



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Public Works Council Committee

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

5:00 PM

Municipal Center

1. Call To Order

2. Roll Call by City Clerk Donna Jackson

Councilman Dr. Charles Coleman arrived to the Public Works meeting at approximately 5:12 p.m. and only voted on the adjournment.

Present 5 - Gene Vance;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Darrel Dover

Absent 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-17:039](#)

Minutes for the Public Works Committee meeting on April 4, 2017

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

Aye: 5 - Gene Vance;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Darrel Dover

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

[MIN-17:046](#)

Minutes for the special called Public Works Committee meeting on April 18, 2017

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

Aye: 5 - Gene Vance;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Darrel Dover

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

4. New Business

Resolutions To Be Introduced

[RES-17:042](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO,

ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKERS

Attachments: [Copy of Community Service Worksite Agreement.pdf](#)

City Attorney Carol Duncan stated that basically what has been happening with a lot of our departments is they often utilize public service workers that are on probation or parole from ADC as opposed to the ones that at the county jail. They had a new agreement they had originally submitted to Parks and then also submitted to Sanitation and Streets. It had a couple of things in there she was a little uncomfortable with about medical care. We got them to change that and say that we would agree to assist and facilitate them in getting medical attention, but we were not obligated to pay for said medical attention if they were injured while doing public service work. Ms. Duncan said since they were approaching different city departments individually, it made more sense to bring it and have it approved through the City Council and the Mayor for all departments. They are all going to get the same agreement.

Councilman Dover asked if these individuals are people who are out on parole. City Attorney Carol Duncan said that some of them are out on parole. It says in there that we find out what for before we determine where we put them. Some of them would not be eligible in our Parks Department, but might be eligible in sanitation. Councilman Dover asked how they would be supervised. Ms. Duncan said that our people are supervising them. She said they are not in jail. They have already come out.

Councilman Dover stated that we recognize that there might be certain locations they cannot work depending upon what they had done previously. Ms. Duncan stated those restrictions will be placed on them as well. If they are restricted from being around children, they will be restricted from that. Councilman Dover asked who gives the City that information. Ms. Duncan said she thought that ADC cooperates with the different departments. Councilman Dover asked if the City had to ask for it or if the ADC just gave it to us. Ms. Duncan said she did not know the answer to that. She said they know we want non-violent. Mayor Perrin stated the very first thing it says on the ADC sheet is to a complete a thorough screening of all offenders prior to referral for placement. Advise the worksite of current offenses, if requested.

Ms. Duncan stated again that they know we want non-violent. Mayor Perrin said we are going to have to look at that and based on their offense they need to work here. Councilman Dover stated that as long as there is a process and we are not counting on them to do it and they are not counting on us to do it. Ms. Duncan said if they are out for stealing, then we are not going to put them where there is money or property that would be easily picked up. If they are not supposed to be around kids, then they won't be working in the Parks Department. They notify us and they know we want non-violent.

Harold Carter, 902 Tony, asked when we agree to get them to medical treatment, does the City agree to pay for an ambulance service to get them treatment if it has to be called. City Attorney Carol Duncan said no because they sign a waiver that says we will assist them with medical treatment but we are not responsible for the costs. The individual is responsible for their medical care. Ms. Duncan said that it is no different than if they go to a private citizen's home. Mr. Carter said that he just wanted to know. Ms. Duncan said the City is not responsible for payment.

A motion was made by Councilman Darrel Dover, seconded by Councilman Mitch Johnson, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion

PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Gene Vance;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Darrel Dover

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

RES-17:047

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AMEND RESOLUTION 2001:34 AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A WARRANTY DEED WITH A CORRECTED PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

Attachments: [Highfill Deed.docx](#)

Councilman Chris Moore abstained from voting on the matter due to the fact that he has a family member that is involved in the transaction.

Chairman Street said this was for a deed where the City sold property and there was an error on the legal description and now the property is being resold and that error was picked up. It needs to be corrected for the sale. It does not affect the city one way or the other, but it is resulting in a hold up of the sale until it is correct.

City Attorney Carol Duncan said the person we sold the property to had their legal counsel prepare a deed that had a property description in it. This was when Brodell was mayor and they left off the last two sentences of the property description which made a big difference when they got ready to resell. Councilman Dover asked where this was. Chairman Street said it is the little building out by the round bank that used to be Skip Highfill's office. Ms. Duncan said this property is over on Wilkins. She said she wrote this deed. They had sent her another deed to use, but she said she would feel more comfortable using the property description that our survey showed way back when and not so much the new survey they had just because they read a little differently. Unless you are out there standing with the surveyor, you don't know what that means. We redrafted it with the original property description corrected from way back when Brodell was mayor.

Chairman Street said they have asked that it be walked on to tonight's City Council agenda so they can move forward and process it.

A motion was made by Councilman Darrel Dover, seconded by Councilman Mitch Johnson, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 4 - Gene Vance;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Darrel Dover

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

Abstain: 1 - Chris Moore

RES-17:050

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT A PERMANENT DRAINAGE EASEMENT FROM MARK WEBB (WOODFIELD PROPERTIES, LLC) FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Councilman Dover asked if this was a typical drainage easement. Mayor Perrin said yes.

A motion was made by Councilman Darrel Dover, seconded by Councilman Chris Moore, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Gene Vance;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Darrel Dover

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

RES-17:051

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY TO IMPROVE EXISTING PUBLIC PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

Attachments: [Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)
[Jonesboro Ped Agreement](#)

Chairman Street said he believes this is over off of Race Street where the sidewalk goes up and over the railroad tracks and it replaces it with concrete. If you read the packet, we are responsible for paying the railroad to do the work. We are going to pay the railroad \$17,992 to complete the work. It is something that has been needed for a long time. There is a lot of pedestrian traffic over that and it needs to be brought up to a safe standard. Mayor Perrin stated that a lot of kids go across that to Nettleton Schools. He said we certainly need to get that done. Chairman Street said that if you are a pedestrian, that is the route of choice across the tracks. Mayor Perrin said what is in there right now is wood and it is rotten. Some child could get their foot caught or twisted in there and we certainly don't want that to happen.

A motion was made by Councilman Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Gene Vance;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson and Darrel Dover

Absent: 2 - Charles Coleman and Ann Williams

5. Pending Items

Chairman Street asked Mayor Perrin if he knew what the status of the roundabout was. Mayor Perrin stated that the roundabout is not totally complete. They are still putting the sod there. They have removed the stop signs and just have the yield signs. It seems like traffic is flowing a whole lot better. It has the overlay and stripes on it. They don't like a great deal of work. Mayor Perrin said he couldn't give a date that it will be totally complete. He said they talked about it Monday morning in their Department Head meeting. He said it shouldn't take much longer to finish it. Mayor Perrin said if the weather holds up, it may be finished in a week or two.

6. Other Business

Councilman Dover asked for a brief report on the flooding, what the problems are and how we might attempt to address those. Mayor Perrin said they met on that yesterday morning. He stated they had a map made and he will be glad to send a copy of that map to the Council. He said there were only about ten buildings where water came in. He said there were five residential and five commercial. The commercial is basically out on Highway 49N. That is where we dug our ditches out, but on the other side is the county. We have some of that water coming across from there. We are taking each one of those and looking at how to correct every one of them.

Mayor Perrin said the Forum flooded. We found out that some of the bricks on the building are brittle. We had that sandblasted and had a sealant put on about five or six years ago. The last time that City Engineer Craig Light did a study on that to fix that flooding, the cost was about \$75,000 to get it completed. With this new deal with the bricks, Mayor Perrin said he doesn't know what it will cost. We are going to ask

them to go back in there and look and see. If we have to take that all the way down on Monroe and tie it into Main and into Cate, it may be very expensive. We are looking at every item on here.

Mayor Perrin said the only houses that flooded were on Mary Jane right off of Race Street. We did have some people come in and stay for about six hours or so. The Red Cross put them in motels. There are two things here. We are going to have to raise the driveway up at Allen Park because it is still very low. He thinks the water is coming over the detention pond that was built when the Turtle Creek Mall was put in. He doesn't think it is deep enough and the water is coming over the levee. He thinks that will be a big issue, but he wants the engineers to sign off on exactly what it is going to take to for these five or six places so they won't flood again. He said we also pulled the map on the hydrological study from back in May that shows the rain that came in was six inches in 2-3 hours time. We got real close to the line on this last one, but our rain was very slow getting there. We were very lucky that more things didn't flood. We are still doing the study with the Corps of Engineers to make sure that we get all of that done. Right now, we need to go back and look at those five or six places. We need to get the county out there to dig their ditch out. Anything that needs to get done, we are going to get it done.

Councilman Dover said he had a patron around the old YMCA and the Fire Station contact him and he wanted to know if they had contacted Mayor Perrin. Mayor Perrin said he was not contacted about that. Councilman Dover said he would get with Mayor Perrin on that.

Mayor Perrin said that we all sat down and made a map. Only ten buildings were flooded with half of them being houses that were almost contained on Mary Jane which is right off of Race Street. City Engineer Craig Light is out and will be back on Monday. We will start on that Monday morning. We do have a map and if you want one, we will be glad to get you that.

Councilman Moore asked Councilman Dover if he was referring to the area where water backed up at Nettleton and James by the Fire Station. Councilman Dover said yes, there were some houses there on that corner. Councilman Moore said when he went to church on Sunday morning, the Firemen were out there. He said he thinks the catch box was stopped up and the Firemen were out there with rakes cleaning that out and by the time he got out of church, that water had gone down. That may have been directly related to the catch box being stopped up, but he is not sure.

Chairman Street said they were talking about that before. He said Street Superintendent Steve Tippitt said one of the trash cans that was left out was washed into a culvert and blocked it which caused some of that. Mayor Perrin said a trash can had gone down and blocked one end of Mary Jane and on the other end someone's swimming pool blocked it so there was no way for the water to go anywhere. Chairman Street said it was obvious the amount of work that the City has done in the last year. It could have been a lot worse.

Mayor Perrin said he thinks they are still going to have to look at that detention pond because when it was put in, he doesn't believe that it was dug deep enough to take care of that area. He said they are going to have to go down several feet on that detention pond. That is going to be a lot of work. We are going to take that dirt and put it behind Allen Park to work on our football field because that is pretty good soil. They won't have to travel very far, but the excavator is going to have to go down in there and it will take a few weeks to get that done. Before we start digging, Mayor Perrin said he wants the engineers to tell him that it needs to be lowered. Chairman Street said he thought that detention pond was for the mall. Mayor Perrin said it was.

Chairman Street said he had talked with City Engineer Craig Light and some of those houses on Mary Jane were multiple flood events and if they have flood insurance they would qualify to be purchased by FEMA. They will even pay to have them torn down. Some of those should probably come down so the City can widen that ditch which might provide more relief.

Mayor Perrin said that the City does keep a record of everything that floods. With repetitive loss on that, if you get three or more, then there is a way that you can apply to FEMA to purchase those. That will be one of the options or solutions we have. We will look into that.

Councilman Moore said he thought that Mike Cameron had the hydrology study on that pond. He thinks there were some alternative bids on that so he thinks the engineering is already done on that. Councilman Moore wanted to mention that on Matthews where the City built new sidewalks on the Medical Mile, several utility companies are currently cutting the street and sidewalks. He noticed that they are cutting into the new sidewalks. He wants to make sure they are not leaving a little hole patched up. He wants the City to get them to saw cut it up to the nearest joint and make it look nice. Right now, it looks like they cut what they needed right in the middle of our new project and just patched that. Mayor Perrin said that he thought Mr. Light was working with them on that. Councilman Moore said that it is less than a year old and they have come right in the middle and cut a two-foot hole in a six-foot slab. Instead of patching that two foot square, we need to get them to saw cut it to the joint and make it look better.

7. Public Comments

8. Adjournment

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

Aye: 6 - Gene Vance;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Darrel Dover and Charles Coleman

Absent: 1 - Ann Williams