



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

5:30 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

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

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR HAROLD COPENHAVER AT 5:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Present 10 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent 2 - Ann Williams and LJ Bryant

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 10 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and LJ Bryant

[MIN-22:008](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Attachments: [CC Minutes 02012022](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

[RES-22:026](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 FOR THE CRAIGHEAD TECHNOLOGY PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD RAIL EXPANSION PROJECT - SECTION II TRACK CONSTRUCTION (2021:21)

Attachments: [CO - 2 - Trac Work](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-030-2022

[RES-22:027](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR THE CRAIGHEAD TECHNOLOGY PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD RAIL EXPANSION PROJECT - SECTION I SUBGRADE WORK (2021:21)

Attachments: [CO 1 - Richard Baughn Construction](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-031-2022

[RES-22:028](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO CONTRACT WITH COMMUNICATIONS MADE EASY, INC. (CME, INC.) FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE ATHLETIC FIELD AT THE JOE MACK CAMPBELL SPORTS COMPLEX

Attachments: [CME Joe Mack Contract2022](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-032-2022

[RES-22:029](#)

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO SELL PROPERTY LOCATED AT LOT 6 BLOCK 1 NORTH MAIN STREET TO WATSON ICE COMPANY, LLC

Attachments: [Lot 6 Block 1 email from brichardson 02082022](#)
 [Lot 6 Block 1 N Main St 01-11-2022 Jonesboro](#)
 [Offer and Plat Watson Ice](#)
 [Offer and Acceptance Watson Ice](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-033-2022

RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

[RES-22:024](#)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO GRANT AN EASEMENT - INGRESS & EGRESS TO CITY WATER AND LIGHT PLANT OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS (CWL)

Attachments: [Ingress Egress Easement-Sports Complex](#)

Councilmember John Street asked to be recused from voting and consideration of RES-22:024 due to the fact that he is a CWL board member.

Councilmember Charles Frierson asked to be recused from voting and consideration of RES-22:024 due to the fact that he is legal counsel for CWL.

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

Aye: 8 - Chris Moore; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and LJ Bryant

Recused: 2 - Charles Frierson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-034-2022

6. NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-22:030](#)

RESOLUTION TO SET JUDGES, CLERKS AND ALTERNATE WORKERS FOR THE 2022 CITY, WATER AND LIGHT ELECTION

Councilmember John Street asked to be recused from voting and consideration of RES-22:024 due to the fact that he is a CWL board member.

Councilmember Charles Frierson asked to be recused from voting and consideration of RES-22:024 due to the fact that he is legal counsel for CWL.

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

Aye: 8 - Chris Moore; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and LJ Bryant

Recused: 2 - Charles Frierson and John Street

Enactment No: R-EN-035-2022

[RES-22:035](#)

A RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ABANDONMENT OF DRAINAGE EASEMENT LOCATED ON PART OF LOTS 8 AND 11, HILL PARK ADDITION, PHASE 1 AS REQUESTED BY CRAFTON TULL ON BEHALF OF ANDREA PANNECK

Attachments: [Hill Park 1770 Mayfield Drainage Easement Abandonment](#)
[Hill Park 1770 Mayfield Drainage Easement Abandonment Plat](#)
[Notice of Resolution](#)
[Notice of Ordinance](#)

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

Aye: 10 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: R-EN-036-2022

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[ORD-22:004](#) 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 Chris Gibson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-22:004 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

[ORD-22:006](#) AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FIRST STEP PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT TO DEVELOP AN INVENTORY OF HARD-SURFACED ROADWAYS MAINTAINED BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Attachments: [Statement of Proprietary Technology\(2022.01\)](#)
[Jonesboro, Arkansas 2022 Street Conditions \(49.5\)](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Charles Frierson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-22:006 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember David McClain asked, are they just giving us an inventory or are they going to work with us and then, I guess what is the plan from there? Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, I'll have Craig in discussion with this. This is actually a group that will do a turnkey operation for both of us in multiple avenues that we don't have with other facilitators. Craig, if you would, state the contract agreement. Engineering Director Craig Light stated, this contract is to update our asphalt inventory in the city. The last time we did it was in 2015. Once we get that inventoried, we use that to develop the list of problems that need to be overlaid and maintained over the next few years. So, here in probably five years or so, we will do another inventory. So, it's just kind of a continual process of assessment. Mayor Copenhaver asked, but this will also do our sidewalk assessment? Mr. Light said, yes. With this contractor, they will also be collecting our sidewalk information which is probably something that we won't necessarily have to have every five years because it could be a dataset that we will continually update, but the asphalt conditions changed annually. The amount that we are budgeting, we are not getting every road touched in year one. It takes us several years. So, updating it every year is probably not worth the expense in doing that, but probably about every five years and I think it has been about seven since we've done one. Councilmember Chris Moore said, well, there were a couple of other issues when we discussed that in committee. It not only gives us an inventory, but it gives us the condition and an assessment of the asphalt also. And, then, it was time sensitive based on the asphalt plant's opening. The city tries to get ahead of the curve before the state contract is let and tries to get a majority of the asphalt early on. Mr. Light said, that is correct. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you Craig.

Held at one reading

[ORD-22:008](#) AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A USED TRACTOR, AND SUPPORTING EQUIPMENT, FOR THE PARKS DEPARTMENT

Attachments: [Parks Tractor Quote](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Brian Emison, to

suspend the rules and offer ORD-22:008 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third reading. All voted aye.

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to adopt ORD-22:008. 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: 10 - Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: O-EN-010-2022

[ORD-22:010](#)

AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR XET CONCEPTS, INC., DBA UNWIND CAFE LOCATED AT 2816 CREEK DRIVE

Attachments: [Private Club Permit Application USE Redacted](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-22:010 by title only. All voted aye.

James Elwyn Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, said, it is amazing at the number of requests for places to sell alcohol here in our dry county keeps growing and there are a few things we need to consider. One is let me mention a quality of life thing. One of the effects of alcohol is that it deadens the taste buds. We used to have a number of restaurants in this town that served food that tasted good. Now, they just serve alcohol, they put food that isn't the quality we used to have in our restaurants. And, so, we are not getting the good quality of restaurants that we once had. Second, you all need to take a look at what has happened to the crime rate of this city which used to be known for its' very low crime rate. The truth is alcohol is more harmful than many of the illegal drugs that we are fighting. Also, we are presenting hypocrisy to people by telling them we are going to be very tough on you for using these drugs and we are going to endorse use of drugs that are as bad or even worse. So, we are promoting a higher crime rate by having these private clubs selling liquor. At some point, we need to put a stop to it. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you for your concerns Mr. Hinds.

Held at one reading

[ORD-22:012](#)

AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR SUNFLOWER SOCIAL CLUB, INC., D/B/A POPPY'S BEACH GRILL & EVENT CENTER TO BE LOCATED AT 2915 KAZI JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

Attachments: [Poppys USE Redacted](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-22:012 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-22:002](#)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO ACT 1112 OF 2017, AND APPLICABLE ABC REGULATIONS APPROVING THE RESTAURANT PRIVATE CLUB APPLICATION OF UMAI SUSHI & GRILL IN JONESBORO, INC. AT 1841 E. HIGHLAND, SUITE B, JONESBORO, CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS.

Attachments: [Umai Sushi and Grill Private Club Permit Application_Redacted](#)

James Elwyn Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, said, I didn't speak on the last one the 012 because I just would have been repeating what was said on 010. There was no need for that redundancy, but there is an additional matter on this one. And that is, you need to look at the proximity of this place to one of our busiest intersections which is the corner of Highland and Red Wolf Boulevard. We do not need to introduce alcohol into that high traffic area. It's way too busy of a place and if you have a private club, you have DWI's. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you for your comment.

Held at second reading

[ORD-22:005](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, FROM I-1, LIMITED INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT, TO C-3 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5712 C.W. POST RD. AS REQUESTED BY CALIARKA PETRO, LLC, OWNER

Attachments: [5712 C.W. Post Road - Staff Summary - City Council](#)
[Staff Summary](#)
[survey\(8.3.21\)](#)
[Application](#)
[Design Concept](#)
[Photos of Signs](#)
[Returned Notification Letters](#)
[Rezoning Plat](#)

Scott Troutt, 247 S. Main Street, Troutt Law Firm, stated that he was here on behalf of the petitioners Caliarka Gas for this rezoning. I am just here to answer any questions. I did want to address one thing that came up in the previous reading with regard to the traffic studies. I asked my clients about that and it is moving forward. They have got it ordered and everything and the state is very much requiring that they complete one of those before they tie into their road, Martin Luther King. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you Mr. Troutt.

Councilmember David McClain asked, Derrel, the staff summary states that this proposed district rezoning is not consistent with the adopted Land Use Plan. Do you mind to touch on that just to give me a little more clarity? Do you feel like it is a good plan or good use? Planning Director Derrel Smith said, the area out there is shown as industrial. If this location was any further north, we would not have been in favor of it. The location where it is at in the vicinity of the interstate, we felt that this would not harm the industrial park. We have also heard nothing from the Chamber or Jonesboro Unlimited opposing this or anything out in that area. Councilmember McClain said, I guess I am just curious as to why it still has an x on the staff summary. Mr. Smith said, well, it is yes or no. Does it follow the growth plan? No. But, I know, we all know growth plans aren't set in stone. They are designed as a guide. Like I said, if this would

have been any further north, we wouldn't have come out and supported it at MAPC. We would have been against it. Mayor Copenhagen said, thank you Derrel.

Rajeev Kumar, 3323 Flemon Road, said, I sent an email I think to everyone here today and a couple of emails, and a couple of emails, I didn't have the right email address so I want to read out my email here, just a summary. Just like Mr. Derrel Smith mentioned about if this property is going to be a little bit north of that point now, they would not consider rezoning the property to a C-3. I have pictures which I emailed today from the exit to the point where they are showing a left turn for the property. It is about 0.6 or 0.7 miles from the exit which is really way inside on the road. From the interstate to Highland Drive, it is probably 1.2 or 1.3 miles. So, we are sitting a truck stop right in the middle of the road just before the rail track. The project that we are doing, the bypass to cut down the traffic on Stadium and Caraway Road for all of the commercial traffic, right now, the Arkansas State Highway Department shows traffic shows that we have about 11,000-12,000 daily traffic on that road and exit. They estimate, after we have the bypass done, close to 18,000-20,000 traffic count. When we have close to 400-500 trucks who enter the truck center every day, when they will be coming from the exit, they will be turning left into the parking lot on a bypass where we have traffic coming both ways, I think that will be a disaster for our industry. It definitely will now hurt. We are just waiting now for that thing to happen. And, again, I know I am repeating myself, we do have our National Guard unit over there and they are there for any state or national crisis. Any snow, any ice, any icy weather, we get a lot, that is definitely going to be trouble for them to move around. On their checkmark yes to the item C on page number six, where they mention about yes, to answer to Mr. Derrel Smith is yes. There are commercial properties on the exit, but those properties are very much right on the exit. This property is sitting after two left turns. Turning left from a bypass to any business which generates so much traffic, is definitely going to hurt. I don't believe any traffic study will favor this. And, then item F, well, actually, I covered this both on C and F, after we get approved for this C-3, I am pretty sure that other property north of this property which is a warehouse, GMS, and there are other properties, every one of them is I-1. Every one of them is I-1 and commercial property definitely has more value and every landowner wants to have the best value for their property, but what is the best for the city? We want higher paying jobs, not just minimum paying jobs. Most of the gas stations, restaurants, they don't pay more than \$12-\$13 which is on the lower side. One gas station cannot produce more than 10-12 jobs. Yes, a truck stop can be 20-25 jobs, but one big factory can maybe generate 100 jobs and every single job will be a \$40,000-\$50,000 job and up to \$100,000+. They mentioned this lot is pretty small. This lot is not small. They are replotting it out to 10 acres out of 28 acres. The owners own two separate lots in that area and they are combining 58 acres. Ninety percent of our industry will fit less than a 50 acre lot. Why do you want to split out this lot and shut down the door for any big industry to come in? Today, we are growing every year. I move to this town about 10-11 years ago. And, every year I see more business, more industry. We have averaged every other year a new factory of new big business coming to our industrial area. And, they need to be in an industrial zone, not in a commercial zone. We are just trying to undo all of the hard work, all the money, and all the effort you all have spent in the last few years to get this bypass done. I sold my property to Arkansas State with this thinking that yes, this is going to be good for my town. It is going to be good for my industry, that industry that is feeding everyone in this town directly or indirectly. That industry, we don't want to hurt. We want that industry to grow. We want to bring more industry to our Jonesboro which is definitely the heart of NEA. Jonesboro's heart is of industry so we need to keep that thing going. Mayor Copenhagen said, okay. Thank you for your comments. Thank you.

Mr. Troutt said, I did just want to note that I mean the acreage on that property is of a decent size. It's north of 20 acres. But, at the same time, looking at it, there is no practical way to put the kind of large factory that has these high paying jobs on that land. In fact, it was actually zoned residential all the way up until relatively recently. It was in the last 15 years that it was actually changed. And, I had to look this up. It was actually changed to I-1, LUO. That appeared to have been done and again, the records are kind of difficult to suss out, but that appears to have been done with a very specific project in mind. And apparently, it just never came to be and the land has just stood vacant there. I-1 is a reasonably restrictive designation and it has kind of hamstrung that property for years and years. What we are offering is an opportunity for the city to bring business to a piece of land that if it stays this way because of the way that it is designated and because of the way that it is restricted, it is going to be sitting there vacant for the foreseeable future. I just wanted to note that very briefly. And, as far as the turning left thing, here's the thing, there are plenty of properties prior to that point, including one gas station. There is no practical problem turning left into that. I'm not saying that the truck stop is not going to have more people turning left, but again, that is what the traffic study is for. If this is going to cause a major problems, the state is not going to let my client do it. So, thank you. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you for your comments.

(Inaudible, Mr. Kumar speaking away from mic.) Mayor Copenhaver said, okay, we have got another reading on this Mr. Kumar. We can apply any of the questions answered to your commentary tonight and we will forward it onto council.

Held at second reading

[ORD-22:007](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 117, ARTICLE III, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, FROM C-4, NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, TO PD-RS, RESIDENTIAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1510 AND 1604 WOODSPRINGS ROAD AS REQUESTED BY JOHN EASLEY OF ASSOCIATED ENGINEERING ON BEHALF OF MIKE CAMERON

Attachments: [1510 and 1604 Woodsprings Road - Staff Summary - City Council](#)
[Staff Summary](#)
[Plat](#)
[Application](#)
[Proposed Site Plan](#)
[Financial Docs](#)
[Property Notification - Rezoning](#)
[Certified Mail](#)
[Sign Relocation](#)
[Rezoning Plat](#)

Held at second reading

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Copenhaver reported on the following:

I hope all have looked over the Jonesboro Airport Financial Statements. I will say that they are having a grand opening on March 1, 2022 of the new aircraft that will be flying

to Nashville. And, so, that will be the initial flight of that service. So, that is great news. We are also looking for additional funding opportunities through grant opportunities for overlay of that facility which we need to upgrade and we are looking for additional from Senator John Boozman, Congressman Rick Crawford, and other areas not only nationally, but statewide as well so we can provide those resources to our airport.

I would like to say, this is a really good update. We have five new garbage trucks that have been secured. We ordered them over a year ago and two have finally come in. I believe we had one come in last Friday or Thursday and we had one come in on Monday. It is not anytime too soon, that is for sure. I do appreciate our Sanitation Department for its resilience performing under the duress that we have had over the past month. Ever since, actually, November during the holidays and through difficulties with weather, I want to say thank you to their dedication and getting jobs done and overcoming obstacles. We have now caught up and we are on a regular cycle with this point. So, sorry for any inconvenience to the community, but I know the community has understood and they have been wonderful to work with any issues that have been called in.

I would like to say that last week with our MPO Director Alan Pillow and Communications Director Bill Campbell, I attended the ARDOT annual meeting earlier this month and enjoying visiting with our statewide Director Lorie Tudor and the entire leadership team and of course, not to mention, our own Alec Farmer. They are launching statewide, the "Slow Down, Phone Down" campaign in all work zones. I think this is a really good idea for us here as well. We have doubled our patrol cars on the streets this year. I think many of you all have seen the outcome of that. In all of the crazy things that a Pandemic has brought to the US over the last year, we have seen an increase in vehicle deaths since 1940. That is the largest increase since 1940. That is before seatbelts. So, I think we are seeing maybe a case of individuals driving faster nationwide, but driving faster and not paying attention is a deadly combination. So, I don't want to see Jonesboro lose anymore loved ones. So, please slow down and put down your phone.

Another priority that we committed to last year has paid dividends and that is cleaning and picking up litter in our community. Our city Streets Department along with Breaking Bonds Ministry has cleaned up large stretches of roadsides and highways. And, I want to say thank you to the Mayor's Keep Jonesboro Beautiful Commission. They have done a tremendous job with their work as well. And, we learned from this meeting that ARDOT spent \$5 million last year just picking up litter along our roadsides. That is money that could be used in so many other meaningful places. If we would just hold onto our trash and put it in the trash bin. I am asking everyone to become more aware of putting litter in its proper place and picking it up when you see it in Jonesboro. Jonesboro should always be kept beautiful.

Animal Control continues to be pushed to the limits. We have puppies and dogs of all shapes and sizes. And, if you are considering adoption, no doubt, one will be there to fit your needs and fit your family's wonderful wellbeing. And, if you do, the city will cover the cost of microchipping.

I want to say thanks to the support of this council and our federal government for our E911 Department. It has received a long, overdue, revamping. We updated everything from technology and the phone system to staff workstations which I want to say that as of this week, many of that has been implemented. So, we are hoping within the next two weeks, you are going to see a whole new 911 entity in our city government. We are real excited about that and so are the employees and they have said thank you for that

as well.

This week, we have a "We Care" volleyball tournament. It is coming this weekend. Parks Director Danny Kapales said we have 79 teams, 59 of which are from out of town, and 41 are from other states. Games will be played in 17 facilities in our community.

This weekend, it was a little cool. It was about 35 degrees. We had a big trap tournament at our Shooting Sports facility last weekend. We had 53 shooters of all ages and everyone had a good time. I am glad to see the facility coming to use.

Finally, I want to give a big shout out to my friend Ms. Boone. I saw her last week and she told me she watches Channel 24 the first and third Tuesday of every month. She never misses a city council meeting. And, so I hope you are entertained tonight Ms. Boone. I want to say thank you to your commitment to our community.

[COM-22:002](#)

JONESBORO AIRPORT COMMISSION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2021

Attachments: [JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 11_21](#)

Filed

[COM-22:003](#)

JONESBORO AIRPORT COMMISSION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE MONTH ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

Attachments: [JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 12_21](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Chris Moore, said, I asked the City Attorney and she didn't know. Is tomorrow the state land auction for delinquent properties or is it March 16, 2022? I believe it is either tomorrow or March 16, 2022, but either way, the item that concerns me, I noticed that the Citizens Bank Building is up on that list, One Main Square. So, if it is going to be auctioned tomorrow or next month, I think we need to contact our attorney that we have been dealing with and let's schedule another meeting either in next week if it is tomorrow or the week after the 16th. I know the last time he was here, that was one of the holdbacks we were waiting on. Mayor Copenhaver said, that is correct. Thank you for bringing that to our attention and we will follow up with you tomorrow on that. As a matter of fact, we do have a follow-up meeting with that attorney and another attorney considering that as well. Councilmember Moore said, there is no need to meet with him until right after the auction. Mayor Copenhaver said, right absolutely. Thank you.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, just a couple of items tonight. In April, we have a clean-up program in April and May. The one in April will be from the area on I guess the by Forest Church and then we are going to go up to Belt Street. The other is going to be on Hwy. 141. So, if we could get some councilmembers out there to help us pick up some garbage. I appreciate you guys. Thank you Mayor. We will get the candidates out. I want to thank Tony Thomas. I also want to thank Mike Tyner for getting us scheduled. And, also, Judy Casteel is also having one on May 7th. I want to make sure I shout that out for her too. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you councilmember.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Derrick Coleman, 4101 Hickory Lane, said, good afternoon Mayor, City Clerk, City Councilmembers, how are you doing? I am a concerned citizen about a few things. One thing tonight, I am going to discuss about health. I am a CNA, Certified Nursing Assistant. I am also a home healthcare worker. I don't know if you all have seen me doing community services and community cookouts here the past year. Back to the subject, I am concerned that we are, our healthcare system, is kind of burned out right now. And, during the snow days we had, the two snow days, we had to go out to tend to our clients because we can't afford to miss any days. So, with that being said, the roads were not sufficient enough to drive. We were just slipping and sliding. So, I am asking the city council to do a little bit better job over that. With that being said, we also need the nursing homes, Craighead Nursing Home, Wesley on the Ridge, St. Bernards Village, Southwinds Heights, St. Elizabeth's and others, I go to these places and ask them what they need and they need CNA workers. So, I am asking the city council, I know that you have some COVID money reserve, I do know this. This I do know. I am aware because I watch every Tuesday. So, what I am proposing, what I am asking you guys and girls that you all would set up a program to get some nurses to pay to do classes to get people jobs to be certified nursing aids. In Arkansas, nurses get paid \$30 per hour. From five to nine is four hours, Monday through Friday. That is 20 hours per week. That is \$600 for that one person. If you get four of them including ten hours on a weekend Saturday and Sunday, if you can get four nurses, two that works Monday through Friday and two that work on the weekend, that is four and a total of \$2,400 a week. But, the state is requiring you to have 91 working hours to be certified. So four weeks, maybe five weeks, can get a person certified. Meaning that they would have a competition of which nursing home or agency that they can go to. Right now, the starting pay at an agency is \$12.51 for a certification nursing aid. So, what I am asking the city to do is to fund this program. You only have to do it three months. I'm sure it is not going to hurt the city's pocket. But, I am asking my fellow city councilmembers and mayor, could you all find a way to fund this program. Thank you. Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you Mr. Coleman and certainly, we want to say as well, we appreciate the healthcare in our community, the healthcare providers. It has been a trying time certainly throughout the community and when we have weather conditions that are sometimes obviously beyond our control, we do our best and we have done a really good job. So, thank you for your comments sir.

James Elwyn Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, said, asked if someone would help this guy here asking questions about the widening of Stadium. (Robert Coleman, 5904 Stadium, came to the podium several different times to speak about widening Stadium and Mr. Hinds comments were in reference to his questions. The widening of Stadium was NOT an item on the agenda and Mr. Robert Coleman did not speak under Public Comments. A point of order was made each time that he spoke under items on the agenda that were not in reference to the agenda item.) Mr. Hinds said, now, I don't know if there is anything in the plans on the city or the state and it really doesn't matter at this point because let me ask each of you to answer this question. Do you think realistically it will be a long time before Jonesboro has to increase capacity on Stadium Boulevard? That is fast growing. There is growth out there. If you look at the streets available, anything, we can do some things on Harrisburg and Caraway, but the southeast part of them come out on Stadium. At some point, we don't know when, we are going to have to increase capacity on Stadium from I-555 to Lawson Road. I do know there are, we have studies and all as far as future land use. I don't know whether it includes Stadium. If not, the people who do this kind of planning probably need to start thinking about how are we going to do this. So that the people in his position have

the information to know what they need to do for the future. Also, as people build out there, they need to know, you know, how much land they can expect 20 years from now to give to, the right-of-way, when, if we do put five lanes through there, which we probably will. So, we do need to be looking at that for the future and so that people who are doing things, building and that sort of thing, have that information so they can plan. Mayor Copenhaver said, Mr. Hinds, and I will just address that real quickly as well. We work continually with Arkansas ARDOT and those plans are obviously up through 2030 actually. And, so, we do have infrastructure plans of expansions and we work with the state consistently on that. So, thank you for your comments. I appreciate that. (Inaudible, Mr. Hinds speaks away from the microphone.) Mayor Copenhaver said, thank you.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 10 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 2 - Ann Williams and LJ Bryant

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Copenhaver, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

April Leggett, City Clerk