



City of Jonesboro

900 West Monroe
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:15 P.M.

1. Call to order by the Mayor at 6:30 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

3. Roll Call by the City Clerk

Present 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

4. Special Presentations

COM-09:002 Proclamation by the Mayor for Clergy Appreciation and Brother Larry G. Hunt Month

Attachments: [Larry Hunt Proclamation](#)

Mayor Perrin read the proclamation announcing January 20, 2009, through February 20, 2009, as Brother Larry G. Hunt month and Clergy Appreciation month.

This item was Read.

5. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Tim McCall, to Approve the Consent Agenda. A motion was made that these files be approved by consent voice vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

MIN-09:003 Minutes for the City Council meeting on January 6, 2009.

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

MIN-09:004 Minutes for special called City Council meeting on January 12, 2009.

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

This item was PASSED on the consent agenda.

6. New Business

Ordinances on First Reading

ORD-09:001 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE JONESBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 2.20, ENTITLED CITY COUNCIL; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Attachments: [Rules of Order and Procedure](#)
[Rules of Order and Procedure - PDF](#)

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

Councilman Moore motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to amend two items in the ordinance. First, on line 189, instead of reading "Handbook for Arkansas Municipal Officials" it should read "Procedural Rules for Municipal Officials". Second, on lines 343 and 344, instead of reading "city employee" it should read "department head". He noted those amendments were discussed with the Mayor and City Clerk. All voted aye.

Councilman Moore motioned, seconded by Councilman Dover, to suspend the rules and waive second and third readings. All voted aye.

Councilman Johnson explained he has a problem with the wording in 2.20.01 (C) Special Meetings that states notification of special meetings shall be given by personal service or telephone. He further explained not everyone is able to receive an email because they are not at their computer during the day and the Clerk's Office does not have time to call each of the aldermen. He stated he doesn't know what kind of compromise but asked that some sort of compromise be made. He added if a special meeting is called he would think the individuals calling the special meeting would contact each of the Aldermen to determine whether there would be a quorum. City Clerk Donna Jackson stated she has spoken with IT Director Bill Jenkins to look into setting up a system in which she can record a message and then the message be sent out to whatever numbers the Aldermen provide. She explained the problem with the special called meetings is the media has to be notified at least two hours prior to the special called meeting, so calling each Alderman would be time consuming. She noted if they can set up the message system in addition to whoever is calling the special meeting making sure they have a quorum ahead of time, then that should help solve the problem. Councilman McCall questioned whether there was someone at City Hall who could make phone calls to the Aldermen in the event of a special called meeting. Councilman Johnson explained in order to properly serve the citizens, then some sort of communication needs to be set up. Councilman Moore questioned whether the messaging system would be traceable in order to verify the call is made. Mayor Perrin answered yes, they would be able to show when the calls were made.

Councilman Johnson then referred to 2.20.12 (A), which discusses Council committees and the designation of a chair. He stated he would like to see some sort of provision that limited committee chairs from serving a maximum of two terms. He explained if Nominating and Rules is rotated, then committee chairs should be rotated as well. Councilman Moore stated as the Rules are currently written the committee chair can be changed every year by vote of the committee. He explained

with Council committee assignments the Aldermen should make sure they can meet at the times the committee meets because of all twelve Aldermen decide they want to be on one committee, then it will take seven Aldermen to make a quorum in order for that committee to do business. Councilman Johnson stated he doesn't have a problem with the way the committees are set up. He added if the subcommittee chairs would have more communication with the department heads of the subcommittees they chair, then that would also take some of the burden off the Council committee chairs. Mayor Perrin agreed with Councilman Johnson.

Councilman Street motioned, seconded by Councilman Moore, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.

A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, that this Ordinance be Passed. The motion CARRIED by a Voice Vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

Enactment No: O-EN-006-2009

ORD-09:006 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 14, KNOWN AS THE ZONING BOUNDARIES PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM R-1 SINGLE FAMILY MEDIUM DENSITY DISTRICT TO C-4 LUO NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT WITH LIMITED USE OVERLAY LOCATED NORTH OF U.S. HIGHWAY 49, WEST OF ADAM DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY THREE SISTERS, LLC

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[Application for a Zoning Map Amendment](#)
[MAPC Report](#)

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

Councilman Moore asked for the rezoning to be left at one reading.

This Ordinance was Held at one reading.

7. Unfinished Business

Ordinances on Second Reading

ORD-08:072 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND ADD TO THE JONESBORO MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, TITLE 6 ANIMALS AND FOWL, CHAPTER 6.08 DOGS, SUB SECTION 6.08.05 DOGS TO BE CONFINED FOR THE PROHIBITION OF IMPROPER CONFINEMENT OF DOGS IN THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Sponsors: Mayor's Office and Animal Control

Councilman Moore asked the ordinance be held at second reading.

This Ordinance was Held at second reading.

8. Mayor's Reports

Mayor Perrin stated at the next Council meeting City Attorney Phillip Crego will have an updated list of all the lawsuits pending with APERMA. He explained they hope to have a proposal from the accounting firm for accounting policies and procedures. He

added they are working on committees that were discussed during the budget process, such as revenue enhancement, capital improvements and building and long-range planning. He further explained the employee working with Springbrook will be leaving in February for training and they are looking at finalizing a chart of accounts. Mayor Perrin stated they will also be looking at devising a preliminary control and security system in Springbrook. He stated he and Finance Director Jim Barksdale will be meeting on Thursday with the Department of Finance and Administration to discuss previous audits and the recurring items that have come up during those audits. He noted the City has been written up for not having a disaster recovery plan, but they plan to have an ordinance to present at the next meeting in order to take bids for disaster recovery plans.

Mayor Perrin explained on February 19th the City of Jonesboro will be 150 years old. He explained he is putting together a committee to determine how the City will celebrate the event.

Mayor Perrin stated the books for December will be closed on February 10th. He noted there are still bills coming in for 2008, but they will be able to close the books on the 10th and provide a report to the Council.

9. City Council Reports

Councilman Fears explained last week several of the elected officials attended the Arkansas Municipal League Conference in Little Rock. He further explained the conference was very informative and was a good chance to get to know the other Aldermen.

Councilman Dover motioned, seconded by Councilman Fears, to nominate Councilman Moore as President Pro Tem. All voted aye.

Councilman Street announced a Stormwater Management Board meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 21st.

Councilman Gibson recognized Councilman Woods as being named one of Arkansas' Young Guns in Business by the Municipal League.

Councilman Moore presented the Aldermen with a form to fill out, stating which Council committee they would like to serve on. He asked for the forms to be submitted to the Clerk before each Aldermen leaves the meeting.

Councilman Moore stated over the last two years the Council has gotten sloppy during Council and committee meetings, noting that he has witnessed talking among Aldermen taking place while business is being conducted. He suggested nominating a parliamentarian to get back on track with making sure the Council is following the Rules and Procedures and make sure the ordinances are in proper form. He noted the City has been lucky by not being challenged by a court with some of the items that have been passed by Council. Councilman Moore stated he has spoken with Mayor Perrin about it and recommended putting together some guidelines for a parliamentarian. He added it is not the Mayor, City Clerk or City Attorney's job to police the Council; rather, the City Council should police itself. He asked City Clerk Jackson to put together some information for him regarding a parliamentarian and what other cities do in that respect.

Councilman Hargis stated he is looking forward to the flow of financial information increasing with the new administration. Mayor Perrin agreed, stating he is hoping to provide balance sheets on all departments by the end of each month.

Mayor Perrin announced the City received \$293, 261 from FEMA due to Hurricane Ike. He added more funds will be coming in because of the work they did to help other cities, such as Marmaduke. He noted the money will be going back into the General Revenue account.

10. Public Comment

Chairman of the Employee Representative Committee Larry Jackson asked for an update concerning the employees getting out of the landfill. City Engineer Craig Light explained they have received 22 properties that are being looked at as potential sites for the new facility. He stated they will meet tomorrow to narrow that down to five sites. He added the architect has started their process.

Mr. Harold Carter asked what department within the City controls the public access television. Mayor Perrin stated the IT Department works with the public access channel. Mr. Carter then questioned whether there are any rules and procedures governing the public access television, but the City and Suddenlink were not able to provide any information. He asked how he can get a copy of those rules and procedures. He noted there is supposed to be a complaint committee in case citizens have problems with Suddenlink. Councilman McCall noted in the past the Public Services Committee heard concerns from citizens regarding public access. Mayor Perrin stated the access channel is not being used to its potential, so IT Director Bill Jenkins has contacted Suddenlink regarding the use of the channel. He noted he is working with Arkansas State University's Radio and TV Department in order to record the meetings with more cameras than what is currently being used. He added they have discussed using the public access channel for other things, such as weather alerts, in order to provide more information to the citizens. Mayor Perrin stated he also hopes to use the public access channel one a month to broadcast press conferences, so he can let the citizens know what has gone on in the current month and what is to be expected the next month. Councilman Hargis asked for a preliminary public report from someone in the City regarding what the City has now and what the City should have. Mayor Perrin stated a report will be put together.

Mr. Pat Austin stated a brick was thrown at the back window of his car on Christmas Eve and last Friday his home was broken into. He noted he lives in north Jonesboro. He discussed the living situation in north Jonesboro. He explained the Police Department's advice to him was to move and stated the Police Department has apparently given up on that area of town. Mayor Perrin asked what Mr. Austin's address is. Mr. Austin stated he was not comfortable giving his address due to possible retaliation. He gave his address to the Clerk. Mayor Perrin stated he would like Mr. Austin to visit with Police Chief Michael Yates. Mr. Austin answered he would speak with Police Chief Yates.

11. Adjournment.

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

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Jim Hargis; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods and Mikel Fears

_____ Date: _____
Harold Perrin, Mayor

_____ Date: _____
Donna Jackson, City Clerk