



City of Jonesboro

Meeting Minutes

Public Works Council Committee

900 West Monroe
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Thursday, February 7, 2008

4:30 PM

Huntington Building

1. Call To Order

Ms. Misty Micenhamer from the Mayor's Office was also in attendance.

Present 5 - John Street; Cecil Province; Chris Moore; Darrel Dover and Mitch Johnson

2. Approval of minutes

MIN-08:014 Minutes for the Public Works meeting on January 3, 2008.

Attachments: [010308](#)

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Mitch Johnson, that this Minutes be Passed. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 4 - Cecil Province; Chris Moore; Darrel Dover and Mitch Johnson

3. New Business

Ordinances To Be Introduced

ORD-08:005 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 92:907 AND SECTION 14, ZONING, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, BY CLARIFYING SECTION 14.25 TO REGULATE THE USE AND LOCATION OF COMMERCIAL TRAILERS AND MOBILE VENDING UNITS.

Sponsors: Planning and Metropolitan Area Planning Commission

Attachments: [MAPC Recommendation](#) [Mobile Vending](#)
[Original Ordinance 92_907](#)

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Mitch Johnson, that this Ordinance be Recommended to Council. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 4 - Cecil Province; Chris Moore; Darrel Dover and Mitch Johnson

ORD-08:006 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 9, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, OF THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO AMEND AND CREATE ADDITIONAL STREET SPECIFICATIONS

Sponsors: Engineering

City Engineer Craig Light explained they made some changes to the previously proposed code amendments. He further explained one change was typographical and the other change concerned weight for a tandem axle truck.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Mitch Johnson, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED by an unanimous vote

Aye: 4 - Cecil Province;Chris Moore;Darrel Dover and Mitch Johnson

Resolutions To Be Introduced

RES-08:008 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO PURCHASE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 107 S. FLOYD STREET, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A DETENTION POND.

Sponsors: Public Works and Mayor's Office

Attachments: [City Appraisal](#)
[Mayor's Letter](#)
[Offer & Acceptance](#)
[Peggy Dunlap Appraisal](#)
[Moving Expense](#)

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Mitch Johnson, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED by an unanimous vote

Aye: 4 - Cecil Province;Chris Moore;Darrel Dover and Mitch Johnson

4. Pending Items

BUILDINGS - MAYOR FORMON

Long range facilities plan update: Ms. Misty Micenhamer explained they have formed a committee and are going to begin looking at the previous study.

PLANNING - OTIS SPRIGGS

Status of the master street plan: Mr. Spriggs explained they received four responses to the RFQ and a committee went through the responses. He further explained they then advertised for RFPs and then came up with a ranking after interviewing the companies. He stated they were originally going to use MPO funds but later found out the federal process for MPO funds goes beyond what the City normally does. He then stated they rejected the project and asked for it to be included in the budget. Councilman Moore questioned how much it would cost. Mr. Spriggs explained it would range from \$35,000 to \$60,000. Chairman Street noted the master street plan could be used with the long range plan. He recommended they take it on as a city project and let the companies make their presentations to the committee. Councilman Moore agreed, stating they should rank the companies and then send the recommendation to the mayor. Chairman Street noted they only have to interview three companies. Mr. Spriggs stated they have information that could be provided to the committee. Councilman Moore asked for the information to be provided so they could possibly cut the interview times down.

Chairman Street announced a special Public Works meeting on February 14, 2008, at 2:30 p.m. to interview the companies. Councilman Moore asked that the companies be held to 45 minutes for their presentations. Mr. Spriggs stated they would provide the committee with packets.

PUBLIC WORKS - ERICK WOODRUFF

Chairman Street questioned whether the gas mitigation system has been tested. Public Works Director Erick Woodruff explained they've been testing it for two weeks. He added they are wanting to get all the kinks out before the flare starts working continuously. Chairman Street questioned the time line. Mr. Woodruff stated they are going to have a meeting next week to determine the status.

Standard operating procedures: Mr. Woodruff explained they have them outlined, but Councilman Moore had indicated he didn't want them presented until they were completed.

Mr. Light stated they are getting close with the Stormwater Board to come up with a final ordinance. He added he would like to see before the board in March but then it would probably take several months to take it to Council.

5. Other Business

COM-08:002 Discussion regarding naming the Lawson Road addition Christian Valley Drive

Attachments: [City Naming Policy \(Res-05:402\)](#)
[Lawson Rd Aerial View](#)
[Street Naming Ordinance 2323](#)

Mr. Spriggs explained they received a request that the extension of Lawson Road be named Christian Valley Drive. He asked how they should proceed with the request. He stated the only concern they have is whether it would be a safety concern having the change while driving westward on Lawson Road. He also noted there is a fifteen character limit and Christian Valley Drive would exceed the limit. Mr. Woodruff stated it wouldn't be a problem. Councilman Dover motioned, seconded by Councilman Moore, to recommend to the Council the naming of the Lawson Road bypass Christian Valley Drive. All voted aye. Mr. Woodruff questioned whether it had been determined where it would start. Chairman Street stated it would start at Mt. Carmel. Councilman Moore suggested the Engineering Department decide where it would start.

This item was Read.

COM-08:004 Letter from FTN Associates regarding documentation of discussions on carbon credits availability for the Strawfloor Road landfill

Sponsors: Mayor's Office and Sanitation

Attachments: [L-T Thomas 1-11-08](#)

Ms. Micenhamer provided the committee with copies of the letter.

This item was Read.

CA Riner Co., Inc.

Mr. Larry Stringham from CA Riner discussed copper plumbing. He stated PEX and copper are both good products. He noted the new state code should be coming out on March 1. He discussed concerns with PEX installation and stated PEX installation is not taught at plumbing schools, so it may not always be installed correctly. Mr. Stringham stated PEX was driven through based on an economic issue, with PEX representatives saying \$400-\$600 could be saved per house with the installation of PEX. He added a lot

of plumbers in Little Rock have indicated they do not see the savings because of the problems with PEX, so they are going back to copper.

Councilman Dover questioned whether it's illegal to restrict PEX until the new code comes out. Mr. Stringham answered yes, until the new code comes out and the law sunsets. He added the cities can do anything they want when the new code comes out. He suggested getting plumbers to help make the decision with PEX and to have limitations with PEX to let plumbers know what will be required of them during inspections. He noted PEX will be more trouble for inspectors because they will have to be there more.

Mr. Stringham further discussed copper piping. He also discussed PEX installation. He stated PEX requires a fairly flat bottom because the pipe can move due to temperature changes. He explained that with the pipe moving if there's anything in the ditch it could cause a hole in the PEX piping. He further explained the extra work with the trenches, as well as possible pressure testing before being covered up, could increase the cost. He also noted there is an ongoing discussion concerning pesticides and PEX piping. Mr. Stringham explained petroleum-based products cannot be used with PEX piping because PEX is a semi-permeable based type material. He further explained petroleum-based materials will deteriorate the piping. He stated UV rays are harmful to PEX so it shouldn't be exposed to sunlight. Mr. Stringham also explained PEX can be bent eight times the diameter of the pipe but it does have its limitations in that restraints are used to help it bend. He added in wood studs PEX needs a 1/8 bigger hole so the pipe can rest in it and must be supported every 32 inches. Mr. Stringham explained PEX in attics would need to be insulated due to the heat of attics because the heat will shorten the life of PEX. Councilman Moore stated he read in a report that PEX also has an issue with being chewed through by mice. Mr. Stringham stated the problem is due to the mice poison making the mice want water and since they smell the water through the pipe, they will chew through the pipe to get to the water. He noted mice cannot eat through copper. He explained when PEX is under concrete slab it can be very expensive to fix. He further explained if PEX is within two inches of a stud, then it needs to be protected so nails can't go through it.

Mr. Stringham summarized by saying PEX is a good product when done properly. He stated the issues will take more enforcement at the code level and more education for plumbers. Councilman Johnson questioned what the restrictions are on the fittings. Mr. Stringham said that's something that hasn't been talked about but the water line is not supposed to be restricted. Councilman Moore questioned how many makers of PEX there are. Mr. Stringham said it varies but he has two. Councilman Moore then questioned how many of them have different guidelines. Mr. Stringham answered every one of them says something different. Councilman Moore stated if they allow PEX then it opens it up to all the makers and they all have different ideas. He explained PEX representatives who previously attended meetings stated they had a 50-year warranty on the pipe like copper. He further explained the report to the state legislator also showed only 2-year warranties on the hardware and associated parts. Mr. Stringham stated he was not aware there was a 50-year warranty. Councilman Moore stated all copper falls into three classes and it doesn't matter who makes it because it's all the same installation and guidelines. He added PEX is subject to the maker and if that maker's guidelines are not followed then there is no warranty. Mr. Stringham stated ZURN, who was at the last meeting, has guidelines that state if the guidelines are not followed then the warranty is void. He added they have seen that the guidelines are not being followed.

Councilman Dover stated he has not heard anything that would make them go away from copper due to the installation problems and different instructions per company. Councilman Moore noted he found 92 makers of PEX on the internet, which means 92

different set of instructions. He added there are places in the state that there are some places in the state that copper cannot be used due to acid but Jonesboro does not have that problem because of City Water and Light. He stated there wouldn't be enough enforcement to be able to make sure things are done right. Councilman Dover stated there would be 92 different regulations for the inspectors to have to keep up with because of the number of makers. Councilman Moore explained he read the report to the state legislator and he doesn't think PEX could be installed perfectly. He added the last thing you do before pouring concrete is have a termite company come out and spray the area from one side to another, which may cause concern since it's petroleum-based. Mr. Stringham said PEX may be an issue for them to look over in a few years when the trade is more educated about it. He explained right now there are people out there putting it in wrong every day.

Ms. Micenhamer stated they heard back from Attorney Burt Newell and he indicated the City should enforce the ordinance that is currently on the books. He added that when the new code is adopted then the ordinance can be changed to not allow PEX. Mr. Stringham stated he's been told all of the filings have been done but the City should check with a state plumbing inspector.

Update on the house at Main and Nettleton

Chief Inspector Joe Little explained they are going in the right direction and has a contractor lined up for some inside work. Councilman Moore stated they have paid City Water and Light for temporary electrical work. He added not much work has been done since the last meeting. He noted according to the schedule the house should be being painted. Councilman Johnson stated if he doesn't meet the timeline then that's it. Mr. Little explained the homeowner has a carpenter lined up now. Chairman Street asked for a report as to what has been done and what they are expecting to be done. Mr. Little stated he is expecting a written report from the homeowner on the status of the repairs. Councilman Dover questioned when the timeline is up. Mr. Little stated September. Councilman Moore expressed concern over the other homes that are going to be condemned asking for the same treatment. He added everyone has to be given the same criteria. Chairman Street asked for Mr. Little to look over the report that the homeowner gives to make sure the report is accurate and to give the committee a percentage of completion.

GIS system

Chairman Street noted the person who currently handles the GIS system will be leaving the City tomorrow. He stated the county has three months worth of data that needs to be loaded. He asked whether it will be possible to show someone else how to do it. Ms. Micenhamer stated that was already taken care of. Chairman Street then questioned if someone had been lined up for the IT Director's position. Ms. Micenhamer answered they have narrowed it down to the top four or five and they're going to try to schedule interviews next week.

6. Public Comments

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Mitch Johnson, that this meeting be Adjourned. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 4 - Cecil Province; Chris Moore; Darrel Dover and Mitch Johnson