



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

SPECIAL CALLED FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING AT 4:45 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:20 P.M.

Mayor Harold Perrin asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak for or against the public hearing regarding the abandonment of the north seven and one half feet (7.5') of the south fifteen feet (15') wide drainage easement along the south property line of Lot 17 Block "A" of Twin Oaks subdivision as requested by Carlos Wood on behalf of Chris Futrell. No one spoke in opposition.

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

Present 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Police Chief Rick Elliott said, tonight, I would like to make a special presentation to Dr. John Huff. As you all remember, back on December 11, 2018, officers of the Jonesboro Police Department responded to an incident of a shooting at an apartment complex here in Jonesboro. This incident turned into a long, drawn out standoff. The standoff was ended when the tact team deployed and went inside of the apartment to apprehend the suspect. Gabo and his handler Officer Johnson were part of the entry team. Officer Gabo made contact with the suspect who began firing at point blank range at Gabo. Gabo was subsequently struck four times by close fire gun shot. One of the rounds that would have been fatal was stopped by a ballistic vest that Gabo was wearing that had previously been donated by a company by the name of Vested Interest. If it wasn't for this previous donation of this vest, this dog would not be with us today. The heroic efforts of this dog saved my officers from receiving this gunfire and potentially saving them from fatal injuries. So, tonight, I would like to first recognize Gabo for his valor in this incident and presenting him and Officer Johnson with the Department's Medal of Valor. Before we began this operation on this evening, we suspected that the dog might receive some kind of injury during the course of this operation. We contacted Dr. Huff who is the department's veterinarian and advised him of the situation. Dr. Huff prepared and headed to the office to meet us just in case something unfortunate did happen. Unfortunately, Gabo was shot multiple times He was immediately transferred to Dr. Huff's facility down on Gee Street. Dr. Huff, along

with other veterinarians, his office staff, and two of our SWAT doctors assisted in the surgery on Gabo that evening. One of the wounds through his side went through his liver. Dr. Huff was able to patch his liver and control the bleeding to keep the dog from bleeding out. As you can see, Gabo has fully recovered from his injuries and is here today mainly due to Dr. Huff and his staff. So, I would like to present Dr. Huff with a plaque, he and his staff, for their services not only to the Police Department, but to Gabo on this night in question.

Mayor Harold Perrin said, it is always a delight to give a special presentation. This is tied into our excellent animal care here in Jonesboro. The proclamation reads World Spay Day. Whereas Pets provide companionship to 65% of U.S. households and whereas 2.4 million healthy and adoptable cats and dogs are put down in animal shelters each year through the lack of critical resources and public awareness and whereas, spaying and neutering has been shown to dramatically reduce the number of unwanted animals and whereas, the Mayor and the City Council recognize that Jonesboro Animal Control and Northeast Arkansans for Animals have worked together and will provide \$10 on male cat neuter and nearly 100 male cats in the 35 days before World Spay Day and whereas, the Mayor and City Council takes this special day to praise all organizations, individuals who work to reduce the overwhelming and unwanted animal population in this community and whereas, there will never be enough shelters or good homes for pets making affordable spay and neuter the only answer to unwanted dogs and cats and to save taxpayers thousands of dollars every year. Now, therefore, I, Harold Perrin, the Mayor of the City of Jonesboro by the virtue vested in me by the laws of the state of Arkansas so hereby proclaim Tuesday, February 26, 2019, World Spay Day in the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Let me just make a note that we have someone in our audience that this program would not be possible without the tremendous help and volunteer hours that she puts in and has put in over the years, Wanda Turner. Wanda, I would like to give you this proclamation if you don't mind. Ok. Thank you Wanda.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned to adopt the consent agenda. Councilmember Chris Moore said, I have one request. I would second Councilmember Gibson's motion, but with the removal of RES-19:005 so that Councilmember John Street and Councilmember Charles Frierson can abstain from that. Mayor Perrin asked if it was RES-19:005? Councilmember Moore said, yes. It is a resolution dealing with City, Water & Light services. Mayor Harold Perrin asked if that was the only one? Councilmember Moore said, that is the only one. Councilmember Chris Gibson said, I will amend my motion to reflect that. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

[MIN-19:013](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 5, 2019

Attachments: [Council Minutes 02052019.pdf](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:203](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO PURCHASE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2504 MARY JANE DRIVE, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FLOOD MITIGATION

Attachments: [Signed Offer Package 2504 Mary Jane](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-014-2019

[RES-18:204](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO PURCHASE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2502 MARY JANE DRIVE, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FLOOD MITIGATION

Attachments: [Signed Offer Package 2502 Mary Jane](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-015-2019

- [RES-18:205](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO PURCHASE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1904 DEERWOOD DRIVE, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FLOOD MITIGATION

Attachments: [Signed Offer Package 1904 Deerwood Drive](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-016-2019

[RES-19:001](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF PROPERTIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Attachments: [Darlene Green Acres Lots 5-6.pdf](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-017-2019

[RES-19:004](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REGARDING THE SHARING OF DATA OBTAINED FROM GLOBAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEM (GNSS) CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING REFERENCE STATIONS (CORS)

Attachments: [Agreement](#)

This item was **APPROVED** on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-018-2019

[RES-19:012](#) A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2019 OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE FY2018 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM

Attachments: [Budget Narrative](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-019-2019

[RES-19:013](#) A RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH AXON ENTERPRISES, INC FOR THE PURCHASE OF AXON BODY WORN CAMERAS AND SUPPORTING AXON SERVICES

Attachments: [Axon Body Cameras and Services - Q-196540-43501-184PS - 2-5-19](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-020-2019

[RES-19:015](#) RESOLUTION TO SET JUDGES, CLERKS AND ALTERNATE WORKERS FOR THE 2019 CITY, WATER AND LIGHT ELECTION

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-021-2019

6. NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS NOT ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

[RES-19:005](#) A RESOLUTION REQUESTING FREE UTILITY SERVICES FROM CITY WATER AND LIGHT FOR CITY OWNED PROPERTY

Councilmember John Street asked that he be recused from consideration and discussion on this matter due to the fact that he is on the CWL Board of Directors. Councilmember Charles Frierson asked that he be recused from consideration and discussion on this matter due to the fact that he is an attorney for the CWL Board of Directors.

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

Aye: 10 - Ann Williams;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Recused: 2 - Charles Frierson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-022-2019

[RES-18:201](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONDEMN PROPERTY LOCATED AT: 1809 Magnolia, OWNER: Greg and Danni Upperman

Attachments: [1809 Magnolia inspection report.doc](#)
[1809 Magnolia title search.pdf](#)
[county data.pdf](#)
[pic1.JPG](#)
[pic2.JPG](#)
[pic3.JPG](#)
[pic4.JPG](#)
[pic5.JPG](#)

Code Enforcement Director Michael Tyner asked, can we table this for 45 days? I spoke with Mr. Upperman last week and he has got an investment partner coming in that is going to rehab the property.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[RES-19:017](#)

A RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING ABANDONING AND VACATING THE UNDEVELOPED 15' UTILITY EASEMENT LYING WITH LOT 49 OF SAGE MEADOWS PHASE 1-B AS REQUESTED BY BENCHMARK LAND SURVEYING ON BEHALF OF DONALD FARROW AND CAROLE SCHLITT

Attachments: [Petition.pdf](#)
[Plat.pdf](#)
[PandE Letter.pdf](#)
[AT&T.pdf](#)
[CenterPoint.pdf](#)
[CWL.pdf](#)
[Ritter.pdf](#)
[Suddenlink.pdf](#)
[18238-003-RESOLUTION.pdf](#)
[18238-004-ORDINANCE.pdf](#)

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: R-EN-023-2019

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[ORD-19:001](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long, to

suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:001 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Charles Frierson, to suspend the rules and waive the second reading. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Charles Frierson, to suspend the rules and waive the third reading. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: O-EN-010-2019

[ORD-19:002](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BOARD

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:002 by title only. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Chris Moore, that this matter be Waived Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[ORD-19:004](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 2 ARTICLE 3, ENTITLED CITY COUNCIL; ESTABLISHING CITY COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR 2019

Attachments: [2019 Council Procedures3.docx](#)

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, before we get started on this, I have a couple of quick questions. Councilmember Gene Vance called me today with some concerns that we actually did not have a public meeting regarding these council rules and procedures. There is nothing on Legistar about that, any minutes or anything. Do we need to take this back to committee prior to moving forward or are we good? I know that it was published to the press. I know that it was published to the public. Carol, what is your opinion on that?

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, I know that I have been advised that minutes were taken of the meeting. I don't know if they just aren't up yet. City Clerk Donna Jackson said, the minutes are not placed on Legistar until they are approved by the committee. Ms. Duncan said, right. Ms. Jackson said, I think that was some of the concern. If we wait until we have another meeting to approve the minutes, your are looking at another month. Ms. Duncan said, as far as the question, the question was posed to me before about whether this was considered a legal meeting and I don't think anything in your rules say that a meeting has to be held in Council Chambers. I think it says the press has to be notified. The public has to be notified. It has to be open to the public. You have to have a quorum. The quorum has to vote. There has to be minutes and I think all of those things occurred. So, I mean I think it is a legal meeting. You can do whichever you want to do, but I don't think you have a problem with it being a legal meeting. My understanding is that the public was in attendance. I don't know whether

the press was in attendance, but I do know that the public was in attendance or some members of the public were. I don't think the location alone makes it not a meeting.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, I would just request that it be held at three separate meetings over the next six weeks or next four weeks. Councilmember Gene Vance said, the council can vote against it if they are in disagreement with me, but I make a motion we send this back to committee. If it takes two committee meetings, the chair of the committee said that there was no hurry to get this passed. So, I make a motion we send this back to the Rules and Nominating Committee for a true public meeting. I realize that there was some public at the last meeting that I missed. But, I also never saw in the paper an advertisement that we are or a story that we were going to have that meeting. Ms. Duncan said, I don't know about a story. I was advised by the clerk that the press media notifications were done. Councilmember Vance said, right. Ms. Duncan said, I don't know whether they wrote a story about it. Councilmember Vance said, I am not questioning that. I am questioning whether Joe Public really knew whether that meeting was taking place or not. Ms. Jackson said, I think some of the confusion came and I have talked to Carol about this, whenever it was announced under Council's business reports, that we would have work sessions. Now, that term has been used before. What that usually means is that the committee meets, but everybody else is invited because they want your input. Minutes were taken of both work sessions. They had a quorum. Any votes or anything that was adopted were done with a vote by the committee members. I do think there was confusion with calling it a work session. Councilmember Vance said, I am not questioning whether it was legal by legal terms or not, but I am questioning the transparency. Our goal has always been to be as transparent as possible and I have had some calls and I personally think that that it won't hurt for this to be tabled and be sent back to the committee. So, I have got that motion on the floor. Councilmember Bobby Long seconded the motion.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson asked, what would be the reason to send it back to the committee other than just the public, is it not any different than us reading it over three separate meetings here at a public meeting? Councilmember Chris Moore said, that was my point. I mean, if the whole goal is for public openness, then why not just open it on the floor here for three separate meetings where the public can comment? Councilmember Johnson said, I am not saying that your idea is not reasonable. I guess I am just failing to see why we need to send it all the way back to committee and start the process over when we already have it on the floor and we can do it over three readings tonight? Councilmember Vance said, well, if we do it over three readings, I have at least one or more amendments and that is one of the reasons why I would like to see it go back to committee. Then, when the committee presents it, hopefully, we wouldn't have to go through the amendment process. Councilmember Moore said, well, then that is a different issue. Councilmember Johnson said, well, I understand that. Mayor Perrin said, that is a different issue. Councilmember Chris Gibson said, as chair, I am fine with it going back to committee, but I would ask that we waive the second reading when it appears before the council.

Councilmember Gene Vance motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long, to refer ORD-19:004 back to the Nominating & Rules Committee. All voted aye, except Councilmember Charles Frierson.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gene Vance, seconded by Councilperson Bobby Long, that this matter be Referred . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Ann Williams;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Nay: 1 - Charles Frierson

[ORD-19:005](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT WITH AXON ENTERPRISES, INC FOR THE PURCHASE OF AXON FLEET CAMERAS AND AXON TASER PROGRAMS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Attachments: [Fleet Cameras - Q-199906-43501.197PS - 2-5-19](#)
[Taser Package - Q-199334-43501.011PS - 2-5-19](#)
[Axon Sole Source Letter](#)
[Axon 2019 Quote Analysis vs. Budgeted Amounts](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:005 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street said due to the quote ending on February 28, 2019 and the urgency to get this enacted, we are using their cameras right now at no cost. Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Gene Vance, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye through a roll call vote.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: O-EN-011-2019

[ORD-19:006](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON THE NORTH SEVEN AND ONE HALF FEET (7.5') OF THE SOUTH FIFTEEN FEET (15') WIDE DRAINAGE EASEMENT ALONG THE SOUTH PROPERTY LINE OF LOT 17 BLOCK "A" OF TWIN OAKS SUBDIVISION AS REQUESTED BY CARLOS WOOD ON BEHALF OF CHRIS FUTRELL

Attachments: [notarized petition.pdf](#)
[plat.pdf](#)
[PandE Letter.pdf](#)
[adjacent owner concurrence letter.pdf](#)
[ATT.pdf](#)
[Center Point Entergy Drainage Release Form.pdf](#)
[CWL Response-DRAINAGE ESMT - TWIN OAKS.pdf](#)
[Ritter Response.pdf](#)
[Suddenlink Easement Abandonment Response.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:006 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore asked that ORD-19:006 be held on three separate readings.

Held at one reading

[ORD-19:007](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ON LOTS 21 AND 22 OF DUDLEY'S SUBDIVISION (FRED STREET) FROM GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, C-3 TO MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, RM-16 LUO AS REQUESTED BY CARLOS WOOD ON BEHALF OF HAROLD AND LINDA SIMPSON

Attachments: [Staff Summary - Fred Street.pdf](#)
[Turner-FredSt Rezoning-PLAT.pdf](#)
[Application.pdf](#)
[Notification Letter.pdf](#)
[Rezoning Plat.pdf](#)
[Turner Rezoning Map.pdf](#)
[PLack_email_ORD-19-007.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-19:007 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Chris Moore asked that ORD-19:007 be held on three separate readings.

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, I sent an email to you all yesterday I believe stating that there wasn't a letter whether or not Nettleton Schools approved this or not. Mayor Perrin, you said, you were going to get in touch with Mr. Dunivant. Mayor Perrin said, I did not make contact with him today. I don't know if we got it back in or not yet. Councilmember Bobby Long said, from my understanding, Mr. Dunivant wrote a letter not long ago stating from that point on until further notification, he was not in approval of any other multifamily housing going into the Nettleton School District. From my understanding, we have not received any letter rescinding that last letter so my point of view is that his stance is still that he would not approve of any other additional multifamily occurring in the Nettleton School District.

Mayor Perrin said, we send a letter to all of the school districts that a rezoning affects. I know that Ms. Lack sent me a text or something and I could never get in contact with Mr. Dunivant. Have we received anything from him at all? Planning Director Derrel Smith said, we did receive the certified receipt that they did sign for it. We have not received a response. The letter Councilmember Long was talking about was several months ago and we haven't gotten anything since. Mayor Perrin said, that letter stated, if I am not mistaken, that he is stating in his letter that they would object to any new multifamily housing in the Nettleton School District. Mr. Smith said, they stated they would not be in favor of any multifamily housing in the Nettleton School District. Mayor Perrin said, thank you. Councilmember David McClain said, so I am clear, I guess two duplexes is what they are looking at. Mr. Smith said, that is correct. This does have a limited use overlay attached to it. So, it is going to be two lots with one duplex on each lot. So, you are looking at four doors. Councilmember Gene Vance asked, is this property usable for anything commercial. Mr. Smith said, it is zoned C-3 right now. It is too small to get anything on. I mean, you couldn't really even do a sign because you are adjacent to the residential. That wouldn't be allowed by right. It would have to be a

conditional use. It would be very hard to get a commercial use business on this property. Councilmember Vance asked, does this face a residential street or a commercial street? Mr. Smith said, it faces a residential street.

Mayor Perrin asked, what is the desire of the council? Councilmember John Street asked to hold it to three readings. Mayor Perrin said, ok. I will try again tomorrow to get a hold of Mr. Dunivant and I will make a note of that too.

Held at one reading

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-19:003](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE ORDINANCE 1639 WHICH ESTABLISHED THE AUDITORIUM COMMISSION AND PROVIDED FOR THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF COMMISSIONERS

Attachments: [MOU Auditorium Commission](#)

Mayor Perrin said, this is increasing it to nine members on the Auditorium Commission. Also, we have done a tremendous amount of work of getting the Memorandum of Understanding that is in behind this with the Auditorium Commission and the Foundation of Arts. We budgeted about \$250,000 to upgrade the Forum. A lot of the items are being done now. We are getting bids on the stuff we are going to do on the Forum. This is kind of a cleanup from the past of what the Forum Commission is doing and the FOA. This will also give us the opportunity to have entertainment, not only in performing arts, but also have musical and all types of entertainment at the Forum since the Rotary Park is right outside the front door.

Held at second reading

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-18:087](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 50-31 TO REFLECT THE NAME CHANGE AT THE DOG PARK AND CHAPTER 50-33 TO REQUIRE ALL ADULT DOGS TO BE SPAYED OR NEUTERED BEFORE ENTERING THE PARK

Attachments: [ORD 18 070.pdf](#)

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: O-EN-012-2019

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Perrin reported on the following items:

I think all of you have seen the Airport Commission Financial Statements ending January 31, 2019 where they had a negative for the month. But, again, that is because they pay their bills on the front end. They had to pay a lot of insurance and things of that nature, but they had a good year last year.

I only have a few items to cover this evening.

On Thursday, Community Development Director Tiffny Calloway and myself and Beck Pride Center Director Lynda Nash will be going to ADFA, the Arkansas Development and Finance Authority board meeting. We have been invited to do that. Our request for a \$1 million dollar grant to build a Veteran's Village in Jonesboro passed their committee and will be presented to the board for approval on Thursday. We need your thoughts and prayers on that because this will be a nine house facility. We will also have Beck Pride building on there to run the facility and to help our veterans on any issues they may need help with such as education, medical care, or whatever they might need. We will also be working with the Craighead County Veteran's Association on this. We will come back and let you know how that meeting went.

On Liens, if you all remember, when we mow grass and things of that nature, we do put liens on those properties. I know we had to change that system. I think Councilmember Charles Frierson brought that up a year or two ago on our process which we changed and did do that and certified those. And, because of that, we now have seven liens on properties now that total about \$15,000, almost \$16,000. We just received this last month, a little over \$5,000 on the liens. The way it works is that we file the liens. Then, we are notified that the property does have our lien on it and they are going to sell the property at the courthouse steps. The first step is that they take the minimum bid which includes all liens and taxes that are owed. The second step is if sold, then we receive our lien money the following year. So, they have to hold it for one year and then we receive the money from the court less a 2% handling fee. For example, we just talked about a lien that was a year old. The lien total on that property was \$5,900 and we received \$5,797. If this property does not sell on the courthouse steps within two years, then the city's rights are negated away and we are not guaranteed any money on those liens. I just wanted to give you the process. We met and had a conference call last week with the Land Commissioner's office and I just wanted to share it with you. We do have several of them pending. Everyone of them we have verified with the State of Arkansas that we do have liens and they do total up to \$15,000. So, we will see how those sales go. We will certainly keep you up to date on those as they come up for sale.

Police Chief Rick Elliott and I have been asked to make a presentation on March 21, 2019 to the Game and Fish board of directors. We have our slide presentation and stuff that we are working on. It is probably ready by now. We will go down and present that. We will also ask the Game and Fish if they could see fit to give us additional monies for our shooting range here in Jonesboro. We were told from some of the commissioners that there were some monies allocated last year that were not used that was rolled over into their budget. We are going to visit with them and hopefully we will go to dinner with them the night before and sit down and talk with them about that. Hopefully, we can get those funds allocated to Jonesboro.

This Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., the Land Bank will be meeting with developers here in the council chambers to discuss how the Land Bank works. It has been advertised in the newspaper. If you all would like to attend, I think that would be a good meeting. I have also asked the Land Bank Director Jonathan Smith to give a full report at a March council meeting to talk about the land that we have purchased, the land that has been donated to the city, and have a color coded map to show what

area that is done and what the commissioners of the Land Bank have said that they think is their high priority in trying to rehabilitate Jonesboro. I think you will find that presentation interesting. We will put him on the agenda for the next council meeting in March. I hope that he has a good meeting. We have had a lot of discussion with some of the developers, but we want to make sure that they understand how the Land Bank works.

On February 28, 2019, next week, at Central Baptist Church at 4:00 p.m., ARDOT or the Highway Department will be having a meeting on the Highway 1 widening. So, be sure to mark your calendars for that because they will be here. I met with ARDOT District Engineer Brad Smithee today, as well as, Metropolitan Planning Coordinator Paul Simms. They will be bringing several people up to explain that. In addition to that, Ms. Patti Lack met with me and another couple last week. She sent me some information today. I have forwarded that to Brad Smithee. I told him at lunch, and I didn't have it with me because I had to go to Bay for a MPO Metropolitan Planning Commission meeting. So, all of that information Ms. Lack has been sent to the Highway Department for them to look at. She has drawn up some stuff and we did talk about some things that certainly needed their attention on safety elements on this highway. So, they do have your comments and certainly will be talking to you I am sure. And, on the 28th, we will have the public hearing at Central Baptist Church. So, I just wanted to share that with you.

[COM-19:009](#)

Airport Commission Financial Statements ending January 31, 2019

Attachments: [JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 01_2019.pdf](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, we had a special Finance committee meeting earlier today and I ask that we suspend the rules and walk on RES-19:014 and RES-19:016. Councilmember John Street seconded the motion. All voted aye.

[RES-19:014](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH COLSON CASTER, LLC TO SELL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY LIMITS OF JONESBORO

Attachments: [Purchase Agreement](#)
[Warranty Deed](#)

Councilmember Joe Hafner motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to suspend the rules and walk on RES-19:014. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: R-EN-024-2019

[RES-19:016](#)

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE MIRACLE LEAGUE FUND TO ALLOW FOR PAYMENT OF THE GENERAL REVENUE

PROMISSORY NOTE (MIRACLE LEAGUE PARK PROJECT REFUNDING) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000

Councilmember Joe Hafner motioned, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to suspend the rules and walk on RES-19:016. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: R-EN-025-2019

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, in light of what we decided on ORD-19:004, on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, I would like to call a Nominating and Rules Committee meeting and I will defer to the City Clerk's office in regard to what time we set that to accommodate other schedules. Councilmember Chris Moore asked, do you want to have that right before the council meeting. Councilmember Gibson said, yes.

Councilmember Chris Moore said, when you were talking about the properties that we had liens against and the process of obtaining those properties, you stated that the properties were offered at the beginning price of the combination of the lien and taxes and if that minimum wasn't met, then it goes back into another process. Is it possible at that point if the minimum price is not met, as a lienholder, could the City of Jonesboro step in and offer that minimal? Mayor Perrin said, yes they can. Councilmember Moore said, for instance, if there is \$15,000 owed against it and \$10,000 of it is us, it might be in our best interest to just go on ahead and purchase that property for the minimum lien because we are basically paying ourselves back. Mayor Perrin said, right, we do. We do have. Councilmember Moore said, in other words, on that same scenario, we would acquire the property with \$15,000 in liens for \$5,000 and that might be an opportunity then to recoup our money by either putting it up for sale or putting it in the Land Bank or something else. City Attorney Carol Duncan said, the Land Bank is looking at several properties that are in that situation. Councilmember Moore said, I would think that there probably needs to be some procedure or some fund established because that is going to have to be on pretty short notice I think when that comes up. Mayor Perrin said, that also brings up another item too. In discussion and in answering your question, yes, they are as City Attorney Carol Duncan had just said. Also, we are going to have to look probably to fund a little more to the Land Bank because they have done a great job. I drove for three hours with the Land Bank Director Jonathan Smith and Dr. Warner who is the Chair. They bought some of the property underneath the bridge and down through there which will tie into this Veteran's Village which then you will have a tremendous area, a long area that has been rehabbed. But, \$25,000 is not going to take too long to get by so we just plugged a figure of \$25,000 and said if you need additional monies, come back, and we will present that to the council. That is why I wanted him to make a presentation at the next council meeting. But, you are right. We can make an offer.

Councilmember Moore said, I would just think what needs to happen is that your staff needs to start thinking about what the plan would be if we were going to purchase those. Is the Land Bank going to send a representative to bid and purchase it and authorize the money out of their budget? Mayor Perrin and Ms. Duncan both said, yes.

Ms. Duncan said, they already have that process underway there. Their commissioners are looking at what is potentially up for auction and then they are going to discuss it at their next meeting. At which point, they will make a decision of what they would be comfortable authorizing Jonathan to do and then that will be presented to you all to also authorize. Then, obviously, he can bid within those parameters. Councilmember Moore said, I mean, obviously, as one of the lienholders, it would be in our vested interest to buy. That brings me to the second point. The Land Bank, for the first time in maybe about the last couple of weeks, I have actually had quite a few developers call me, asking me about the properties coming, particularly the one on Warner and then maybe the one that we talked about at the last meeting that I believe was on Bridge or somewhere, but I think there is quite a bit of interest of developers looking at the opportunities to step in there and buy a low cost property. I will be interested to see what happens. What was the time of the meeting? Mayor Perrin said, I believe it is at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday here in the Council Chambers.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, said, I want to say Mayor Perrin, Craig Light, and Mark Nichols, Mr. and Mrs. Ishmael and I appreciate your time last week. A bunch of us got together and put a proposal together for just that small little area really from Dollar General going south on the project. We listed all of the advantages. There is not a lot of changes from what the state has and so I just hope that you guys read that and maybe we can get your support and we can work with the state and kind of work the two programs together on that. I think you said 5-7 and I think it is 4-7 if I am correct at Central Baptist Church on the 28th. Mayor Perrin asked, is it from 4-7? Ms. Lack said, I think it is from 4-7. That is what was advertised in the newspaper, from 4-7 on the 28th. I appreciate your time and if you all could read that and we hope we can get some of your support with it. Thank you.

[COM-19:010](#)

Harrisburg Road Proposal Presented by Patti Lack

Attachments: [Harrisburg Proposal_02192019.pdf](#)

Filed

Wanda Turner, 1708 Clayhill, said, I wanted to take a minute because I don't think the council, and I appreciate the proclamation, but I don't think the council understands how unique the fact that your Jonesboro Animal Control works to do these spay/neuter and low-cost vaccination clinics. It is the only one of its kind in the state of Arkansas. It is a result of Sgt. Rogers and his staff volunteering their time so that together we can work to do this. I want you all to understand it truly is, there is not another program in the state of Arkansas that does that for the community. So, I think, the city and Jonesboro Animal Control deserves a round of applause. Thank you.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk