



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Nominating and Rules Committee

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

3:30 PM

Municipal Center

Special Called Meeting

1. Call To Order

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2. Roll Call by City Clerk Donna Jackson

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Mayor Perrin was also in attendance.

Present 4 - John Street; Mitch Johnson; Rennell Woods and Todd Burton

Absent 2 - Darrel Dover and Tim McCall

3. Approval of minutes

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[MIN-16:007](#)

Minutes for the Nominating & Rules Committee meeting on January 19, 2016

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Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

Aye: 3 - John Street; Mitch Johnson and Rennell Woods

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Tim McCall

4. New Business

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[COM-16:011](#)

Discussion concerning filling the Ward 6, Position 1 vacancy

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Sponsors: City Council

Attachments: [State Code](#)
 [RES-14:036](#)

City Attorney Carol Duncan explained under state law if there is less than a year someone can be appointed. But, if there's more than a year the city can hold a special election or appoint someone. She noted in 2014 the city changed the process to provide more clarity as to when a special election is called. The Council determined if there's more than two years in the term, then the city can have a special election. If there's less than two years, the Council can appoint someone. But, if the Council determines a special election is impractical, then the Council can move forward with appointing someone with a 2/3 vote.

Chairman Burton asked how long is left in the term. City Clerk Donna Jackson noted the term doesn't expire until December 31, 2018, so there's almost three years left.

City Attorney Duncan presented the committee with a sample resolution with the dates included. She has spoken with County Clerk Kade Holliday and the new election commissioner to determine the most feasible dates for having a special election. The election shall be held on May 10, 2016, with the deadline for candidates being March 11, 2016. That will give time to draw for ballot position and have the ballots printed. The drawing for ballot position will be March 15, 2016. A tentative result will be provided on May 13th. If there's a need for a runoff election, it will be held on June 7th.

Councilman Woods asked what the cost of the last vacancy special election was. City Attorney Duncan noted the last election was held in conjunction with the primary election, so it didn't cost the city anything. Mayor Perrin added County Clerk Holliday indicated the cost of a special election will be about \$20,000 because all of the election polls have to be open.

Councilman Johnson stated that although the timing is unfortunate, he thinks it's important for the citizens to elect the new Council member due to the length of years left on the term. Councilman Street agreed.

It was noted the resolution will be placed on the City Council agenda for next week's meeting.

Councilman Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilman Street, to recommend to Council to hold a special election to fill the vacancy. All voted aye.

5. Pending Items

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6. Other Business

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7. Public Comments

[play video](#)

8. Adjournment

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

Aye: 3 - John Street; Mitch Johnson and Rennell Woods

Absent: 2 - Darrel Dover and Tim McCall