



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, December 6, 2016

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:20 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

Mayor Harold Perrin was in attendance.

Present 10 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman; Todd Burton and Bobby Long

Absent 2 - Darrel Dover and Chris Moore

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-16:099](#)

Presentation by Mayor Perrin to Jesse Clayton, Westside Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.

Read

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilman Todd Burton, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 10 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman; Todd Burton and Bobby Long

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Chris Moore

[MIN-16:143](#)

Minutes for the City Council meeting on November 15, 2016

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

RES-16:148 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT (AHTD) FOR THE FY 2016 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM (TAP) - THORN STREET SIDEWALK

Attachments: [AHTD TAP Agreement - Thorn St](#)
[TAP Policies and Procedures](#)

A motion was made that this Resolution be Passed . The motion PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

RES-16:149 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT (AHTD) FOR THE FY 2016 TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM (TAP) - RAINS STREET PEDESTRIAN ROUTE

Attachments: [AHTD - TAP Agreement - Rains St](#)

A motion was made that this Resolution be Passed . The motion PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

RES-16:150 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT (AHTD) FOR THE FY 2016 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) - JONESBORO MOTORIZED ATV PARK TRAIL ENHANCEMENT

Attachments: [AHTD - RMTP Agreement - Jonesboro ATV Park Trail Enhancements](#)

A motion was made that this Resolution be Passed . The motion PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

RES-16:151 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT (AHTD) FOR THE FY 2016 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) - JONESBORO CRAIGHEAD FOREST PARK TRAIL PHASE 3

Attachments: [AHTD - RTP Agreement - Craighead Forest Park Trail Ph. 3](#)

A motion was made that this Resolution be Passed . The motion PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

RES-16:152 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF AN OJJDP-INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN SUBAWARD (NO. ICAC16-05) FROM THE ARKANSAS STATE POLICE (ASP)

Attachments: [ICAC16-05 Subaward Agreement](#)
[Approved Subaward Budget - ICAC16-05](#)
[Special Subaward Conditions for 2016-MC-FX-K013](#)

A motion was made that this Resolution be Passed . The motion PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

RES-16:153 A RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE FY2017 BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANT THROUGH THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Attachments: [2017 Assessment Guidelines](#)

A motion was made that this Resolution be Passed . The motion PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

RES-16:156 RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT WITH HAAG BROWN COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY VAN WRAP

Attachments: [Information Technology VAN Wrap.pdf](#)

A motion was made that this Resolution be Passed . The motion PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

6. NEW BUSINESS

COM-16:105 DECISION BY THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE REQUEST BY ANIEFIOK JACOB TO OPERATE A CITY CAB

Attachments: [Cab Request](#)
[Documentation](#)

Councilman Vance motioned, seconded by Councilman Coleman to approve the request by Aniefiok Jacob to operate a city cab. All voted aye.

Read

COM-16:100 REQUEST BY NEIL STALLINGS PROPERTIES #1 AND STALLINGS & GIBSON TO SET AN APPEAL HEARING REGARDING THE DECISION BY THE MAPC TO GRANT A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO CHRIS KIDD FOR A SELF-SERVICE LAUNDRY AT 2404 E. MATTHEWS

Attachments: [Appeal hearing request](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)

An appeal hearing date was set for 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

Read

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

ORD-16:078 AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT WITH DELTA DENTAL TO PROVIDE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CITY EMPLOYEES FOR 2017

Attachments: [Delta Contract](#)

Councilman Street offered by title only. Councilman Street seconded by Councilman Gibson moved to suspend the rules and waive the 2nd and 3rd readings. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilwoman

Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 10 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman;Todd Burton and Bobby Long

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Chris Moore

ORD-16:081

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT WITH ARKANSAS BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD TO PROVIDE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CITY EMPLOYEES FOR 2017

Attachments: [BCBS Vision - City of Jonesboro.pdf](#)
[BCBS Vision - JURHA.pdf](#)
[BCBS Vision - Library.pdf](#)
[BCBS Vision - Municipal Airport.pdf](#)
[BCBS Health - COJ Employees.pdf](#)
[BCBS Health - Med Sup Elected Officials.pdf](#)
[BCBS Health - JURHA.pdf](#)
[BCBS Health - Library.pdf](#)
[BCBS Health - Municipal Airport.pdf](#)

Councilman Street offered by title only. Councilman Street seconded by Councilman Coleman moved to suspend the rules and waive the 2nd and 3rd readings. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 10 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman;Todd Burton and Bobby Long

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Chris Moore

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

RES-16:154

RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ABANDONMENT OF A DRAINAGE EASEMENT AS REQUESTED BY THE RACE STREET ATHLETIC CLUB

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[Engineering and Planning Department Letter](#)
[Petition](#)
[Utility Letters](#)

This matter will be heard before the City Council on December 20, 2016, at 5:15 o'clock, p.m. at the Municipal Building, Jonesboro, Arkansas.

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

Aye: 10 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman;Todd Burton and Bobby Long

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Chris Moore

RES-16:155

RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ABANDONMENT OF A DEVELOPED STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY AS REQUESTED BY HJE,LLC/HJE III

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[Engineering and Planning Department Letter](#)
[Petition](#)
[Utility Letters](#)

This matter will be heard before the City Council on December 20, 2016, at 5:20 o'clock, p.m. at the Municipal Building, Jonesboro, Arkansas.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 10 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman;Todd Burton and Bobby Long

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Chris Moore

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

ORD-16:066

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM C-3 LUO TO C3 LUO (MODIFIED LIST OF PERMITTED USES) FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3611 AND 3637 EAST JOHNSON AVENUE AS REQUESTED BY P&H INVESTMENTS

Attachments: [rezoning plat.pdf](#)
[Consent Order.pdf](#)
[Bldg 1-Permit Set.pdf](#)
[Appeal Letter filed 05-29-12.pdf](#)
[Legislation Details \(With Text\).pdf](#)
[MAPC Record of Proceedings.pdf](#)
[Plat of Survey.pdf](#)
[Photographs from July 17, 2012. meeting.pdf](#)
[Aerial View of Location](#)
[Application](#)
[Staff Summary](#)

In order to pass the measure, Mayor Perrin voted aye. There was an amendment to the ordinance to limit hour usage between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m.

Mayor Perrin stated that the MPO vote for ORD-16:066 was 8-0. City Planner Derrel Smith came to the podium to speak. He stated the buildings are in place and they are requesting a limited use overlay to allow for a daycare general instead of a daycare limited and to also add retail service and to take away Library and what was allowed by the court. The buildings will stay the same and it is just the use that they are

looking at.

Stacy Schratz, 3104 Maplewood Terrace, came to the podium. She said she lives in the cove where this is going to affect their property. She said they were not able to attend the meeting on November 15, 2016 because several of the neighbors work and had to be out of town. She stated they also had several people who wanted to be here, but some retired and elderly people are not able to make it. Ms. Schratz stated that back in 2012, Councilman Tim McCall had brought them together to try to come to a resolution. She said they came to a mutual agreement to go ahead and allow this property to be commercial, but be limited use. She said there should be a copy of a signed agreement by Mr. Hester. She asked that the ordinance not be approved until the signed document has been reviewed.

Ms. Schratz stated that they were at the Hankins home and Mr. Hester was there. Councilman McCall was the mediator to try to bring everyone to a resolution and a document was signed by Mr. Hester that he agreed as long as he owned that property that he would not ask for a lesser restriction on the commercial property. She stated that since Councilman McCall was involved, there should be a copy of that document in the city's capacity. She asked that the ordinance not be approved until the signed document has been reviewed. She stated that she knows this is commercial property behind us, but we are in a unique situation where we are on a dead end cove and this property backs up very far up into our neighborhood.

Ms. Schratz said she understands that Mr. Hester is having trouble renting this property, but it should not be at the expense of the homeowners of Maplewood Terrace. She said she knows Mr. McCall is not our councilman anymore, but he was the mediator in this. Mr. Hester sat right there in Mr. & Mrs. Hankins house and they came to a mutual agreement with several property owners in the neighborhood of Maplewood Terrace, and signed that paper saying we would not fight it going commercial as long as it was limited use. Our concerns are with retail that could be 24-7. There is something on there about a self service laundry mat. We don't need that backed up into our neighborhood. There should be a document that was mediated from Mr. McCall and I think we need to review that and see that he made an agreement with us in writing that he would never ask for this to be any more lesser restriction than what it is as long as he owned it.

Bobby Hankins, 3108 Maplewood Terrace, came to the podium to speak. He said he lives next door to the property in question. He said there was an agreement made in 2012 to the effect that no changes would be made. His major concern is the general retail and he doesn't want anything coming in there that would necessarily be open 24 hours a day and 30 feet from his bedroom. Mr. Hankins requested that the ordinance not be approved until the signed document has been reviewed. His major concern is the general retail use which may end up being 24 hours a day.

Councilman Frierson asked the Mayor if he could get the City Planner, Derrel Smith, to explain what the changes would be. He said he didn't pick up on anything where there was much of any change on what is already permitted.

Jimmy Ashley, 1701 Airport Road, came to the podium to speak. He stated that it is his understanding when they agreed on this that it would be a limited use overlay. Mr. Ashley said what they agreed to, since they went back into our subdivision so far, was that they would leave it at limited use overlay so they wouldn't have any problems with anybody else coming in there and Mr. Hester changing it. He said that is what was agreed upon in 2012 with our subdivision and that it would stay a limited use overlay. He stated we are asking you all not to change the limited use overlay because we don't think it's right.

Mayor Perrin asked if this was the property that had the dental office. Councilman Long said that St. Bernard's has an Urgent Care office there.

City Planner, Derrel Smith stated that it would still be a limited use overlay C-3. The change is what is allowed and includes animal care limited, automated teller machine, bank or financial institution, church, daycare limited, government service, library, medical service office, office general, and utility minor. What they are proposing is automated teller machine, bank or financial institution, church, daycare general, government services, medical services office, office general, utility minor, and retail service. They have taken out animal care limited, library, and they have changed the daycare from a limited to a general.

Councilman Long asked if it is established right now that you cannot have an establishment that operates 24 hours a day, but if this were to be approved, it would allow for a 24 hour service. Mr. Smith stated that it will allow for retail and we don't have hours set on this. Councilman Long asked if a 24 hour retail establishment could be there right now. Mr. Smith said a laundry mat is not allowed. Businesses like Dollar General have their own separate category so those would not be allowed. However, some type of retail could be there overnight if it is approved, but not right now. Councilman Long stated that a 24 hour operation could not go into business there right now unless this is approved. Mr. Smith stated you could have a 24 hour medical facility right now. If you have a medical office, they can be open 24 hours right now there. He said you can have businesses open 24 hours right now, but you just can't have retail.

Councilman Long asked Mayor Perrin if he was there when they signed the document in 2012. Mayor Perrin said he was not there, but he does remember this coming up in the beginning. He said he remembers Mr. Carter along with Councilman McCall leading a group to set down and talk with Mr. Hester and they all agreed. Mayor Perrin said he has not seen any document whatsoever.

Rob Hester, who is a part of P & H, came to the podium and spoke. He stated that the property was already zoned C3-LUO. There was another man who actually came to MAPC to rezone it. We purchased the property with a lawsuit in place with the city and it was a mess. We bought the property trying to clean up everything. When we had a neighborhood meeting, we had site plans and we built everything just like we said we would. The only things we changed were with regards to buffer zones and we left trees at the rear of the property, but reduced some of the buffers and moved fencing. We all agreed to that. The only thing we did was a small parcel in the front about 1/3 acre at the very front right on Johnson. The only thing that was really discussed in this meeting was carving out that one little piece and that is kind of what lead to the discrepancy on the address because that address is actually attached to that piece of property. The question asked by adjoining property owners was what stops you from asking to remove all the LUO restrictions after we agree to do this. I agreed to and John, my partner, agreed to not request that the restrictions be removed from the property. We did agree to that, to remove it, and make it a C3-General and a C3-General could have been a convenience store or it could have been anything at that time because there wasn't anything built there except an old house that we tore down. The one thing that keeps coming up is a 24 hour operation. We wouldn't have any issue with putting a restriction on retail to not make that a 24 hour operation. There are very few retail businesses that operate 24 hours a day. We are ok with making that concession. I don't see an issue with it with traffic or anything. From my perspective, an operating business is better than an empty business. We have not heard any issue in regards to flooding. There were some issues during construction, but he has not heard of any issues from the city with regards to

anything that we have done. We have a central decorative pond in the center that collects the water. Everything collects in it and then runs out to the city storm sewer system that is already in the street. None of our property drains onto anyone.

Councilman Burton asked Mr. Hester if he was correct in his assumption that he knew what the overlay was and what the conditions were when he bought the property. Mr. Hester said he did and we understood that. We bought that property in 2012 and developed it and the demand for medical at the time would have been greater than it has been and we have had a difficult time leasing the property. There is a demand for daycare in that facility. We have had a couple of people approach us about that. The C3-LUO restriction for daycare was actually modeled more towards what it was when the house was there. Someone could have had a house and had a small daycare operation out of the house. That no longer applies since there is not a residence there on the property. We didn't see that there would be any impact to the adjoining neighbors. They have no access to our property whatsoever from the adjoining neighbors as far as traffic or anything like that. The only thing that would be an issue would be what business would go into that space. Mr. Hester stated that he doesn't mind making the restriction from the retail perspective to limit it to business hours operations.

Ms. Schratz stated that there would be an impact to their neighborhood that is a dead end cove. She stated there was a dentist office there. It did flood and they did move out shortly after that because it did flood. It wasn't just a construction issue. She urged that the council find the document that Mr. Hester signed. She stated the property owners on Maplewood Terrace do not want retail there. She said it is a unique situation and the city should have a copy of the signed agreement that Mr. McCall mediated with the property owners and Mr. Hester. City Attorney Carol Duncan stated that agreement would be a private agreement between the property owners and Mr. Hester. Mr. McCall would not have had any authority to agree to, not agree, or sign anything on behalf of the city. She stated that the city would not have possession of that document. She said it would be a private agreement between the parties and the City wouldn't have that to look for. Ms. Duncan wanted to make it clear that the City does not have that document and we don't have a way to find it.

Ms. Schratz stated that they request that it not be retail and it is a unique situation with a lot of elderly and retired individuals and it is not a good situation.

Mayor Perrin asked if City Planner Derrel Smith if there could be retail there now as it is zoned. Mr. Smith and Ms. Duncan both said no. Mayor Perrin said the whole issue is getting this property so there can be retail on this piece of property. Mr. Smith said that is correct.

John Hatcher, 3105 Maplewood Terrace, came to the podium to speak. He said he lives right across the street from this property. He said our biggest concern is why Mr. Hester would ask for general retail unless he had some inquiries about it and has some ideas about what he is going to do with it. We were assured when this property was built, that it was built so expensively, that no one except a wealthy person such as a doctor or a dentist or someone of that nature could even afford to rent that property. I am concerned. They did have a flooding problem there back during a heavy rain when the first office was occupied by a dental service of some type. I am concerned that the property may not be as high classed as we were sold it to be and could become something that could become an eyesore, noisy, and it is right in our neighborhood.

Councilman Burton said he would like to add that his concern is that he understands that things change and sometimes we need to change things, but he's not sure that

four years is enough time that this overlay was put in place and had certain restrictions on it. He said he is not sure four years is not a long enough time that that has changed just because of some inability to fill their building.

Councilman Frierson moved that the retail part of this ordinance be amended to restrict less than 24 hours and make it to read 11 p.m. to 9 a.m. as hours closed. He said he is willing to negotiate the time. Councilwoman Ann Williams seconded the motion to amend the hours of operation on the retail ordinance. Mayor Perrin said the motion is that it be approved with a restriction on retail that there be no operation of hours between 11 p.m. until 9 a.m. Councilman Burton asked if that was acceptable to the neighbors. Mayor Perrin reminded the audience that this meeting is being recorded and they must come to the microphone if they intend to speak. Councilman Burton asked if the motion was just for the amendment. City Attorney Carol Duncan said that it was. Mayor Perrin said that it was for the amendment only.

John Hatcher, 3105 Maplewood Terrace, came to the podium to voice his concern over the hours of operation for retail. He said that the 11 p.m. is not acceptable to him or to probably any of his other neighbors. He is concerned because his bedroom window is right across the street from this property. He stated that the doctor's office does not bother him, but he does not know what is going to go in there and he opposes that.

Mayor Perrin wanted to make sure the hours on the amendment were 11 p.m. to 9 a.m. Councilman Frierson said that the hours on the amendment were to be closed from 11 p.m. to 9 a.m. Mr. Hester stated he would rather just make it the hours closed from 9 p.m. to 9 a.m. if that is a concern. He said they currently do not have a tenant for that space. They have lost tenants for the space because they couldn't provide a space for them. He said they are just trying to open the door for something down the road. He stated the property is nice and they have spent over \$2 million developing this property. The dentist that moved out of there shut his business down and bought into another operation. St. Bernard's is occupying the space now. Mr. Hester said the property has been maintained since they built it. They are willing to negotiate with the time restriction and are ok with that because that is typical business hours.

Councilman Frierson stated he would like to amend his motion to read that the hours be closed from 9 p.m. to 9 a.m. Councilwoman Ann Williams seconded that motion.

Councilman Long asked Mr. Hester how many parking spaces were on the property and how many cars can park back there at one time. Mr. Hester said he was guessing, but he thought there were somewhere in the neighborhood of 80 parking spaces on that property. Councilman Long asked how many parking spaces were at the back of the property. Mr. Hester said the parking goes along the Bill's Fresh Market side and then there are two rows between the two buildings and then there is more parking in front of the smaller building.

Councilman Long asked what type of square footage do you have on those buildings. Mr. Hester stated the rear building is 6,600 square feet with 3,000 square feet occupied by St. Bernard's. He said they have a 3,600 square footage space that they are looking at with the daycare facility. He said whatever we do, we would have to come before the city to make sure we meet all parking requirements and plans would have to be completed. Mayor Perrin stated you would have to go before MAPC. Mr. Hester stated that all of their parking is shared among the entire site.

Ms. Schratz stated that the way that it is now is that most general offices close at 5 p.m. and that is what we need for that area. She stated that 9 p.m. is still too late for some of the elderly people in her neighborhood. She said it frightens her to see that

there might be a self service laundry mat in our cove.

Mayor Perrin stated that what we are doing is voting on the amendment and the amendment would be on the 9 p.m. to 9 a.m. closure hours. He said they have a motion and a second. All voted aye on the amendment.

Mayor Perrin stated they were going back to the original ordinance, ORD-16:066 with the amendment. Councilman Frierson motioned that it be adopted and Councilwoman Ann Williams seconded the motion. A roll count vote was taken with Councilman Frierson, Councilman Vance, Councilman Coleman, Councilwoman Williams, Councilman Street and Councilman Woods voting aye and Councilman Gibson, Councilman Johnson, Councilman Long, and Councilman Burton voting no. Councilman Moore and Councilman Dover were absent. Mayor Perrin stated that it passes 6-4. City Clerk Donna Jackson stated you have to have 7 to pass. Mayor Perrin asked if he needed to vote. City Clerk Donna Jackson stated that the Mayor can vote to pass a measure. Ms. Schratz asked if the ordinance was on the second reading. Mayor Perrin stated the ordinance was on the third reading. City Clerk Donna Jackson stated they waived the second reading on November 15, 2016.

Mayor Perrin stated the question is whether he can vote. City Clerk Donna Jackson stated that the Mayor can vote to pass a measure. Mayor Perrin voted aye. He stated the ordinance passes.

A motion was made by Councilman Charles Frierson, seconded by Councilwoman Ann Williams, that this matter be Passed . In order to pass the measure, Mayor Perrin voted aye. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 6 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; John Street; Gene Vance; Rennell Woods and Charles Coleman

Nay: 4 - Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Todd Burton and Bobby Long

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Chris Moore

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Perrin stated that he would like to have a special called meeting on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the budget. He said the only item on the agenda will be the budget. If you have any questions or comments about the budget, go ahead and send those to CFO Suzanne Allen prior to Monday so she can have all of that information ready. Mayor Perrin said that we will not ask for a vote on the budget until Tuesday, December 20, 2016. This gives you plenty of time to look at the budget, review the budget in a public hearing setting, and then we will come back and it will be on the agenda. The resolution will be on December 20, 2016.

Mayor Perrin stated that the winter months have slowed down our permits. Our total permits were around \$11,528,000 with residential being 66% of that and commercial was 34% of that.

Mayor Perrin stated that one of our city employees was recognized this week and it is out on our website. Mayor Perrin said he did want to make a public comment on that. Ronnie Shaver, Building Maintenance Director, was presented the Patriotic Employer Award which is supported by the National Guard and Army Reserves. Mayor Perrin said we want to say congratulations and thanks to Ronnie Shaver.

Mayor Perrin stated the Federal Highway Administration awarded the city a grant for the Innovative Bridge, a small bridge on College. However, when the bids came back

on the design, it came back at \$822,949. He said we can work with the county and have discussed it with the county to build that bridge and have it put in for probably around \$185,000. He spoke with Lori Tudor who is the liaison with the Federal Highway Administration and told her that it was not practical. He said that we would love to do an Innovative Bridge, but the cost is not feasible. Mayor Perrin asked in a letter to get reimbursed for the money on the engineering. Ms. Tudor said if we could show just cause, we could get our money back and we would not lose that. Mayor Perrin stated quite frankly, what we spent on engineering would probably be almost half of what we could do the whole bridge for.

Mayor Perrin stated the city has 100% plans for Patrick Street. He stated that the city will put that out for bids in February and get it started. They will go ahead and get utilities relocated and get that street widened.

Mayor Perrin stated that he and City Planner Derrel Smith called on the Walton Foundation last week and they had a very good meeting. They are scheduled to come sometime in January to look at all of our bike trails and walking trails throughout the city. We have asked for assistance from them, but we do not know what that will be. It could be monies for a complete master study plus construction money. Mayor Perrin stated that we are very excited that the Walton Foundation will be in our neighborhood sometime in January. We will pull all of our information together and we will take one of our JET buses that day and do a complete tour of the city on where we have routes so these people can see what we have put together. They were very excited and look forward to see what is going on in Jonesboro. They loved the walking trail at Craighead Forest and are trying to get connectivity from Craighead Forest to residential households. They want us to do what they have done in Northwest Arkansas. Mayor Perrin stated they would like to have their help on getting this accomplished. Councilman Street stated that MPO Director Erica Tait has been trying to get a lot of stuff together. He said the MPO allocated \$1,000 for the bike routes. We will see where they are going and try to make it safer. Mayor Perrin stated there will be a walk ability study conducted this week. They try to do it every two to three years.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Street asked how the ice skating rink was going. Mayor Perrin stated that the ice skating rink is overwhelmingly successful. He said that they are taking in almost \$800 a night on the skating rink. Winter Wonderland is also being seen by our children and grandchildren. It is a great success and all of that money will go back into making it bigger and better for next year. Mayor Perrin stated that Batesville did \$12,000 in their first year of having an ice rink and he anticipates that Jonesboro will do between \$15,000-\$20,000 this year.

Councilwoman Williams asked about next Tuesday. She asked if they will be having a City Council Meeting and a Finance Committee Meeting as far as the budget goes. Mayor Perrin said this meeting will be about the budget only on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. and we will have a regular Finance Meeting on Tuesday for other things that come up. Mayor Perrin stated the budget will not be asked to be voted on until Tuesday, December 20, 2016.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 10 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman;Todd Burton and Bobby Long

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Chris Moore

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk