to some Councilmembers about issues that they have had about parking or whether it is noise or whatever, but let me tell you, if I have got a parking issue on Oak that gets in my way of me living my life or noise or an argument or whatever, I know the people to call. You call JPD and they respond quickly and they take care of the issue. I don't think we need additional ordinances or zoning for people to lease their home as a form of either primary income or secondary income. I know people who own primary properties, that is all they do in bigger cities, but they also pay property taxes where they are due. They pay other taxes. Renting from someone is kind of like ebay. Has anybody bought anything on ebay? Have you had to pay sales tax on ebay from an individual? Not a bit, yet. I am sure our state will find a way. They always do. Mayor Perrin said I hope they do. Councilmember Street said I hope they do too. Mr. Gilmore said that is where we are going to disagree Mayor. If I buy something from you on ebay, the state has no right to levy a tax on that purchase. That is like me buying anything from anybody. What business is it of theirs that you tax it. Now, as a business owner, as someone who does business, yes. Yes, you must pay taxes. If you are buying it from a company, and I know with Amazon, they are working that all out, but that is my opinion and I do digress. I am now talking about Airbnb. I would like for this body to choose not to tax and also not to heavily regulate people who want to rent their houses to other individuals. That is all, thank you all. Mayor Perrin said thank you.

Marvin Jumper, 813 Somerset Lane, said he has a question. Does our Bill of Assurances mean anything at all? I mean is it more of a gentleman's agreement? In our neighborhood, which all of the houses are over \$250,000 and up, no rentals. In one of the sentences in the Bill of Assurances it says no building or structure shall ever be used as a business office or for any commercial purpose whatsoever. Under another, it says, nuisance, no offensive activity shall be carried on upon any lot nor shall anything be done thereon which may become a nuisance to the neighborhood. When you get six or seven cars parking in an area that becomes a nuisance. It shouldn't be up to the neighbors to call the police all of the time to take care of this. This is a residential area and if you start taxing that you are making commercial out of it. To me, that is the same thing as a hotel/motel. If they want to stay a night, go out to a motel in a business area and spend the night there. I don't think it should be in a residential area. I hope you all can see that. If not, I hope one of them comes next to you soon. Councilmember David McClain stated that Mr. Jumper said, does the HOA mean anything? Councilmember McClain asked will you explain how the HOA is between the homeowners and the HOA. It is not between us and the HOA. Assistant City Attorney Jessica Coleman said yes. Mr. Jumper said that this is not an HOA, it is a Bill of Assurance when you buy the property. Ms. Coleman said a Bill of Assurance is not something that the City of Jonesboro can take action on. It is not that it doesn't mean anything. It is what private citizens can take action on. Mr. Jumper said I know it. It is a gentleman's agreement more or less. Ms. Coleman said you would have to go through civil means. Councilmember McClain said you would have to go that way. Mr. Jumper said you all want to levy a tax on it and make it legal for them to do this. Councilmember Charles Frierson said we are not talking about a tax. We are talking about enforcing the provisions of your Bill of Assurance. You can enforce that by the other owners of that property in that area coming to court and enforcing it. It is not a legal crime that the city can handle. It is all between the local owners of property in that association. Some of them expire after 25 years. Mr. Jumper said his Bill of Assurance is until 2045.

Councilmember John Street moved that we hold it there. Mayor Perrin said that we would hold it there at the second reading.

Held at second reading

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-18:023](#)

AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AMEND THE 2018 BUDGET AND PURCHASE PROPERTY LOCATED ADJACENT TO CRAIGHEAD FOREST PARK

Councilmember Joe Hafner said this is one of the ordinances that Councilmember Bobby Long wanted us to hold. Several weeks back, we already approved the purchase. Mayor Perrin said that is correct. Councilmember Hafner said he didn't know what the intent is in holding it right now.

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

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 4 - Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:024](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON A ROAD RIGHT OF WAY BETWEEN

THE STREETS OF WEST WASHINGTON SPUR AND WEST WASHINGTON AVENUE IN CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

Attachments: [Farmer Public Hearing.pdf](#)
[Farmer Resolution.pdf](#)
[Farmer Ordinance.pdf](#)
[Plat.pdf](#)
[Engineering and Planning Letter](#)
[Utility Letters.pdf](#)

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

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 4 - Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:025](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 17:079 TO ALLOW FOR THE ADOPTION OF A REGULATED FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT BY RESOLUTION

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

Aye: 8 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 4 - Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Perrin reported on the following items:

I want to direct you to my left or to the right. I wanted to cover a few things with you tonight. The City of Jonesboro and the Chamber of Commerce applied about three or four weeks ago to the governor's office. He had 85 places he could designate opportunity zones out of I believe 400. The city applied for three and we were very gracious to get three. We have smaller copies for any resident who would like to get those. That would be great. I gave a copy to each of our Councilmembers tonight. Basically, the pink, the small area is for the Downtown Revitalization. The second in the blue is the Jonesboro, Greensboro, and ASU area. The big large green is for the industrial park which gives some incentives for capital gains on investment for people who want to come into the areas to create economic development. If you would like to have a copy of that, just let me know or send an email. We will be glad to scan and send you a copy of that. I think Little Rock was the only one that got four designated opportunity zones and we got three.

This weekend, we have a baseball tournament that has over 171 teams. This will be the largest tournament we have ever had in baseball. We will be playing on 26 fields and these are ages 14 & over. We will be using Joe Mack Campbell Park, Southside Softball Complex, Valley View as well as Nettleton Schools. The astroturf attracted a lot of these kids. They are coming in from Conway, Little Rock, Fort Smith, and all over the state of Arkansas. It is really going to be full. From my understanding, all

hotels are full here in Jonesboro as well as Paragould and Trumann.

Our Community Development Block Grant last year got \$583,991. This next year, we were allocated and approved for \$622,310. This money goes to a Citizens Advisory Board. The advisory board looks at rehabilitation, demolition, or anything that is needed for low and moderate income areas. There are programs within the City of Jonesboro. We are very pleased to get that.

The Grants Department so far this year through the end of April have applied for \$7,939,780 worth of grants already this year and we hope we can get some of those grants.

I want to talk about mosquito control. I did speak with Jim Stark with Vector Mosquito Control last week. It looks like we are going to have a later mosquito season coming into Jonesboro. They are going to spray all of the parks before Memorial Day weekend. Any citizens that need any individual spraying, please feel free to call their number and they would be happy to do that. We want to try to get ahead of the mosquito problem.

Our sales tax for the City of Jonesboro for the first four months of this year is down \$164,643 which is 1.53%. To budget what we have budgeted, we are down \$160,544.37. We called the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration in Little Rock to try to get some data on this to make sure why this is down. One of the things was that Frito-Lay used their cashback incentive and filed for fiscal years 2015, 2016, 2017. It also goes back to the deal that we just mentioned a while ago, of that \$164,000, it is estimated that about \$118,000-\$119,000 of that is because we do not have a tax on internet sales. The only thing I am saying here is that if this continues with our sales tax going down, our state turnback is going down, then, at the end of June, I have no option but to look at that and work with our CFO and see. We may have to cut projects. We may have to have some layoffs. I don't know. We are going to have to have a balanced budget. The first four months of this year is not what I wanted it to be. It is certainly not what you and I sitting out in the audience want it to be. As the Mayor, we have to have a balanced budget in the City of Jonesboro. We are not by ourselves. Little Rock is down 4%. This effect of this tax is really coming down hard on the local levels. The Supreme Court is taking up the issue of internet sales tax collection now. They will be ruling on that soon. I just wanted to give you a head's up on that.

Last week, Community Development Director Tiffny Calloway took the Rockefeller Foundation board members and the president to Detroit to look at all of the revitalization that has been done there since all of the automobile industries moved out of Detroit. During that trip, there were two projects that we want to do here in Jonesboro. The Rockefeller Foundation and their members say they would love to help support that and fund that. I will give you an update on this as time goes on. That is going to be two good programs for Jonesboro if, in fact, the Rockefeller Foundation votes on that. We will be visiting with them in Little Rock quite often on these projects.

Also, this Saturday at Turtle Creek Mall, E911 Director Jeff Presley reminded me that the Child Safety Morgan Nick program will be out at the mall for the kids for identification and things of that nature from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. So, if you have any small children, grandkids that would like to go out there, it is a good program.

On condemnations through April, we have 20 active and we are looking at 15 other which is a total of 35 on condemnations.

Also, next week, JETS starts offering discounted fares for children. During the summer, we always lower the rides for our children to get through town and around town. They will only have to pay \$0.25 for a ride or they can buy a season ticket for the whole summer for \$10. That is a good thing. We will be advertising that and getting it out on Facebook and the website.

I received a nice note from Judy Casteel, who is the president of Scenic Hills Association, and she said they must be trashy people, but let me clear that up real quick. We had our cleanup last week. She bragged a lot about Councilmember David McClain. We cleared out 9.9 tons in Scenic Hills. I think that is really good. She also commented on the Police Department and a lot of those. Councilmember Chris Moore said the West End Association cleanup is this weekend. Mayor Perrin said 9.9 tons is a lot of stuff. I think Judy told me that they found enough tires to fit all of our police cars for the City of Jonesboro. Judy, thank you. We love these associations. You are our eyes and our ears. You work with us. We are fortunate to have the Fairview Association, West End Association, Scenic Hills Association, and the North Jonesboro Association. They all participate and they all help us. I mean that sincerely.

The City of Jonesboro is working right now with CWL and the Downtown Association on a lighting study. I just talked to Jake at CWL. Hopefully, next week that will be done. It is for lighting, probably in LED, in the parking lots of downtown Jonesboro, as well as some of these alleys. It addresses safety issues of poor lighting for people who come downtown. I am real pleased with that. Ted Herget helped get us together and helped us do that. We appreciate that. We will be giving a much more in-depth update on that.

The Land Bank board will meet this Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. It is the first meeting. It is to help get them organized and to elect a chairman. I have given our councilmembers a book that will be given to all of the members. It includes the bylaws and how that will operate. The entire purpose of the Land Bank is to take blighted area properties, to turn that over and to get new homes on there, to put it back on the tax books and to give someone a new and safe home. That is what it really is all about. I commend that. I know I visited with Habitat for Humanity and that would be something that would be great for them. If we had 2-3 acres that was brought into this Land Bank, we could, in turn, give that back to Habitat. They could go through and get funding from any source that they go through, the Federal Land Bank or anything like that and they can start building new homes and give those to people who are in dire need of a home to live in. I am real excited about that and getting that going.

[COM-18:032](#) Opportunity Zones Map

Attachments: [Opportunity Zones.pdf](#)

Filed

[COM-18:029](#) MARCH 2018 FINANCIALS

Attachments: [03-2018 Sales tax.pdf](#)
[03-2018 State Turnback Report.pdf](#)
[2018 March Franchise tax report .pdf](#)
[March 2018 Deposit Collateralization.pdf](#)
[March 2018 Expenditure Report.pdf](#)
[March 2018 Hotel Tax .pdf](#)
[March 2018 Hotel Tax Comparison.pdf](#)
[March 2018 Revenue Report.pdf](#)
[March 2018 Revenues, Expenditures, and Fund balances.pdf](#)
[Required Reserves March 2018.pdf](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

NOTE: Councilmember Gene Vance left the City Council meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Councilmember John Street said you covered that real well. I would add one major thing that the Land Bank does is that it encourages revitalization of areas that are on the decline. I know that has been one of the big factors that has helped Little Rock with theirs. Building new homes or making those lots available has encouraged developers to purchase lots in those areas and they have actually incurred quite a bit of revitalization. So, that is another plus for that.

The only other thing is that as you know, we had the MPO meeting today in Bono. It was a very good meeting. We talked about this at the Public Safety meeting awhile ago, the STEP Innovation Study. Several years ago, we tried to get some crosswalk medians on Johnson Avenue. The Arkansas Highway Department wasn't for it because of the safety issues. You heard Brad Smithee, the District 10 Engineer today. They still don't favor crossing in mid-block, but people are doing it anyway. This test that they are going to do is a great opportunity for us to get some temporary medians and crosswalks to actually see whether it will be effective. If it is effective and if it will substantiate it, it would turn those into permanent medians and crosswalks. But, there is only us with two on Johnson and one on North Church and Little Rock with the road on Cantrell. Those are the only ones involved in this study. We are very fortunate to be selected for that. Since the Federal Highway Administration came out supporting these, ARDot changed their mind and they are looking at it again, so hopefully, we will get those. We have the study from the last time and it is still valid for the crossings. We have had several fatalities on Johnson, so I think it is very much needed. This will actually serve to justify a permanent crossing in some of those areas and make it safer for folks.

In addition, the Transit Development Study was signed and that is encouraging news because as you know, we have tried to connect outside agencies with JETS and move people from the county into the city at the station and get them around Jonesboro and get them back out. So, hopefully, that will pay some dividends.

Brad Smithee, our District 10 Engineer, said the Highway Department funds are scarce. A lot of the projects in our STIP have been moved back. It is not that they are not going to be done, but I guess it is the flow of cash that we talked about. Some of our improvements that we have been working on and Mark Nichols in Engineering has been working on for a while have been moved from 2018 to 2019 and 2019 to 2020. They are still going to be done, but they are just pushed back because of the funding.

The bids will be let, but they will be just a little later than we had hoped they would be. He said that there are some Arkansas Highways that may actually go back to gravel. We heard him say that today. He said he can't believe that existing paved roads will actually have to go back to gravel. He said we don't have any in our area, but some areas of the state will. So, with a public/private partnership, like we entered into with them for our STIP projects, is going to be the wave of the future. I know some people think we shouldn't contribute any funds on a state highway, but if we don't, we will get no money. That is just the way that it is. The projects that we have, \$120 million worth of road projects in the STIP, the city contributed \$7.8 million. We approved that, but without that, we wouldn't have gotten that money. It would have gone to somebody who would participate. So, public/private partnerships are necessary. The Highway Department is involved in the same thing. If they don't contribute money on federal highways, then they won't get any money from the Federal Highway Administration. It is just a shortage of funds from the federal level all the way down. Nobody likes to pay any more taxes, but they are going to have to be funded some way or like Brad Smithee said, we will be back on gravel. It is all we can do to maintain the highway structure we have now, but the needs of the infrastructure are only going to get worse as we grow. There is no way to stop growth so it is just something to think about.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson said earlier at the Public Safety Committee meeting, we met and Councilmember John Street kind of hit on the urgency for the resolution that was brought before us tonight concerning pedestrian safety on high traffic areas and uncontrolled crossings. Public Safety made a motion to go ahead and bring this to full council tonight. I would like to suspend the rules and bring RES-18:065 up for consideration. Councilmember Chris Moore seconded the motion.

City Clerk Donna Jackson said as a point of order, Councilmember Gene Vance left at about 6:00 p.m. so you only have seven members which means the Mayor will have to vote to suspend the rules. Ms. Jackson said that you have to have eight to suspend the rules.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and walk on RES-18:065. All voted aye. Since there were no longer eight councilmembers in attendance, Mayor Harold Perrin had to vote. He voted aye.

[RES-18:065](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STEP INNOVATION CORRIDOR STUDIES PROJECT

Attachments: [AHTD Minute Order .pdf](#)
[NARTPC Resolution.pdf](#)
[STEP-STIC-NARTPCJonesboro.Agr-revised 03.29.18.pdf](#)
[City Attorney Email Response 05182018.pdf](#)

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and walk on RES-18:065. All voted aye. Since there were no longer eight councilmembers in attendance, Mayor Harold Perrin had to vote. He voted aye.

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

Aye: 7 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 5 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

Councilmember Joe Hafner said we had a special called Finance and Administration Committee meeting tonight and I am asking that we suspend the rules and walk on RES-18:080. Councilmember John Street seconded the motion. Since there were no longer eight councilmembers in attendance, Mayor Harold Perrin had to vote. He voted aye.

Councilmember Hafner said he would like to make a quick comment. This is a budgeted item. We are asking the Chamber to come and make quarterly reports for the items that are listed in the contract so the council will be updated on a regular basis. Thank you.

[RES-18:080](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH NORTHEAST ARKANSAS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (NEAIDC) FOR FUNDING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES.

Attachments: [NEAIDC Contract - 2018](#)

Councilmember Joe Hafner motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to suspend the rules and walk on RES-18:080. All voted aye. Since there were no longer eight councilmembers in attendance, Mayor Harold Perrin had to vote. He voted aye.

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

Aye: 7 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 5 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

Councilmember Joe Hafner said the pump track at Craighead Forest Park is up and going. I was out there Saturday, not doing the pump track, but there were a lot of people using it. It looked like a good time. It was families, kids, teenagers, college students, dads. So, I think it is going to be a great addition to the park. Also, on Thursday at 10:30 a.m., is the groundbreaking for the ASU Hotel Convention Center. It looks like they are making good progress on that.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 7 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Joe Hafner and David McClain

Absent: 5 - Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long and LJ Bryant

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk