



City of Jonesboro

900 West Monroe
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

6:30 PM

Huntington Building

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:30 P.M.

NOMINATING AND RULES COMMITTEE MEETING AT 6:15 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR PERRIN AT 6:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Present 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Absent 1 - Mitch Johnson

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Vance asked for RES-10:088 be pulled from the consent agenda and be placed under new business.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Mikel Fears, to Approve the Consent Agenda. A motion was made that these files be approved by consent voice vote

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

[MIN-10:063](#)

Minutes for the City Council meeting on July 6, 2010.

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

[RES-10:061](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT A PERMANENT DRAINAGE

EASEMENT FROM JONESBORO ASSISTED LIVING, LLC FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Sponsors: Engineering

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-064-2010

RES-10:082

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR THE PURPOSE OF STREET CONSTRUCTION AND STREET MAINTENANCE

Sponsors: Engineering

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-065-2010

RES-10:083

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO PURCHASE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3104 NESTLE WAY, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Sponsors: Engineering

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-066-2010

RES-10:084

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE LOW BID AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CAMERON CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. FOR THE 2010 SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

Sponsors: Engineering

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-067-2010

RES-10:086

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH GARRY MEADOWS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. FOR DESIGN/BUILD SERVICES

Sponsors: Engineering

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-068-2010

6. NEW BUSINESS

RES-10:088

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT AND FOR THE SALE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 900 W. MONROE BETTER KNOWN AS THE HUNTINGTON BUILDING

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Councilman Vance explained he wanted to pull the resolution from the consent agenda due to how important the vote is for this item. He added he wanted every Council member to have the opportunity to speak on this topic. Councilman Hargis stated he will be voting against the sale because it is untimely and the sale price is low compared to the appraised and insured values of the building. He also expressed concern over the City not having a plan yet as to where the offices currently located in the Huntington Building will be relocated to.

Mr. Guy Kochel, from the Huntington Avenue Mission Church, discussed the sale of the property and what the plans are for the property. He noted all of the facts that have been stated in the newspaper and on tv are not accurate. He explained First Baptist Church is not buying the building; rather, Huntington Mission will be there and no money will be coming from the budget of First Baptist Church. He added the City will have a place to stay, even if it's four to twenty years. He further discussed the members of the church and how they will be affected by the church's presence in the neighborhood. He stated the church will not be using the offices and the only time they will be using the sanctuary is on Sundays and possibly one Thursday through Friday per year. Mr. Kochel further added the City does not have to get permission from the church to hold Council meetings. Councilman Vance agreed, stating it is in the contract that the church can use the building on Sundays and one Thursday through Sunday per year for a revival with the permission of the City. He added if the church decides to have more than one revival per year they have to get the permission of the City as to when it can be held.

A motion was made by Councilman Gene Vance, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, that this matter be Passed . The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 10 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Nay: 1 - Jim Hargis

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

Enactment No: R-EN-069-2010

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

ORD-10:060

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 30-31, ENTITLED MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR WEEDS, VINES, GRASS OR LOW-HANGING LIMBS FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF AND ENACTMENT OF THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

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

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

Councilman Vance motioned, seconded by Councilman Moore, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;John Street;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

Enactment No: O-EN-042-2010

ORD-10:061

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2010 ANNUAL BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE MONIES PAID BY CITY WATER & LIGHT (CWL) FOR THE PURCHASE OF SURVEYING EQUIPMENT TO THE 2010 ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT FIXED ASSET BUDGET LINE ITEM

Sponsors: Engineering

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

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

Councilman Moore motioned, seconded by Councilman Gibson, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;John Street;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

Enactment No: O-EN-043-2010

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

RES-10:085

RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF ONE FOOT (1') OF THE UTILITY AND A DRAINAGE EASEMENT IN LOT 4, BLOCK B OF PHASE I IN ROSSLAND HILLS' SUBDIVISION AS REQUESTED BY JOHN A. AND CAROL J. McCARTHY

Sponsors: Planning and Engineering

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

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Jim Hargis;Chris Moore;John Street;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

Enactment No: R-EN-070-2010

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Perrin reported on the following items:

A stoplight has been installed at the intersection of Matthews Avenue and Kitchen Street to help with the detour traffic due to the Washington Overpass project.

He, along with Craig Light and Brent Watkins met with the Arkansas Highway Department this morning to discuss the bypass clover leaves. The City has \$1.9 million to spend on the bypass exits at Stadium, Caraway, Highway 1 and Southwest Drive. They asked if the Highway Department would allow the City to move the unspent \$1 million for the Lawson Road project and combine it with the \$1.9 million for the bypass. The Highway Department agreed, which allows the City to spend \$2.9 million for the bypass. They will be meeting in October and November to decide how to spend the money.

Currently, 39 non-uniform retirees have agreed to transfer their retirement money to Stephens, while 5 have decided to remain with Principal. They have a conference call scheduled with Principal on Friday.

\$5,922 was collected in June in delinquent fines by the company the City hired to collect the money. Updates concerning collections will be given at the Finance Committee meetings.

The City has received a title to the property behind Walgreens where a detention pond will be. They delivered an invoice to Ron Bowen at City Water and Light detailing the cost of manpower for the project. CWL will be assisting the City with the project. The pond will correct flooding on Stone Street.

He will be meeting with Legislative Audit on Friday for a pre-exit interview. In about one week, the exit interview should be held.

Next week, he will be meeting with the Municipal League next week, along with Human Resources Director Gloria Roark, Police Chief Michael Yates, and City Attorney Phillip Crego. They will be meeting to discuss the League's services in preparation for the upcoming budget process.

The first trial run on the business continuity plan for disaster recovery took place in the I.T. and Finance Departments. He stated everything went extremely well and was successful. They will be sending the Council the results of the trial.

The Finance Department is putting together financial reports for the first 6 months and they hope to have the reports in the paper by August 16th.

He and City Attorney Crego met with APERMA to discuss current lawsuits. There are eight pending lawsuits. Mr. Crego stated there is no exposure to the City and nothing major has changed since the last legal report.

COM-10:069

Jonesboro Airport Commission financial statements for the six months ended June 30, 2010, and 2009

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

This item was Read.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Woods announced an Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Poverty meeting to be held at CityYouth Ministries on July 29, 2010, at 6 p.m. It is through the Rockefeller Foundation and all elected officials are invited to attend.

Councilwoman Williams announced the Finance Committee will be holding a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 27th, at 4 p.m.

Councilman Moore questioned whether a list of public needs could be submitted for the task force meeting that was mentioned by Councilman Woods. Councilman Woods stated he encourages the elected officials to attend because it will be a town hall meeting and different areas will be discussed. He added they will be recording the meeting. Mayor Perrin explained he will be looking at last year's budget to see what areas need more assistance.

Councilman Hargis thanked Mayor Perrin for his work with Principal Financial.

Councilman Vance stated the JETS building office area is on schedule to be completed in mid-August. He added he will be working with Mr. Light to finalize the plans for the maintenance building and advertise the project in order to start receiving bids. There may be the possibility of having a special called Public Works meeting in August, so a contract can be presented to the City Council the first week in September. He added the dirt work should be completed by that time.

COM-10:073

Design plans for the old fire station at 314-316 West Washington Avenue

Councilman Vance noted the study on the building is not completed, but they know the building will contain Inspections, Engineering and Planning. He discussed the plans. He added there is room for MPO and CDBG on the second floor of the building, which would allow the City to vacate the building MPO and CDBG currently lease next to City Hall. He explained he hopes by the next Council meeting the plans should be finalized, so the project can be put out for bids.

This item was Read.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Jacob Holloway, a resident of Ward 1, discussed the detention pond being constructed behind Annie Camp and noted it is causing stress in the neighborhood. He stated there are ways to design detention ponds in order to make them more aesthetically pleasing. Mayor Perrin asked for City Engineer Craig Light to meet with Mr. Holloway concerning his suggestions for detention ponds.

Ms. Jessica Crociata, who lives adjacent to the Turtle Creek Mall, expressed concern regarding the proposed greenway. She explained there is a fence between her property and the mall, but her house has still been broken into and vandalized since the mall was opened. She stated she is worried about what other incidences may occur with the greenway being put in. She further explained she spoke with Parks employee Jeff Owens and was told there were no plans for a fence. She added she attended her ward meeting and discussed the situation with the officials, but was told recently by Mr. Owens that there still are no plans for a fence to be constructed between the greenway and the adjacent residential neighborhood. Ms. Crociata stated she called her homeowner's insurance company in order to possibly increase coverage, just to be informed that due to the increase liability to her property since

the greenway will not have a barrier that the company could drop her coverage. She explained after speaking with the Mayor, he proposed moving the existing fence that is between the mall and where the greenway will be to between the greenway and the residential neighborhood. She asked for City Council support with the Mayor's decision.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Absent: 1 - Mitch Johnson

_____ **Date:** _____
Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____
Donna Jackson, City Clerk