



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

5:30 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

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

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR HAROLD COPENHAVER AT 5:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL (ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE) INITIATED AND CONFIRMED BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Present 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-24:039](#) PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING MANUFACTURING DAY 2024

Read

[COM-24:051](#) PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF AMBER KNOWLTON, HONORING HER DEDICATION TO INCREASING ELECTION ACCESS FOR ALL

Read

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Chris Moore asked that RES-24:129 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Brian Emison, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

[MIN-24:093](#) MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 3, 2024

Attachments: [CC Minutes 10032024](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

[RES-24:116](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 215 PECAN, PARCEL 01-144074-16800, OWNED BY AMIT CHAWLA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Attachments: [1. 215 Pecan Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 215 Pecan Billing Request](#)
 [3. 215 Pecan Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 215 Pecan Council Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-113-2024

[RES-24:117](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 212 PECAN, PARCEL 01-144074-08400, OWNED BY AMIT CHAWLA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Attachments: [1. 212 Pecan Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 212 Pecan Billing Request](#)
 [3. 212 Pecan Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 212 Pecan Council Notice](#)
 [212 Pecan New Council Date Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-114-2024

[RES-24:118](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 204 & 206 OLIVE, PARCEL 01-143134-20700, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$335

Attachments: [1. 204 & 206 Olive Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 204 & 206 Olive Biling Request](#)
 [3. 204 & 206 Olive Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 204 & 206 Olive Council Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-115-2024

[RES-24:120](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 218 SOUTH CULBERHOUSE, PARCEL 01-144183-18600, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

- Attachments:**
- [1. 218 S Culberhouse Notice of Violation](#)
 - [2. 218 S Culberhouse Billing Request](#)
 - [3. 218 S Culberhouse Mowing Invoice](#)
 - [4. 218 S Culberhouse Council Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-116-2024

[RES-24:121](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 221 SOUTH CULBERHOUSE, PARCEL 01-143134-20200, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

- Attachments:**
- [1. 221 S Culberhouse Notice of Violation](#)
 - [2. 221 S Culberhouse Billing Request](#)
 - [3. 221 S Culberhouse Mowing Invoice](#)
 - [4. 221 S Culberhouse Council Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-117-2024

[RES-24:122](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 227 SOUTH CULBERHOUSE, PARCEL 01-143134-19600, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

- Attachments:**
- [1. 227 S Culberhouse Notice of Violation](#)
 - [2. 227 S Culberhouse Billing Request](#)
 - [3. 227 S Culberhouse Mowing Invoice](#)
 - [4. 227 S Culberhouse Council Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-118-2024

[RES-24:123](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 308 EAST ALLEN AVENUE, PARCEL 01-144181-22600, OWNED BY SPENCER WILLIAM MONROE OR BETTY SPENCER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

- Attachments:**
- [1. 308 E Allen Ave Notice of Violation](#)
 - [2. 308 E Allen Billing Request](#)
 - [3. 308 E Allen Mowing Invoice](#)
 - [4. 308 E Allen Council Notice](#)
 - [308 E Allen Ave New Council Date Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-119-2024

[RES-24:124](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 405 NORTH ROGERS

STREET, PARCEL 01-144172-09200, OWNED BY AMIT CHAWLA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Attachments: [1. 405 N Rogers St Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 405 N Rogers St Billing Request](#)
 [3. 405 N Rogers Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 405 N Rogers Council Notice](#)
 [405 N Rogers New Council Date Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-120-2024

[RES-24:125](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 642 WEST MATTHEWS AVENUE, PARCEL 01-144183-14600, OWNED BY MICHAEL J SUTHERLAND SMITH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Attachments: [1. 642 W Matthews Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 642 W Matthews Billing Request](#)
 [3. 642 W Matthews Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 642 W Matthews Council Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-121-2024

[RES-24:126](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 725 BURKE, PARCEL 01-143134-20600, OWNED BY WPE, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Attachments: [1. 725 Burke Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 725 Burke Billing Request](#)
 [3. 725 Burke Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 725 Burke Council Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-122-2024

[RES-24:127](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 735 WEST OAK, PARCEL 01-143241-07800, OWNED BY MICHELLE ELLINGTON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$315

Attachments: [1. 735 W Oak Notice of Violation](#)
 [2. 735 W Oak Billing Request](#)
 [3. 735 W Oak Mowing Invoice](#)
 [4. 735 W Oak Council Notice](#)
 [735 W Oak New Council Date Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-123-2024

[RES-24:128](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 900 HOOVER, PARCEL 01-144181-15700, OWNED BY CLEOPHUS BRYANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,460.46

Attachments: 1. [900 Hoover Notice of Violation](#)
 2. [900 Hoover Billing Request](#)
 3. [900 Hoover Demolition invoice](#)
 4. [900 Hoover Council Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-124-2024

[RES-24:130](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1617 RICH ROAD, PARCEL 01-143252-25000, OWNED BY RANDOLPH & JUDITH REYNOLDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Attachments: 1. [1617 Rich Road Notice of Violation](#)
 2. [1617 Rich Rd Billing Request](#)
 3. [1617 Rich Rd Mowing Invoice](#)
 4. [1617 Rich Rd Council Notice](#)
 [1617 Rich Rd New Council Date Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-125-2024

[RES-24:131](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1620 CINDY CIRCLE, PARCEL 01-143242-27600, OWNED BY JAMES LEMAR DIXON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$365

Attachments: 1. [1620 Cindy Cir Notice of Violation](#)
 2. [1620 Cindy Cir Billing Request](#)
 3. [1620 Cindy Cir Mowing Invoice](#)
 4. [1620 Cindy Cir Council Notice](#)
 [1620 Cindy Cir New Council Date Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-126-2024

[RES-24:132](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1712 NATIONAL DRIVE, PARCEL 01-144223-18200, OWNED BY RODNEY CRANFORD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

- Attachments:**
- [1. 1712 National Notice of Violation](#)
 - [2. 1712 National Billing Request](#)
 - [3. 1712 National Mowing Invoice](#)
 - [4. 1712 National Council Notice](#)
 - [1712 National Dr New Council Notice Date](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-127-2024

[RES-24:133](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1905 BELT, PARCEL 01-144171-12000, OWNED BY BEST FLIPPING FRIENDS, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$315

- Attachments:**
- [1. 1905 Belt Notice of Violation](#)
 - [2. 1905 Belt Billing Request](#)
 - [3. 1905 Belt Mowing Invoice](#)
 - [4. 1905 Belt Council Notice](#)
 - [1905 Belt New Council Date](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-128-2024

[RES-24:134](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2612 CRAWFORD, PARCEL 01-144273-02300, OWNED BY RANDY & ALEY CRAWFORD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

- Attachments:**
- [1. 2612 Crawford Notice of Violation](#)
 - [2. 2612 Crawford Billing Request](#)
 - [3. Crawford Mowing Invoice](#)
 - [4. 2612 Crawford Council Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-129-2024

[RES-24:135](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3806 SCHOOL STREET, PARCEL 01-144272-16500, OWNED BY OLGA HERNANDEZ IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

- Attachments:**
- [1. 3806 School St Notice of Violation](#)
 - [2. 3806 School St Billing Request](#)
 - [3. 3806 School St Mowing Invoice](#)
 - [4. 3806 School St Council Notice](#)
 - [3806 School New Council Date Notice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-130-2024

[RES-24:136](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO LEVY A 1 MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-131-2024

[RES-24:137](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO LEVY A ONE-HALF (.5) MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE LOCAL FIRE PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-132-2024

[RES-24:138](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO LEVY A ONE-HALF (.5) MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE LOCAL POLICE PENSION AND RELIEF FUND

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-133-2024

RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

[RES-24:129](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1500 SALLY LANE, PARCEL 01-144214-15700, OWNED BY ARTHUR RAY OSBORNE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275

Attachments: [1. 1500 Sally Ln Notice of Violation](#)
[2. 1500 Sally Ln Mowing Billing Request](#)
[3. 1500 Sally Ln Mowing Invoice](#)
[4. 1500 Sally Lane Council Notice](#)
[1500 Sally Ln New Council Date Notice](#)

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, that RES-24:129 be postponed indefinitely due to change in ownership. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

[RES-24:091](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 1104 Pratt Circle, Jonesboro, AR 72401: Parcel # 01-144082-12300

Attachments: [1104 Pratt B&S Returned Reg and Cert Letters](#)
[1104 Pratt Boarding and Securing Affidavit](#)
[1104 Pratt Inspection Report](#)
[1104 Pratt Map](#)
[1104 Pratt Pre-Condemnation Notice Affidavit](#)
[1104 Pratt Pre-Condemnation Notice Returned Cert Letter](#)

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

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Enactment No: R-EN-134-2024

[RES-24:108](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 1101 French St. Jonesboro, AR 7240; Parcel # 01-144073-12300; OWNER: Christopher B. Posey

Attachments: [1101 French Inspection Report](#)
[1101 French Map](#)
[1101 French Pre-Condemnation Notice Affidavit](#)
[1101 French Pre-Condemnation Returned Certified Letter](#)
[WIN_20220524_12_10_35_Pro](#)
[WIN_20220524_12_11_33_Pro](#)
[WIN_20220524_12_12_08_Pro](#)
[WIN_20220524_12_12_34_Pro](#)
[WIN_20220524_12_13_09_Pro](#)

Councilmber Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman to postpone temporarily RES-24:108 for 60 days. Councilmember Moore stated Code Enforcement said there has been some progress on that at the last moment.

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

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

[RES-24:115](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 1500 Danny Dr. Jonesboro, AR 72401; Parcel # 01-144214-10600; OWNER: Kevin Lyles

Attachments: [1500 Danny Board & Secure Affidavit](#)
[1500 Danny Board & Secure Returned Certified Letter](#)
[1500 Danny Inspection Report](#)
[1500 Danny Pre-Condemnation Notice Affidavit](#)
[1500 Danny Pre-Condemnation Notice Returned Sig Card](#)
[1500 Danny](#)
[WIN 20230418 15 53 41 Pro](#)
[WIN 20230418 15 53 43 Pro](#)
[WIN 20230418 15 56 37 Pro](#)
[WIN 20230418 15 56 53 Pro](#)
[WIN 20230418 15 57 07 Pro](#)
[WIN 20230418 15 57 18 Pro](#)
[WIN 20230418 15 57 20 Pro](#)

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman to postpone temporarily RES-24:115 for 30 days. Councilmember Moore stated the owner came in and bought a permit this morning to proceed with renovation of that property.

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

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

[RES-24:119](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE JONESBORO CITY COUNCIL TO APPROPRIATE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS AND PARTNER WITH THE ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION COMMISSION FOR OUTDOOR AQUATICS ENHANCEMENTS AT THE JONESBORO SPORTS COMPLEX

Attachments: [Aquatic Pic 1](#)

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Brian Emison, that this matter be Passed The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Enactment No: R-EN-135-2024

[RES-24:140](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE JONESBORO CITY COUNCIL TO APPROPRIATE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS FOR HUMANITARIAN OUTREACH
City Attorney Carol Duncan asked that RES-24:140 be amended to place "of \$500,000" in Section 1 in between appropriation and of. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman motioned, seconded by Councilmember L.J. Bryant to make the amendment suggested by City Attorney Carol Duncan. All voted aye.

Councilmember David McClain said, Mayor, I have a couple of questions. I don't know who wants to answer. I don't know if you want to answer. One of the first questions I had and was just trying to figure out was do we know how many are any in our homeless population or unhoused population, do we know what that number is? Mayor

Copenhaver asked, what is your other question? Councilmember McClain asked, how will we measure, I don't think Jeremy is here. Oh, there he is, okay, I saw him. And, then the other thing is how will we measure success of this grant for giving out the funds. How will we measure the success? I understand they have to submit their receipts and they have to show what they spend money on, but how do we measure that what we are doing is successful and impactful. Grants/CDBG Director Jeremy Biggs said, those are two great questions. I do not have an answer on what the homeless population is. I know that the continuum of care conducts, they are required by HUD nationwide to conduct a point and time county. And, for some reason, HUD always likes to do that in the middle of winter. So, they do that in January, but I don't have the numbers on that. As far as how will we measure success, we will look at the by their programmatic reports, how they are spending the money, how many clients they have served. And, it will be by instance. It will not be a blanket. This is how we are going to measure success. So, if CityYouth comes and asks for funds, we are going to measure how they progressed building on their literacy scores. If HopeFound comes and asks for funding for victims of human trafficking, we are going to monitor how many victims they rescued and helped to turn their lives around and go a different path. So, it will be case by case basis on what they put in their application. They will have to state their goals of what they want to accomplish with that funding and we will follow through just like we do with our CDBG program with quarterly programmatic reports, financial reports, and semi-annual site visits. Councilmember McClain said, the only reason why I asked the population size was I was curious how we came up with \$500,000, if that was enough or is not enough. Mr. Biggs said, well, it is not just for homelessness. Homelessness would be one of it, but it would be over any 501c3 that is certified by the IRS, has a UAI number, is registered with the State of Arkansas and is in good standing with the Secretary of State, has a board of directors, meets regularly, completes that application, and supplies us with a financial review or an audited statement just to show that they are capable of managing that money. But, it would be open to any non-profit organization. Councilmember McClain said, okay, thank you.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, so I supported this in the subcommittee and they had some great explanations with the need and then making sure that we follow up. And, this, from my understanding is the first time we have done this as far as monies are concerned. My question is, I know this is coming from ARPA funds, and if we find that there is more need than supply, how do we, I mean what is our next, what is the contingency, I guess in that regard. Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson said, an interesting part of this and I guess the part that kind of works and we are excited about is that this actually creates a protected account in the city ledger. So, let's say that next year, the City Council chooses to allocate a small portion of a non-tax dollar generated revenue stream to help go into this to build up some additional funding for non-profits or let's say that the city has an external fundraising effort to help put money into this. Now, we can realistically tell somebody that wants to contribute to this program, kind of like we did something similar with other items in the past like the dog park comes to mind where sponsorship dollars went to a protected account so if you have somebody that wanted to support this. This money would now have a home toward it can be guaranteed that any contributions received for the humanitarian fund stays in a dedicated account just for that. So, this kind of creates a perpetual funding account that that really does gives the city some flexibility on supporting some non-profits that really do a good job in this town. They just previously were limited to CDBG funding and maybe special allocations here and there. But, this would really allow the city to better engage with non-profits and to support a lot of the work that they do that previously really hasn't been there before. And, to answer your question, what if they need more? It's not if, it's when. I mean I think that we can always find a home to

support good programs out there and I think it would just be on, you know, Administration, the City Council government to all kind of work together to help bring some extra funds to the table whether that be through some sort of annual efforts, working with other non-profits on maybe some sort of joint fundraising efforts, just a way for the City Council to help participate and provide some structure on some of these allocations of funding for people that want to contribute. You certainly don't want to step on the foot of any other non-profits that do similar things, but I think there are ways if we can all work together for a common shared ground and that's just helping out people who need help.

Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, that's good. A follow-up to that, the reason why I asked is I was thinking that if some of these non-profits and especially with this being the first time are kind of appreciative of this gift and may be needing more in the following years, then kind of, what is our plan in the years to come. Are we going to continue to, you know, appropriate funds in the general funds or whatever, I was just kind of wanting or curious to that because I know a lot of your 501c3's and non-profits they are appreciative of that one time, but they need continued funding and so this is a significant amount for this just one time. So, that's what I was wondering. That's why I asked. Mr. Richardson said, sure, and a lot of non-profits have trouble with being able to retain administrators to help write good grants to get more money. So, being able to contribute to the improvement of the better, a better chance for a non-profit to secure that much needed funding from other sources is certainly, very much a goal.

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, can I suggest an amendment while we are discussing. On Section 1, can we just change that to say the City Council authorizes the appropriation of \$500,000 of American Rescue Plans Act Funding. I think it was probably intended to be there. I just realized it wasn't there. It's in the whereas, but it's not in the, now therefore's which is what the law is. So, if someone would make the motion. Councilmember Dr. Anthony Coleman said, I move that we accept that amended. Ms. Duncan said, it would just be to place the words, "of \$500,000" in between appropriation and of in Section 1. Councilmember L.J. Bryant seconded the motion. All voted aye. Ms. Duncan said, it would be on the amendment, so it would have to be by voice vote.

Councilmember L.J. Bryant said, Mayor, just a comment. I am certainly in favor of this. But, I think in the long term, we just have to be careful not to compete against the United Way. You know, as we think about, we are talking about outside fundraising efforts in the future and I certainly know that non-profits need help, but I think that is something that we need to be mindful of that in the future. Mayor Copenhagen said, just to follow up with that, that is in the major discussion of how we can handle that through the application process as well.

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

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Enactment No: R-EN-136-2024

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-24:028](#) AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

Held at second reading

[ORD-24:029](#) AN ORDINANCE INCREASING THE DEATH BENEFIT AMOUNT PAYABLE TO AN ELIGIBLE SURVIVOR OF A DECEASED MEMBER OF THE JONESBORO LOCAL POLICE PENSION FUND

Attachments: [Local Police and Fire Retirement System](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Brian Emison, to suspend the rules and waive the third reading. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to adopt ORD-24:029. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Brian Emison, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye by voice vote.

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

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Enactment No: O-EN-031-2024

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-24:030](#) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5425 SOUTHWEST DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY BRUNO AZEMI

Attachments: [Application and Questions](#)
[Certified Mail Receipts](#)
[Plat](#)
[Property Owner Notification](#)
[Publication Receipt](#)
[Sign on Site](#)
[Staff Summary](#)
[MAPC Minutes](#)
[Against Rezoning Signature_09172024](#)
[Brunos Restaurant Handout 09172024](#)

Councilmember Janice Porter said, I feel the need to explain to the public my reasoning on this vote. I know and respect many of the homeowners, but integrity requires that my decisions not be affected by my personal feelings concerning the people involved. The following points are of key importance to me: 1) For Jonesboro to be attractive to businessowners, the rezoning process needs to be predictable and consistent. These businesses generate sales taxes which are our primary revenue source; 2) The proposed rezoning will bring this property into alignment with our Future Use Plan; 3) Our Planning Department determined that all criteria for rezoning have been met; 4) At the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission meeting on August 13th, the rezoning request was approved by an 8-0 vote; 5) Arbitrarily choking off development is a poor strategy for dealing with traffic concerns; 6) I see no basis for overturning the unanimous decision of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission. To do so would indicate an unwarranted lack of confidence in our citizens who voluntarily serve on this important committee. Thank you. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you councilmember.

Councilmember John Street said, Mayor, I would echo what Ms. Porter said. I know it seems unfortunate to those in the immediate vicinity, but based on the MAPC's decision, that would have been the place to do it. I would, however, ask that in the site plan approach that great consideration be given to the buffer between them and the adjoining residential property of Mr. Floyd.

Delton Dunn, 4609 Rockport, said, so I use Darr Hill and exit out a lot. And, guys, everyone of you know if you've been down there, it's like a race track. When you come up from Kum 'n Go down, you've got cars stacked ten deep, two wide, sometimes three wide, going through that curve. It is dangerous. If you look at how many wrecks happen at that intersection including the Dollar General just right down the road. This is backed further. People coming into that curve, you're not going to be able to stop in time when people are trying to make a quit stop. This is a disaster. That's just on the safety side. I came in late. Chris, I don't know you, but I heard you mention earlier about engineering out hazards for building or something. You cannot engineer out this hazard once you install it. The only way you are going to engineer it out is by not implementing it. You've got to keep kids safe. I understand business wanting to come to Valley View. I know you want to bring it in. That's great. Valley View is growing. I live there. But, Mayor, I have seen you at LaCasada. You know as well as I do when you jump off Darr Hill and try to go down through there, you've got to be in the left hand lane and jump in that center turning lane or you are going to get run over. When you go down 49 there, that's the large trucks getting out of town. And, just like I said earlier, when you have got all of this traffic, when you've got those large trucks, large trucks are not going to be able to stop. When people do that quick stop after that light, guys, you've got to Talladega wreck disaster on your hands all of the time. It don't matter how much tax money you bring in here, you've got lives that you are going to be hurting.

We've got kids from Valley View that are going to be running over there. We know that. That's what they are going to do. We are going to ask the most inexperienced drivers in this town to leave that piece of pizzeria or whatever it's going to be, cross four lanes of traffic to get back to school. We are going to have impacts. Side impacts. Your kids, my kids, your grandkids. I don't care how much tax money you bring in, you will not replace these kids lives. That's not going to be one, it's going to be multiple. We are going to have our Fire Department, our JPD, JPD has been a big discussion these last few days. We cannot do this. Just on the safety side. And, then I see that we got residential like land zoning or spot zoning. I know that Tommy and Steve, they didn't pour their live savings into all of this property down here to lose it to Pizzerias and everything else. This is residential. I'm asking you please, leave it as a residential. Just on the safety end, the spot zoning. And, I disagree with a lot of the comments of I understand why you read them, but that's no reason. Y'all would not vote for it and put it in front of your house, next to your house, or your family members house. And, don't do it to these people. Thank you. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you for your comments.

Steve Floyd, 5421 Southwest Drive, said, my sister and her husband are both here also. They live at 5427 Southwest Drive. Like I said at the last couple of meetings. We own property on all three sides of this property. There is 13 acres north of us, but it is all residential. If that's not spot zoning, then I don't guess I know what spot zoning is. I've talked to several developers here in town. They tell me it is spot zoning, but I guess that will be decided tonight. Like Delton said, traffic is terrible down there now and it is going to be worse with this. And, you are going to have a liquor license with this restaurant. Mr. Azemi has already told me that. We all know that somebody that drinks alcohol and then gets behind the steering wheel is not good. We've got all of the Valley View kids there. Put that into the equation, it is a disaster. I understand what Ms. Porter said. I am all for businesses coming to town. I'm all for tax money and everything being great in Jonesboro. You know, my family has owned that property since the 1940's. I wonder how much taxes we have paid to Jonesboro and Craighead County, a lot. I just paid them the other day. It hurt the checking account, let me tell you. But, even besides that, I hear city government all of the time preach quality of life in Jonesboro. Well, if this isn't a quality of life issue, I don't know what is. Would any of y'all want this close to your house? I mean honestly. I don't think you would. And, if you don't want it next to your house, why is it okay to be next to mine? There is commercial property up and down Southwest Drive that is available right now. It is already zoned for this. So, why cause this problem and hurt property owners that have been there for years when all he has to do is go a few blocks down the road and make an offer. They are wanting to sell it. It wouldn't even have to go through the rezoning issue. It's already rezoned. And, something that I thought about the other day and I actually asked L.J. this question the other night at the Tea Party meeting. He was there. Do you think when you vote on a rezoning, do you consider what if Mr. Azemi's finances don't come through and this is void and that's an issue that could happen. But, this is already rezoned. That opens it up to mini storages. It opens it up to food trucks. It opens it up to anything. This could be a disaster. But, your vote tonight is going to decide that. And, I will end this like I have every other time I have talked, just put yourself in our place. Would you want this next to your house? I don't think you would. Thank you. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you for your comments.

Mary Tucker, 5321 Darr Hill, said, we feel like the land is to be used in a completely different fashion than the surrounding land. For the benefit of the landowner and the disadvantage of the nearby and adjacent landowners, we oppose the rezoning and appreciate your consideration of long time Jonesboro residents that live here, work here, pay taxes here. We've heard the phrase over and again about quality of life, a lot.

And, I ask you to respect our opposition to this rezoning request. I am all about industry coming to Jonesboro or people moving to Jonesboro, but we really don't want to be the next hilltop either. That's another day. But, I have voiced my opinion to the MAPC. I was unfortunately out of town with a sick family member. So, they heard from me on that, but I feel like if I had been there, it would have been different. Please reconsider.

Richard Tucker, 5321 Darr Hill, said, Mary's is my wife and Steve and Delton brought up good points. I haven't talked a whole lot about this rezoning, but we do talk a lot about quality of life as they said. And, if this rezoning is allowed to proceed tonight, there is going to be a major quality of life changes. And, unfortunately, it is going to be an unquality of life. No one wants an eating establishment that sells liquor. And, based on the exact location of the property, that building could be a 100 feet from my property line. No one wants that. We don't want the noise. We don't want the stench. We don't want everything that brings into play. Quality of life, Quality of life. If that is allowed to proceed tonight, there is going to be some folks that are not going to have a very good quality of life. And, I ask that you oppose the rezoning. And, I thank you very much. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you Mr. Tucker.

Mike Cone, Counsel for Mr. Azemi, said, I would just like to address a couple of issues here with respect to the rezoning. As Ms. Porter and Mr. Street identified that MAPC looked at this issue, your staff looked at this issue, and unanimously 8-0 approved this rezoning. I certainly understand the adjacent owners. Mr. Azemi has actually obtained signatures from 98 area residents who were supportive of this restaurant. So, certainly, we can look at the gentleman and the ladies that have spoken tonight regarding the property, but it is also important to you that you understand there is a Dollar General right next door. There is a mini storage right next door. There are C-3 and C-4 designations that are already there as we are here tonight. In addition, the C-3 General Commercial District is specifically designed for high volume arterial roads which is what Southwest Drive is. So, this rezoning is consistent with Land Use Plan. It is consistent with the planning. And, unfortunately, time does change things and certain areas that may have been primarily one way, now are designed for uniformed development to be in this category. And, so, that is in essence where we are asking you to approve this as recommended unanimously by the MAPC. I want to clarify one other point. There have been several references to alcohol use. That's not before you. That is simply individuals trying to say things that may never come to be. So, I know you know that, but I just want to remind you of that.

Steve Floyd, 5421 Southwest Drive, said, on the alcohol use Mr. Azemi himself has told me that he was getting a liquor license. And, the 90 something signatures, has that been turned in to Ms. Leggett? City Clerk April Leggett said, no signatures regarding approval have been turned into the City Clerk's office. Mr. Floyd repeated, no it has not. I just thought I would let you know that. Thanks.

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

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Enactment No: O-EN-032-2024

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Copenhaver reported on the following:

I would like to start the Mayor's Comments with some good news, great news as a matter of fact. We found out today that the latest Legislative Audit is finally a clean audit. Big thanks to all of the hardwork and our staff goes into that kind of excellence. I believe you were emailed a copy, but there is also one available on Legistar.

There have been a lot of fun and heartwarming and even unusual events in our community recently. But, if you have never observed or taken part in the Renaissance Fair, I can tell you it is something that is interesting to see. Costumes, armored Knights, Jousting, and all around fun. Ruled at the land of Craighead Forest Park last week. The Red Wolf Renaissance Fair was a celebration bringing attention to the American Red Wolf with pomp and pleasantries in about 50 booths.

Also, this past weekend, was the United Way Day of Caring. It was this past Friday actually. I'm proud to report that many of our employees helped out the Beck Center for Veterans at Arkansas State University. I think we had, there were a little about 550 volunteers on that Friday. So, it was quite a joyous occasion and I appreciate the work the United Way does in the community and more importantly all of the volunteers that got together that day to help many in the community.

Last week, the Junior Auxiliary presented the city with a big check of \$100,000 to help with the new Disciple Park and we are so pleased and honored by this group's commitment to our community.

Coming up Saturday, is the low cost pet vaccination clinic. It is just \$10 per shot from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Jonesboro Animal Control. Today was the last day to register. But, in addition, the Empty the Shelter has been underway at Animal Control and ends today. It's a sponsored program by Bissell that helps to pay for the adoption fees of animals and to get them spade and neutered, vaccinated, and chipped. Speaking to the need to vaccinate your dog, on October 8th, a case of distemper was discovered in a racoon in Jonesboro which is of course a threat to many animals. Animal Control Director Larry Rogers got the word out quickly to our residents to be aware of the signs and symptoms as well as the only prevention which is distemper vaccination.

The October Neighborhood Cleanup was a huge success at Parker Park Saturday. Nearly 5 tons of trash was taken away and 82 tires. And, what they did, they went around the community with their pickups and picked up many tires, but also the one arm bandit as I call it went around and did that as well. We had a lot of individuals that cannot transport their trash. So, coming around to their homes is so vital and it was a very successful event. We are almost to the point where we were this time last year. So, I think next month we will surpass what we did last year.

JET has started off to launch it's fourth route of their service. We're excited about providing more public transit for Jonesboro.

Coming up is Crowley's Ridge Cruisers Annual Car Show this Saturday at the Miracle League Parking lot.

As we look further into the calendar, there are some spooky fun coming folks. Be ready for the Jonesboro Police Department's Trunk or Treat on October 30, 2024 and the Mayor's Youth Council Boo in the Boro at Union Park on October 31, 2024.

Council, I would also ask, sometimes I don't go into this, but we do have two employees and if I am missing any, I apologize. Kenny Goza is needing our prayers. He is in the Maintenance Department and he truly needs our heartfelt prayers this time. And, then one I would like to mention, many of you have known him for many years, Mike McQuay. I went to see him today at the hospital and I awarded him the Key to the City. Mike needs a miracle. It's up to us to pray for him. Hopefully, God will provide him with that. We would certainly like to have him back to work, wouldn't we? So, let's keep Mike and his family in our prayers.

[COM-24:050](#) AUGUST 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Attachments: [August 2024 Financials](#)

Filed

[COM-24:052](#) Legislative Audit Update - Comments by Mayor Harold Copenhaver

Attachments: [Legislative Audit 2023](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I did go by and see Kenny and Mike at the hospital.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, Mr. Mayor, I did hear you say that the Crowley's Ridge Cruisers Car Show, but don't forget the Wake the Dead Car Show Taco and Taquila Festival at the ASU Parking lot on Saturday also. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you Councilman.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, Public Services had a special called meeting last Thursday and I would like to make a motion to suspend the rules and walk on RES-24:142 and RES-24:143. Councilmember Joe Hafner seconded the motion. All voted aye.

[RES-24:142](#) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, HERITAGE, AND TOURISM AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS

Attachments: [LWCF Contract Page 1](#)
[LWCF Contract Page 2](#)
[Northeast Park CONCEPT-PLAN](#)
[PLN-2167 Cornerstone United Methodist Church Addition Replat of Lot 3A](#)

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-24:142 and RES-24:143. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Joe Hafner, that this matter be Passed. The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Enactment No: R-EN-137-2024

[RES-24:143](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1700 DISCIPLE DRIVE FROM THE PROPERTY OWNER, CORNERSTONE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Attachments: [LWCF Contract Page 1](#)
 [LWCF Contract Page 2](#)
 [Northeast Park CONCEPT-PLAN](#)
 [PLN-2167 Cornerstone United Methodist Church Addition Replat of Lot 3A](#)
 [Cornerstone Real Estate Contract](#)

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and walk-on RES-24:142 and RES-24:143. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Brian Emison, that this matter be Passed. The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Enactment No: R-EN-138-2024

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, just as a point of clarification, I think the Mayor in his report said we finally had a clean audit. I think he should have said that we continued our streak of clean audits. We finally got the report.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilperson Joe Hafner, seconded by Councilperson Brian Emison, that this meeting be Adjourned. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Anthony Coleman;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

_____ Date: _____

Harold Copenhaver, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____

April Leggett, City Clerk