



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

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

PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:20 P.M.

Mayor pro tem Chris Moore presided at the Public Hearing on the abandonment. He said that Mayor Harold Perrin is on his way back from Little Rock, but he should be here shortly. John Easley, 507 CR 371, Bono, with Associated Engineering said he is here on behalf of St. Bernard's. We are asking for Jackson to be abandoned along with an alley that pretty well runs down the middle of St. Bernard's Washington Avenue Parking lot. St. Bernard's, A Pair of Docs, LLC which is also Sue's Kitchen, and Centennial Bank are all in agreement to have this street and alley closed. We have contacted all of the utility companies and have gotten responses back except for Suddenlink. We got no response or communication from them. They will not be affected because in exchange for the abandonment of the right-of-way, we will also dedicate an easement, a utility easement the same width. So, whatever they have in place now is still going to be covered by an easement. Closing the street because of construction and a new entrance made the best sense, that is why we are closing it. The alley is just a matter of housekeeping. I would like to request that the Council waive the second and third readings due to scheduling. We have a crane coming in about two weeks with a lot of steel being hung. It would just make for an easier and more safe job. Thank you.

Mayor pro tem Chris Moore asked if the alley ran north, south through the parking lot. Mr. Easley said it runs east, west. The alley runs between Sue's Kitchen and Centennial Bank. It's kind of a jagged edge. Once it gets past Sue's Kitchen, it is straight all the way down to Carson.

There was no one in attendance 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 11 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent 1 - Charles Coleman

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

[COM-18:004](#) STATE OF THE CITY PRESENTATION BY MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN

Attachments: [2017 State of City V7.pdf](#)

The State of the City was presented by Mayor Harold Perrin.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned to adopt the consent agenda unless any changes are noted. Councilmember Chris Moore asked that RES-18:009 and RES-18:011 be removed from the consent agenda. Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Moore, to adopt the consent agenda with the exception of RES-18:009 and RES-18:011. All voted aye.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Charles Coleman

[MIN-18:010](#) Minutes for the City Council Meeting on January 18, 2018

Attachments: [Council Minutes 01182018.pdf](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:001](#) A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

[RES-18:007](#) A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE LOW BID AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BAILEY CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR THE JMC PARK SHOP BUILDING (2017:99)

Attachments: [JMPC Shop Building Contract](#)

This item was APPROVED on the consent agenda.

6. NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-18:009](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS REQUESTING CITY WATER & LIGHT (CWL) PAY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE NEW JONESBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT PUMPER TRUCK

Attachments: [Pierce Mfg. Purchase Order.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street asked to recuse himself due to his membership on the CWL Board. Councilmember Charles Frierson asked to recuse himself due to the fact that he is an attorney for CWL.

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

Aye: 9 - Ann Williams;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Charles Coleman

Abstain: 2 - Charles Frierson and John Street

[RES-18:011](#) RESOLUTION TO SET THE JUDGES, CLERKS AND ALTERNATE WORKERS FOR THE 2018 CITY WATER AND LIGHT ELECTION

Councilmember John Street asked to recuse himself due to his membership on the CWL Board. Councilmember Charles Frierson asked to recuse himself due to the fact that he is an attorney for CWL.

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

Aye: 9 - Ann Williams;Chris Moore;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Absent: 1 - Charles Coleman

Abstain: 2 - Charles Frierson and John Street

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[ORD-18:010](#) AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON JACKSON AVENUE BETWEEN CHURCH STREET AND CARSON STREET AND A 15' ALLEY LOCATED WITHIN THE ST. BERNARDS WASHINGTON AVENUE PARKING LOT AS REQUESTED BY JOHN EASLEY WITH ASSOCIATED ENGINEERING ON BEHALF OF ST. BERNARDS HEALTHCARE

Attachments: [Abandonment Request.pdf](#)
[Petition.pdf](#)
[Plat.pdf](#)
[Notice of Public Hearing.pdf](#)
[Eng and Planning Letters.pdf](#)
[Utility Letters.pdf](#)

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson to suspend the rules and offer by title only. Councilmember Charles Frierson said that he needed to recuse himself because he serves on the Board for St. Bernard's. All voted

aye. Councilmember Chris Moore said there were no objections raised at the Public Hearing earlier. Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Gene Vance, to suspend the rules, waive the second reading, and hold it there. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Gene Vance, that this matter be Waived Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

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

Absent: 1 - Charles Coleman

Abstain: 1 - Charles Frierson

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD IN COUNCIL

[RES-18:003](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS ESTABLISHING THE ELECTED OFFICIALS COMPENSATION COMMITTEE FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS

Councilmember John Street motioned to adopt. Mayor Perrin said he had a couple of comments to make.

Mayor Perrin said that the last time that we read that, I think Councilmember David McClain said he would like to have more members on there. Councilmember McClain said that was right. Mayor Perrin said what we have right now is three from administration that is on the committee. I think he had suggested that we have additional people on the committee from the outside. My suggestion would be after visiting with him, is that you may want to amend this resolution if you can and just say up to six members which would give you three more people that any of you all would like to recommend. We would screen those and then send them back out to you all to vote on them so they could be on this committee.

Councilmember John Street said he would amend his motion to reflect an additional three persons to make it a total of six. Councilmember Joe Hafner asked if he could make an additional amendment. The City Attorney had talked about amending the start and end date based on this being pushed back. City Attorney Carol Duncan said right. Whatever date it becomes effective, you want to go six months from that date is my understanding. But, you are going to have to bring a resolution back to add those members so are you saying you want the committee to go ahead and start working with three and then add three. Councilmember McClain said he would like to see it start with six or up to six. Ms. Duncan said you can't start with six until you have the other three names. Mayor Perrin stated what she is saying is that you would have to have a whole new resolution. Ms. Duncan said you are going to have to have a resolution to add those three so it is the same difference. Councilmember Hafner said you could table it and hold it here. Mayor Perrin said we could go ahead and start the committee. Ms. Duncan said however you want to do it, but you could have these three get started and then you could add your other three. I thought that is what you all did the last time.

Councilmember Hafner said we might as well get the other ones added before we start that way we don't have to bring them up to speed. Mayor Perrin said ok.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember LJ Bryant, to postpone temporarily until the Mayor can bring three names forward. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman LJ Bryant, that this matter be Postponed Temporarily . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

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

Absent: 1 - Charles Coleman

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-17:094](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES SECTION 117. ADDING TO THE DEFINITIONS SECTION 117-2 TO INCLUDE CLUSTER HOUSING AND SECTION 117-138, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING A NEW ZONING DESIGNATION WITHIN THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, WITH THE INTENT TO PROVIDE AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT FOR RESIDENTIAL HOUSING. THIS DISTRICT WILL PERMIT AND ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF DETACHED AND ATTACHED DWELLINGS IN SUITABLE ENVIRONMENTS, TO PROVIDE A RANGE OF HOUSING TYPES COMPATIBLE IN SCALE WITH SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES AND TO ENCOURAGE A DIVERSITY OF HOUSING TYPES TO MEET DEMAND FOR A WALKABLE URBAN LIVING.

Attachments: [Multifamily Opponents December 2017.pdf](#)
 [Shirley Moore Opposing Tiny Houses.pdf](#)
 [Cluster Housing Bill Hall Email.pdf](#)

Councilmember David McClain said he had a question for City Planner Derrel Smith. Is this going to create a multifamily look or feel to a certain area or are they small homes? Mr. Smith said they don't have to be small homes. They will be small lots. They will be single-family homes. The majority will all be single-family. It shouldn't take on a multifamily look I wouldn't think. Councilmember McClain said ok.

Councilmember Gene Vance said he had a question that perhaps Mr. Smith can make a statement on because I have been asked and I know we have one letter about "tiny homes." At least one tv station network has been advocating some tiny homes and showing them. They are actually on wheels. We are not looking at anything like that, but we are looking at the ability to have some smaller homes. Mr. Smith said smaller lot sizes. Councilmember Vance said smaller lot sizes that could have smaller homes on it, but not tiny homes like you see on television. Mr. Smith said that would require another ordinance to allow what people would consider a tiny home. If they meet building code within the State of Arkansas, they won't be considered a tiny home.

Councilmember Chris Moore said Mr. Smith, one of the reasons, I think you gave to the City Council, was to allow redevelopment of some existing lots that don't meet the current lot width in the downtown area. Do you see this ordinance being used to come up with a solution for those lots as opposed to being used on new development? In other words, if someone comes in and their lot is only 45 feet wide and the minimum width is 50 feet, this would give the ability to develop that 45 foot lot. Do you see that as the use of this as opposed to someone who wants to come in and rezone a large tract of land for this and build a thousand, 25 foot lots. Mr. Smith said he thinks it will mainly be used in redevelopment in the downtown area and the built areas of

Jonesboro. It could be used if someone wanted to develop a subdivision, it is a new, additional zone. They could apply for a rezoning just like trying to do a RS-4 or RS-8.

Councilmember Moore said the reason why he asked that is that your recommendation holds weight with this Council. Do you see that as something that your office would recommend for new construction on a RS-8 type development? Mr. Smith said I think it needs to be used mainly in older areas that are redeveloping. Councilmember Moore said as you know, you have some leeway on when it is within the 10% of the square footage to be acceptable. You can waive and offer a variance. What you are saying is you see this as being an option to reinforce your right to offer a solution to a smaller lot in the downtown area. Mr. Smith said yes. Councilmember Moore said my concern is that, and I am all about that, is because right now we have some lots that can't be developed because of their size, but I would be opposed to for instance, someone taking a five acre new tract to rezone and breaking it down and putting 400 or 500 twenty-five foot lots on there.

Councilmember Charles Frierson said that would eventually reach this Council. We could decide to turn that down. Councilmember Moore said sure, but I want to know the planner's view on if that is what he would support or if this is an attempt to be able to come up with a solution for people who don't have a solution under the current zoning laws. Mr. Smith said what we are looking at is, when we came up with this, is mainly for redevelopment, that is what we were trying to do. Councilmember Moore said that is what I understood your meaning to be because I know we have had some issues in the downtown and the West End Association where lots were close, but couldn't quite meet the criteria to be able to be developed and you either had to make a decision to give an exemption or not and there should be some other means to justify that.

Councilmember John Street motioned to hold it there. Mayor Perrin said that we would just hold it there.

Patti Lack, 4108 Forrest Hill Road, said that I think you brought up a lot of concerns that I think that I have heard from a lot of people too. I am not against them or for them. I think they serve a purpose. If you read that last sentence, it says, "to provide a range of housing types compatible in scale with single-family homes and to encourage a diversity of housing types to meet demand for a walkable urban living." Jonesboro is not an urban living. If you look at the definition of urban, you think of Little Rock or Detroit or San Francisco. I have done a lot of reading on these tiny homes that are not on wheels. I think they have advantages. I think if you look at what they show on Facebook and if you google the smaller homes, there is an area that they have for that trends that they have made in Michigan, in San Francisco. They have them for low-income families and they also have them for the homeless people. I am kind of concerned with, I think the letter that is also on this right here is from Shirley Moore, talking about the older neighborhoods where they might tear down a house and then put a couple of the small homes right there. What happens to the people living on the other side of that lot right there. What happens to those people? Just because there is a lot that can't build a decent size house, why are you going to put a smaller house there just to fill in that lot right there? I don't know why we always have to fill in the spaces that you have. Also, I have an acre in front of my yard. What is going to stop me from putting two little small houses right there? So, I think it has to be more specific and then also too, is that you look at the neighborhoods in Jonesboro. You look at the neighborhoods on both sides of town, Sage Meadows and Ridgepoint. You look at the communities, Hilltop and stuff like that. They have a building of assurance. They are guaranteed that these little houses won't be in their neighborhoods. I think

you all are our building of assurance and the MAPC Board is our building of assurance to make sure that we don't have those houses in our neighborhoods too because we don't want those smaller houses just because we have an empty lot right there. So, I am not against these. I think that if you had a community of smaller houses to provide for the veterans or the homeless or low-income families, I think these houses are wonderful. But, just because you have a small little lot between a house doesn't mean you need to put a smaller house because that is so not fair to those other two houses on the other sides. I hope if it does pass, that when you vote on that, is that you take into consideration of whether you were living in that house on the other side that you would want that smaller house right there.

Judy Casteel, 1902 Independence Cove, said I am wearing my Scenic Hills hat tonight. A lot of my concerns are the same as Ms. Lack's concerns. Of course, we have a property in our area that is vacant at the moment that is an odd size that could be rezoned. I guess, what it boils down to is there is basically one page of information on this rezoning whereas we have 19 pages on the design objectives for multifamily and a couple of pages on the duplexes and triplexes. There is not a lot of information here. There is not a lot of restriction and that concerns me. There is not a lot of talk about details of what is allowed and landscaping and how these are going to be handled. I assume that these are not going to be front facing buildings if you are going to break up a lot. That is my assumption and I may be totally off the mark there. There are a lot of things that I think are not addressed and need to be looked at in a closer manner. A more detailed manner is actually what I am getting after. I would appreciate your consideration on that.

Placed on third reading

[ORD-17:098](#)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR DUPLEX AND TRIPLEX UNITS

Attachments: [Design Guidelines for Duplex and Triplex Units - Draft - Revised 1.26.18.pdf](#)
[Multifamily Opponents December 2017.pdf](#)
[Scenic Hills Neighborhood Association.pdf](#)

Placed on third reading

[ORD-17:099](#)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Attachments: [Design Guidelines for Multi-Family Residential Development - Draft - Revised](#)
[Multifamily Opponents December 2017.pdf](#)
[Scenic Hills Neighborhood Association.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned that we hold that for a third reading. Councilmember Joe Hafner said he does have a comment. I brought this up at the last meeting. On these last two, on the 17:098 and 17:099, did City Planner Derrel Smith and City Attorney Carol Duncan have a chance to get together? It looks like some of the language was changed. City Attorney Carol Duncan said we did. We met and we edited the language as requested that we thought needed to be edited. I think you will find very little in there that doesn't give a definite. Councilmember Hafner said he looked through it and it looked stronger to him. Ms. Duncan said there were one or two areas that we felt that you pretty much have to leave some leeway for design guidelines because it may not fit in every circumstance. But, overall, it is shall or must, I think anywhere that you look in there. If you see anything that we missed, let us know, but we tried to make it as firm as possible. Councilmember Hafner said I will. Thank you

for looking through that. I think it will help down the road. Mayor Perrin said I agree.

Placed on third reading

[ORD-18:004](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF A TIME AND ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Councilmember John Street motioned that we hold that for a third reading.

Placed on third reading

[ORD-18:005](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO AMEND THE 2018 GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND TO PURCHASE A TIME AND ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Councilmember John Street motioned that we hold that for a third reading.

Placed on third reading

[ORD-18:006](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE UPGRADE OF MICROSOFT EXCHANGE SERVER 2016 LICENSES

Mayor Perrin asked Information Systems Director Jason Ratliff if there was a need to rush this. Mr. Ratliff said no. Councilmember John Street motioned that we hold that for a third reading.

Placed on third reading

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-18:009](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL, R-1 TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT LUO, C-3 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2301 CULBERHOUSE AS REQUESTED BY BLUE PLATE, LLC

Attachments:

[Plat of Survey.pdf](#)

[BLUE PLATE ORDINANCE NO.pdf](#)

[Application.pdf](#)

[Questions on Applications.pdf](#)

[Staff Summary - Council.pdf](#)

[Views of Location.pdf](#)

[Handout.pdf](#)

[Warranty Deed.pdf](#)

[Property Owners Notification.pdf](#)

[USPS Receipts.pdf](#)

[Returned USPS Green Cards.pdf](#)

Mayor Perrin asked Skip Mooney, Jr. if he had any comments. Mr. Mooney said he was here if case anyone had any questions. I think we went over this at the last council meeting. Mayor Perrin said we did.

Councilmember David McClain asked if this still had the emergency clause attached to it or is it going to be separate. Mr. Mooney said that we are certainly requesting that. Councilmember Joe Hafner said he had asked for the emergency clause the last time.

Mayor Perrin said there was not an emergency clause on there. Since he is not an attorney, Mayor Perrin asked when the ordinance would go into effect. City Attorney Carol Duncan said it would go into effect in 30 days. Mayor Perrin said the question would be how can you speed that up? Is that going to be your question Mr. Mooney? Mr. Mooney said yes sir it is. I thought that we had talked about that at the last meeting. I thought that I had actually submitted an emergency clause. Councilmember Gene Vance said I thought you were going to submit one to the clerk. Mr. Mooney said he thought it was submitted to the clerk. City Clerk Donna Jackson said we may have gotten it and it might have gotten overlooked. Mr. Mooney said he is 100% sure that he submitted one. Councilmember Vance asked Mr. Mooney if he had a copy of one with him. Mr. Mooney said I may.

Councilmember Chris Moore asked Ms. Duncan if they could just make an amendment to add the emergency clause at this point. Mr. Mooney said I can certainly submit one. I know that it was submitted online. I do have one. As a matter of fact, I have the email. Councilmember Vance said if there is any way that we can legally do it, I would like to try, but it is up to the City Attorney to tell us whether we can or not. Ms. Duncan said my only concern is that you have already passed the ordinance and now you are going to amend it so I think you are going to have to procedurally figure out how you are going to handle that. Ms. Jackson asked if they could not withdraw. Ms. Duncan said possibly. Councilmember Vance asked if we could redo our vote. Can we undo our vote? Ms. Duncan said you would need a motion. Councilmember Charles Frierson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Vance, to reconsider the vote. Ms. Duncan said a motion for reconsideration would work. Councilmember McClain asked if we were reconsidering the original ordinance including the emergency clause. Ms. Duncan said this vote would be just to reopen the original ordinance. Councilmember McClain asked if we would still do the emergency clause separately. Mayor Perrin said you are going to put it back on the table.

Councilmember Charles Frierson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Vance, to reconsider the vote. All voted aye. Mayor Perrin said it is now back on the table.

Councilmember Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Vance, to amend the original ordinance and add the emergency clause. Councilmember McClain asked if this was for the ordinance with the emergency clause. Councilmember Moore said that was correct. Would we vote separately? Ms. Duncan said you reopened it so your vote before doesn't count. You are voting on the amendment to add the amendment to it and then you will still have to vote on the ordinance. Then, you would have to vote on the emergency clause.

Councilmember Vance said you would have to vote on the emergency clause separately. Ms. Duncan said right, it would be the third vote. Councilmember Moore said right now my motion as stands is to amend the ordinance and add the emergency clause. I would call for a vote. Councilmember Vance seconded his motion. Mayor Perrin said that the motion on the floor is a motion to add an emergency clause to ORD-18:009. All voted aye.

Mayor Perrin said you have the emergency clause tied to the ordinance. Ms. Duncan said the you need to vote on the ordinance. Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long, to adopt the ordinance. All voted aye.

Councilmember Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Long, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye except Councilmember McClain.

NOTE: The emergency clause was on the original ordinance and no amendment was needed.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Charles Coleman

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Perrin reported on the following items:

Mayor Perrin said that on our permits last month, commercial was \$1,534,100 and residential was \$6,425,000 which is almost \$8,000,000 in permits. That is 81% residential and 19% on commercial.

Mayor Perrin stated that tomorrow, we will have our Game and Fish dedication for the Jonesboro Shooting Range. I hope everyone got their invitation. The Arkansas Game and Fish will be here. I know of two commissioners that will be here along with all of the staff and the new Director of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. If you have time, please drop by. It will be at 10:30 a.m. at 3702 Moore Road.

Mayor Perrin said that we have an audit going on in the 911. I will give you updates as that goes forward.

Mayor Perrin said that last Saturday, we had our volleyball tournaments, if I am not mistaken. We had 82 teams here in town. We used every gym that we could possibly get our hands on with 82 teams. That is absolutely incredible. The people coming into town to shop and play.

Mayor Perrin stated that most of you all have received your financial statements in detail. We talked about sales tax and we are going to have a meeting at the Municipal League this Thursday in Little Rock. The sales tax for January for the City of Jonesboro was only up 0.23% as compared to January 2017. Also, if you remember, we ended the full year with it being up a little less than 3%. There has been a lot of discussion particularly on the fair market tax or the taxes on internet sales. It is not only hitting us. If you will take your City & Town magazine and look in the back, it gives you every city by line item. It also gives you by the county. Craighead County is also up just a little bit, but less than 1% in January. That was in November, if you will remember, we are always 60 days behind. So this January sales tax for this city to put a deposit in the bank is up 0.23%. That November includes Black Friday and all of your Christmas shopping in the City of Jonesboro. You would think that that sales tax would be 2-3% or somewhere in there and it is not. Now, did people buy things? Yes, they did. Did they buy them online? A lot. Until we get that law established and changed and work on that, these smaller cities are really scraping the barrel on these sales tax that they are going to receive to run their cities. I am deeply concerned about it and I wanted to share that with you. That is why we budgeted highly conservative on sales tax projection for the city in 2018. That is why you see us trying to go get every dollar and grant, everything we can in additional revenue and those public/private partnerships with slide #2. If you don't have those, you are not going to get too far on this dollar amount that we are putting in the bank. In fact, you can't even run the City

on it. I just wanted to share that with you.

[COM-18:005](#)

DECEMBER 2017 FINANCIALS

Attachments: [12-2017 Sales tax.pdf](#)
[12-2017 State Turnback Report.pdf](#)
[2017 December Franchise tax report - Copy.pdf](#)
[2017 December Rev. Exp and Changes in FB.pdf](#)
[December 2017 cash Deposits Collateralization.pdf](#)
[December 2017 Expenditure Report.pdf](#)
[December 2017 Hotel Tax comparison.pdf](#)
[Required Reserves December 2017.pdf](#)
[December 2017 Revenue Report..pdf](#)

Read

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember John Street said, Mayor, I want to commend you for the excellent "State of the City" report. I thought it was detailed and very good. I commend you and your staff for the excellent level of service that you work to provide the citizens of Jonesboro. Thank you. Mayor Perrin said we have a great group out there. Most of them are in this room tonight.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said he wanted to remind everyone to hopefully attend the public hearings on the bike/ped plan on the 15th and 22nd of this month at 6:00 p.m. at this building right here. I think you are going to be blown away by some of the presentation. I have seen some preliminary stuff and it was amazing. Hopefully, we can get the Craighead Forest property resolved. Hopefully, we can find a way to keep all of that property where the citizens can use it and the bike trails and stuff like that. The Finance and Administration Committee had a special called meeting today. I would like to request that we suspend the rules and walk on ORD-18:011. Councilmember John Street seconded that motion. All voted aye.

[ORD-18:011](#)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MODIFICATION OF A GENERAL REVENUE PROMISSORY NOTE (MIRACLE LEAGUE PARK PROJECT REFUNDING), SERIES 2016; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE NOTE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

Attachments: [2018-2-2 Note Modification](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Mitch Johnson, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye.

Councilmember Mitch Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilmember LJ Bryant, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Charles Coleman

Councilmember Chris Moore asked Mayor Perrin if he could give the Council an update on the Citizens Bank building. I was kind of concerned when I read in the paper that Price Gardner seemed to be more interested in marketing the property for us than giving us our solutions. Mayor Perrin said he will be here to bring that and present to us at the next council meeting on February 20, 2018. Councilmember Moore said ok. I know I have been pushing you hard to find a solution on that and we hired Price Gardner and I was expecting him to come and give us a, b, and c options, not to be telling the newspaper he thinks he's got some buyer in the paper.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Ewart, 212 Windover, said he came tonight basically following some conversations that he has had with his neighbors that share some concerns that they have about the new recycling. Some of us on our street generally put two to three bags a week out. Every time we get a chance, we put two to three out. The size of that container is going to be kind of problematic. When we get to a fifth Tuesday, what we have been doing is that we have been stashing blue bags in the back of our garage so there is nothing unusual about six or eight bags coming out on a fifth Tuesday. That container is not going to hold that. So, do we now just put it in the regular trash? Is that what the proposal is? We are not going to worry about recycling? I think it is going to be somewhat problematic. Mayor Perrin asked Chief Operations Officer Ed Tanner if he wanted to address that. Mr. Tanner said there are many ways that you can resolve that. You can compress the material. Councilmember Chris Moore asked if he could buy a second container. Mr. Tanner said yes. Mr. Ewart said it looked like we couldn't buy a second container. Mr. Tanner said you can only buy one at the discounted rate, but the second one will be full price. Mr. Ewart said it looks like we are restricting the ability to recycle.

Mayor Perrin said if you will remember, we were first doing it ourselves. Then, it went to Abilities Unlimited. The contact that we had with them kept going up. We were getting complaints about the way it was being picked up. I kept saying that we need to go to the carts, being a First-Class City. We needed to go ahead and bite the bullet and buy the two trucks. The first year, you are going to be in the hole because buying those trucks, you are looking at about \$1.2 million. I was thinking that might drive folks the other way and not recycle and what I am finding is that it is driving everyone more to recycling with these carts. Yes, you can buy as many as you want.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Absent: 1 - Charles Coleman

_____ Date: _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk