



City of Jonesboro

900 West Monroe
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes - Draft Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, May 28, 2013

4:30 PM

Huntington Building

1. Call To Order

Mayor Perrin was also in attendance.

Present 3 - Ann Williams; John Street and Mikel Fears

Absent 2 - Darrel Dover and Charles Coleman

2. Approval of minutes

MIN-13:036 Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on May 1, 2013

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Mikel Fears, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED by a unanimous vote

Aye: 2 - John Street and Mikel Fears

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Charles Coleman

3. New Business

Ordinances To Be Introduced

ORD-13:019 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2012 BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Sponsors: Finance

Chief Financial Officer Ben Barylske explained the cost for the Police and Fire Departments are for the LOPFI Retirement Insurance cost. He added the State of Arkansas collects money for this program and then gives the City a credit. He further explained the City use to receive the funds and then send the money back to the State, but the State decided to keep the funds and give out the credit.

Discussion was held concerning what the other funds were from.

Mr. Barylske explained it is the Attorney General's opinion that the committee can be notified of the cleanup ordinance after the fact, but it is the City's policy to notify the committee of the cleanup ordinance before the fact. He added the items listed in this ordinance were discussed throughout the year.

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Mikel Fears, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED by a unanimous vote

Aye: 2 - John Street and Mikel Fears

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Charles Coleman

Resolutions To Be Introduced

RES-13:068 A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXECUTION AND MAINTENANCE OF A LETTER OF CREDIT TO BE ISSUED TO THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (ADEQ)

Sponsors: Engineering and Finance

Attachments: [Letter of Credit](#)

Mr. Barylske stated the City does this every year and will have to continue to do it every year until the landfill is permanently closed.

Councilman Street asked if the City has received an update on the landfill. Mayor Perrin answered no, but the City monitors the wells and once the level of the wells reach the satisfied amount then the City can apply for a permit to close the landfill.

Councilman Fears asked if the City will ever be out from under the landfill. Mayor Perrin answered the City will eventually be able to get away from the landfill, but he can't say when that will be.

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Mikel Fears, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED by a unanimous vote

Aye: 2 - John Street and Mikel Fears

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Charles Coleman

RES-13:073 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF MUNICIPAL DOCUMENTS

Sponsors: Finance

Attachments: [Destruction of records 2013](#)

Mr. Barylske explained by law the City has to complete an affidavit and show the Council what the City wants to destroy. He added the City has a lot of old records and didn't want to move them to the new building.

Councilman Street asked if the City contacted a shredding company. Mr. Barylske answered he contacted two companies and E-911 Director Jeff Presley is working with the KFIN radio station, who might do the shredding for free. He added an employee of the City and a council member have to witness the records being destroyed.

Mayor Perrin noted he asked if the City would be allowed to burn the documents in the incinerator, but he was told no. He then asked when the City expects to destroy these documents. Mr. Barylske answered as soon as it is passed by Council.

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Mikel Fears, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED by a unanimous vote

Aye: 2 - John Street and Mikel Fears

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Charles Coleman

RES-13:079 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CITY SALARY & ADMINISTRATION PLAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A DIGITAL MEDIA SPECIALISTS

Sponsors: Information Systems

Attachments: [Digital Media Specialists](#)

Councilwoman Williams noted this is replacing Jack Turner who recently quit.

Mayor Perrin explained the title for this position was changed and the grade has been lowered. He added the reason the title was changed is because the person who is hired for this position will be primarily responsible for the filming when the City goes to an event, but the person will not be doing the interviewing because KAIT will be doing the interviewing. He stated the minimum pay is \$33,827, but the gentleman who is being hired has agreed to be paid \$33,500.

Mr. Barylske explained the IT Department and Payroll Specialist Christy Wall will be able to handle some of the other duties.

Councilman Fears asked if the salary is being lowered. Mayor Perrin answered yes because it is a new position and the previous position was graded higher than this position.

A motion was made by Councilman Mikel Fears, seconded by Councilman John Street, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED by a unanimous vote

Aye: 2 - John Street and Mikel Fears

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Charles Coleman

4. Pending Items

5. Other Business

Mike Camerson to discuss the highway sales tax adopted in November

Mike Cameron explained that he spoke with the MPO about a grant the City had asked for from the Highway Department, but the Highway Department was not on board to get I-555 finished.

Discussion was held concerning how much funding the Northwest part of the State has received.

Mr. Cameron explained that on July 1 the ½ cent sales tax will go into effect and 70% of the funds will go towards retired bonds that the Highway Commission will sale to build highways in the state, but I-555 was not on the list. He added it would only take

\$13.8 million to finish I-555.

Mr. Cameron recommended the City hire a consultant who can determine what the impact will have on Jonesboro by not having an interstate. He added he estimates that the City will lose approximately \$128 million over the next 10 years. He noted former Arkansas State Representative Marion Berry emailed a former mayor and told him that \$60 million dollars were available for I-555. He added \$48 million has already been spent on other projects and none of it was spent on I-555.

Discussion was held concerning a Highway Commissioner. He noted the Highway Commission has not released any funds for I-555.

Councilman Fears asked what the City could do to help get funding for I-555. Mr. Cameron answered there is really nothing anyone can do because of Amendment 42. He added if a Highway Commissioner does not want I-555 then it will not happen, but maybe the next commissioner will.

Councilman Fears then asked if the City is stuck until the State gets a new commissioner. Mayor Perrin answered yes. He added the environmental study has been done. He noted the contract between the Highway Department and an engineering firm for the design has not been signed, but the minute order has been passed. Discussion was then held concerning the Tiger Grant.

Councilman Fears explained the City is paying the extra sales tax money, but the City sees no benefit. Mr. Cameron agreed.

Councilman Fears then inquired about Highway 226 between Cash and Jonesboro. Mayor Perrin answered that road has been fully funded by the Highway Department. Mr. Cameron stated that project was not funded by the Highway Department.

Councilman Moore asked if the Mayor, Council members and other individuals from the City talked to the Highway Commission if the City would get somewhere. Mr. Cameron answered he does not know, but he will be willing to go. Councilman Moore explained the City does not have a financial or engineering problem, but a political problem. Mr. Cameron stated he believes the Mayor does not want to be confrontational with the Highway Department due to the City having to work with the Highway Department on a daily basis. Mayor Perrin added the City is currently working on 25 projects with the Highway Department. Mr. Cameron asked who is paying for those projects. Mayor Perrin answered the City is paying the majority of the funds. Mayor Perrin noted the Highway Department is paying for the milling and asphalt on some of the projects and for that reason you have to be careful how you deal with them.

Discussion was held concerning the projects near Pine Bluff.

Mr. Cameron noted that I-555 could be designated today, but it would put the farmers near Payneway at a huge disadvantage and nobody wants to do that.

6. Public Comments

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Mikel Fears, that this meeting be Adjourned. The motion CARRIED by a Voice

Vote.

Aye: 2 - John Street and Mikel Fears

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Charles Coleman