



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Public Services Council Committee

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

5:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk Donna Jackson

Present 5 - Joe Hafner; Bobby Long; Chris Gibson; Charles Frierson and Ann Williams

3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-20:091](#)

Minutes for the Public Services Council Committee meeting on September 15, 2020.

Attachments: [MINUTES](#)

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

Aye: 4 - Joe Hafner; Bobby Long; Charles Frierson and Ann Williams

4. New Business

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-20:225](#)

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF PHILLIP EVANS COMMUNITY PARK FROM THE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation and Mayor's Office

Attachments: [Habitat Park Donation](#)

Parks Director Danny Kapales, explained that he does feel like this is a park that we should accept. Habitat for Humanity has done a wonderful job on building this park, they have used the right materials. The products they used are some of the same products that we have used in our city parks. It really is a beautiful playground, I would suggest if you have not gone by to see the playground I would advise you to do so. Again, I think this is a great opportunity for the city to obtain a park that is in a great location, and it will be an asset to the families that live in that neighborhood.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Jonesboro, Executive Director Michael Sullivan explained that they have had this property on State Street for a while, and for the past

three years we have talked about what would be the best utilization of this space. We knew that we would do housing on it to help house low income families which is our mission. Building homes on the front of the property was not a problem, it was what to do with the property that would be in the back of these homes that became the issue. So, the question became how you develop the back of the property to make it not only useful not just for the Habitat families but for the entire community. The whole point for Habitat is to build community, and to change lives. We came up with the idea to put in a U-shaped street, with a pocket park in the middle and build the houses around it. Now we are working to find families to build these houses around the park. The street and infrastructure is all done, it is ready to go. So, if you know somebody that is in need of housing send them our way. We have the first house there finished and that family just moved in and are happy in that home. Once that park is complete they will be able to enjoy that and raise their kids with a park right there. But, the park is not just for the families that live in the Habitat community it will be for the whole neighborhood. Again, we want to build community, give the children somewhere to play and enjoy the playground, and we think we are going to be able to do that by doing this. The only thing left to do is put a fence and landscaping around the park. We appreciate Parks Director Danny Kapales' help in this endeavor.

A motion was made by Councilperson Joe Hafner, seconded by Councilperson Bobby Long, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Joe Hafner;Bobby Long;Charles Frierson and Ann Williams

5. Pending Items

6. Other Business

Councilmember Bobby Long asked that the next Public Services meeting be postponed until after the 1st of the Year. Councilmember Joe Hafner asked Parks Director Danny Kaplaes if he knew of any reason they should meet in December. Mr. Kapales stated that he does not have anything unless this committee would like to have an end of the year update regarding Parks and Recreation. Chairman Chris Gibson stated that he thought that it would be fine to hear the report after the first of the year. Chairman Chris Gibson stated that Parks Director Danny Kapales and I have been in conversation with the JETS Swim Team Coordinator about heaters and pool covers that they are wanting to purchase, so that they can extend their season. That is still in the early stages of discussion and I will bring the Committee up to date on that after the 1st of the year as well.

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

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

Aye: 4 - Joe Hafner;Bobby Long;Charles Frierson and Ann Williams