



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

NOMINATING & RULES COMMITTEE MEETING AT 4:50 P.M.

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

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PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:15 P.M.

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Regarding the abandonment of a portion of a drainage easement in FloyRed Commons as requested by the Craighead County Fair Association

No one spoke in opposition.

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

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2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

[play video](#)

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

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Present 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent 1 - Charles Frierson

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

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[COM-14:085](#)

Presentation by Mayor Perrin to Tina Coots

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Mayor Perrin presented the proclamation to Mr. & Mrs. Coots for their business, Mid-South Plumbing, being in business for 65 years. He declared November 4, 2014, as "Mid-South Plumbing & Electrical Supply Day" for their service to the city. He also presented them with a Key to the City.

This item was Filed.

COM-14:086

Mayor Perrin will present the Mayor's Merit Award to Wixson Huffstetler

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Mayor Perrin presented Parks Director Wixson Huffstetler with the Mayor's Citation for Distinguished Service for his work as a city employee.

This item was Filed.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Charles Frierson

MIN-14:128

Minutes for the City Council meeting on October 21, 2014

[play video](#)

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

A motion was made that this Minutes be Passed . The motion PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

RES-14:163

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH FAMILIES INC. FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [families inc](#)

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

RES-14:164

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH ALEXANDER MACHINE SHOP FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [alexandar machine shop](#)

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

RES-14:165

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH GOODWILL INDUSTRIES FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [goodwill industries](#)

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

RES-14:166

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH CHRIS CONGER FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [chris conger](#)

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

RES-14:167

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH THE SENSORY SHOP FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [the sensory shop](#)

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

RES-14:168

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH KIWANIS CLUB FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [kiwanis club](#)

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

[RES-14:169](#) A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH EVOLVE BANK FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [evolve bank](#)

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

[RES-14:170](#) A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH SOUTHERN EYE ASSOCIATES FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [southern eye associates](#)

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

[RES-14:171](#) A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH ITECHS COMPUTER AND SERVICE FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [itechs computer and service](#)

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

[RES-14:172](#) A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH MORGAN FOODS DBA GIGI CUPCAKES FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [morgan foods dba gigi cupcakes](#)

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

[RES-14:173](#) A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH NATIONWIDE INSURANCE FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE FENCE SIGN AT MIRACLE LEAGUE COMPLEX

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Attachments: [nationwide insurance](#)

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

[RES-14:178](#) RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO,

ARKANSAS LEVY A ONE-HALF (.5) MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE JONESBORO POLICE PENSION PLANS

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Finance

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

RES-14:188

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO LEVY A ONE-HALF (.5) MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE LOCAL FIREMENS PENSION PLANS

[play video](#)

Sponsors: Finance

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

RES-14:189

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO LEVY A 2 MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE PUBLIC LIBRARY TAX

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Sponsors: Finance

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

6. NEW BUSINESS

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ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

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ORD-14:064

AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE AND ABANDON A PORTION OF A DRAINAGE EASEMENT (THE NORTH 60' OF THE EXISTING 95' DRAINAGE EASEMENT) LOCATED WITHIN THE FLOYRED COMMONS SUBDIVISION, CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

[play video](#)

- Attachments:** [Petition](#)
[Plat](#)
[Utility Letters](#)
[Engineering & Planning Letter](#)

Councilman Street offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Moore, to suspend the rules and waive the second and third readings. All voted aye, with the exception of Councilman Vance and Councilman Johnson who abstained from voting due to their affiliations with the Fair Association.

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

Aye: 9 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Chris Moore;John Street;Tim McCall;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Charles Frierson

Abstain: 2 - Mitch Johnson and Gene Vance

ORD-14:065

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2916 WOOD ST., AS REQUESTED BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS.

[play video](#)

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[MAPC Report](#)

Councilman Moore offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.

Councilman Moore asked that the ordinance be read at three different meetings since the property is owned by the city.

This item was Held at one reading.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

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RES-14:186

RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ABANDONMENT OF AN UNDEVELOPED RIGHT-OF-WAY ON EVA COURT AS REQUESTED BY BOB HARRISON

[play video](#)

Attachments: [Petition](#)
[Plat](#)
[Utility Letters](#)
[City Letters](#)

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

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Charles Frierson

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

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Mayor Perrin reported on the following items:

Tomorrow he will be attending a Highway Commission meeting. They have a minute order on the agenda to study the overpass project on Highland Drive and Highway 18. The environmental and design will be going on at the same time. He will also be talking to the Highway Commission about ways to fund the overpass project.

The Miracle League opening was held Saturday. The Municipal League will have an article about it in their magazine next month.

The Fire Department has done a great job with the National Fire Prevention Program. In 2013, they handed out 80 fire alarms and installed them. This year, they issued 196 fire alarms.

Last night, the football programs held their all-star games at ASU Stadium. 300 kids played at the stadium.

COM-14:089

Report concerning flooding problem at 318 Leslie Ann

Attachments: [Civil Engineering Study](#)
 [Council presentation](#)

City Engineer Craig Light discussed the flooding problems that have been discussed at a previous meeting on the Talley property. Mayor Perrin provided the Council members with copies of a report by Civil Engineering Associates giving a third opinion on the flooding problems in the area of Talley's property. The opinion included five suggestions as to how to fix the problem. He recommended Alternate #2 be considered (see attached).

Councilman Moore asked if the city did anything to contribute to the problem. He noted the report from Civil Engineering indicated the structure has reported flooding throughout its lifetime. Mr. Light explained he is only aware of flooding reports in 2009 and this year, but he is not aware of anything the city has done to contribute to the problem; rather, they have made improvements in the area to try to help the problem. Councilman Moore stated if the city didn't contribute to the problem, then he doesn't see why the city should purchase the property. And, the report states Alternative #3 could cause problems for residents downstream. So, the only viable options are Alternative #1 and Alternative #2. Mr. Light added Alternative #2 would have benefits for the rest of the area as well.

Discussion was then held concerning the history of the property. Councilman Street agreed that Alternative #2 should be looked at due to the advantage to the rest of the neighborhood.

Further discussion was held concerning the different alternatives presented. Councilman Johnson asked if this was one of the last houses built in the subdivision because of the way some of the other lots are built related to this one. Mr. Light stated they got aerial photographs of the neighborhood from before the property was built and it shows a natural drainage path going down the area. Councilman Vance indicated this development was a county development when it first started.

Councilman Vance motioned, seconded by Councilman Moore, to have the Public Works Committee look into this issue. All voted aye. Mayor Perrin explained they will get the answers to all the questions asked by the Council members, including whether it was originally a county development, and present the information to the Public Works Committee at their regular meeting in December.

Councilman McCall asked if any other projects, upstream or downstream, could've contributed to the problem on the Talley's property. Mr. Light explained they pulled historical photographs. The level of development has been constant for about 25 years. Mayor Perrin stated they will also look at that before the Public Works meeting.

This item was Filed.

COM-14:090

Presentation by City Engineer Craig Light concerning improvements to Patrick Street

Attachments: [Patrick Street Presentation](#)

Mr. Light discussed improvements they've made to the area around Patrick Street, including sidewalks. Sidewalks were not put in on Patrick Street because there are ditches on both sides of the road that would have to be relocated in order to put in sidewalks. He suggested putting in sidewalks on the other side of the ditch along Patrick Street. He explained they were in the area around the time of school getting out and noticed buses driving down the road around Success School with students walking in the road. He further explained they should look at putting in sidewalks on the south side of the roadway, even though it may be expensive due to moving utilities and putting in a retaining wall. Mayor Perrin stated he would like to look at putting in the sidewalks around Success School and also sidewalks along Patrick from Johnson to Belt, which both would be about \$350,000.

Councilwoman Williams asked if it would be possible to earmark part of the sales tax money to put in the sidewalks. Mayor Perrin answered yes.

Councilman Burton asked if they could also make the area around Success School a one-way road during critical times of the school day to help with the traffic flow, such as what is done on Rains Street near the elementary school. Mr. Light stated he can talk with the school district about that to see what they can do and what the traffic pattern is.

Councilman Moore asked how much of the sales tax money will be earmarked for sidewalks. Mayor Perrin stated it will vary from year to year, so they aren't sure what will be in the budget. But, they may have to look at \$500,000 or more due to the cost of these two sidewalk projects.

Councilman Coleman thanked Mayor Perrin and Mr. Light for their work with this area. He noted he's had a lot of complaints about those issues, so it's nice for it to be looked at.

This item was Filed.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

[play video](#)

Councilman Street asked for an updated concerning the overpass project near the Airport. Mayor Perrin stated it would be part of the overall plan with AHTD. They are

still working on it and getting figures.

Councilman Woods commended Mr. Light for his reports. He also congratulated Mr. Huffstetler for his citation.

Councilman McCall congratulated everyone for the Miracle League project.

Councilman Moore asked for an update concerning the Citizen's Bank Building on Main Street. Mayor Perrin explained they met with the owner's attorneys last week. They are going to ask for permission to perform a major study on the inside of the building. He thanked Councilman Moore to tie down some things on the building to prevent them from falling. They are looking at who owns the building, which was never answered. They are showing multiple owners for the property and can't proceed until they figure out who owns the property. City Attorney Phillip Crego stated this is an emergency condemnation process that would allow the city to tear the building down, but that would include having to notify the owners of the pending condemnation. They do not have sufficient information to notify the owners. A more detailed inspection will help determine whether the city has enough evidence to pursue an emergency condemnation. Councilman Moore asked if emergencies can be declared so they can enter the building to fix any emergency safety issues that may arise. City Attorney Crego stated he does not recommend the city going into the building without permission or going through the steps of obtaining an administrative search warrant. Mayor Perrin noted they are waiting to get written authorization to allow the city to enter the building to fix safety concerns if needed. Councilman Moore stated the roof is falling off the building, so he would like to secure an agreement with the interested parties to allow the city to enter the building if there are pieces of the roof that could fall on the street.

Councilman Moore then asked for an update concern FOI. City Attorney Crego stated to his knowledge there are no issues regarding outstanding FOIA requests and all have been resolved recently without litigation. He added there are no violations and they are still reviewing the process. The Police Department has hired a civilian information officer that will handle FOIA requests for the Police Department. They are also looking to hold training regarding FOI for department heads.

Councilman Coleman thanked Mr. Light for his report concerning Patrick Street.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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Phillip Cook, 5216 Richardson Drive, asked for an update concerning the police officer who was recently injured in an automobile accident. Police Chief Rick Elliott stated the officer is doing well. Mr. Cook asked when the Police, Fire and Sanitation Departments will receive a raise. Mayor Perrin stated it will be discussed during the budget process.

Eugene Holloway, 408 Marshall Street, commended Mr. Light's report. He stated they have been trying to get more sidewalks in the city and thanked the Council for their welcome reception to add sidewalks.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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A motion was made by Councilman Gene Vance, seconded by Councilman

John Street, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 11 - Darrel Dover;Ann Williams;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Tim McCall;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Rennell Woods;Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Absent: 1 - Charles Frierson

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk