



# City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center  
300 S. Church Street  
Jonesboro, AR 72401

## Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

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Tuesday, August 10, 2021

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

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### 1. Call To Order

### 2. Roll Call by City Clerk April Leggett

*Mayor Harold Copenhaver was in attendance at 4:06 p.m.*

**Present** 7 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain; LJ Bryant; Joe Hafner and Brian Emison

### 3. Approval of minutes

[MIN-21:062](#)

Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on July 20, 2021

**Attachments:** [MINUTES](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 7 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain; LJ Bryant; Joe Hafner and Brian Emison

### 4. New Business

#### *RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED*

[RES-21:163](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO ACCEPT THE 2021 KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL CIGARETTE LITTER PREVENTION PROGRAM GRANT FROM THE KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL FOUNDATION

**Sponsors:** Grants and Parks & Recreation

**A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Charles Coleman, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain; LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

[RES-21:164](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO APPLY FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FOR 2021 OUTDOOR RECREATION

LEGACY PARTNERSHIP (ORLP)

**Sponsors:** Grants and Parks & Recreation

*Councilmember John Street asked, "Do they have any specific area that they're looking at to put this?" Chairman Joe Hafner responded, "I don't. Danny's here, he might be able to help you." Councilmember John Street said, "Danny do you know of any area northeast for that park? Do you have any specific area you're looking at for that?" Chairman Joe Hafner said, "Let's catch Danny up. We're on Resolution 21:164, this is getting permission to apply for the \$2 million grant for the park in northeast Jonesboro." Parks Department Director Danny Kapales approached the podium, "Yes sir. Yes, there's a couple of locations we've been looking at and as of right now there hasn't been any kind of agreement on any property or anything in place. So to really discuss which location, I don't have that right now to be able to discuss but there are a few potential locations in that side of town but we are open at this moment to really investigate and see if there's a land owner or somebody that would like to work with us and be able to build a park in a part of town that's missing a park cause right now there's nothing on that side of town." Councilmember John Street said, "There's been a big interest over the years on park out there so I didn't know if you had community input on where it was going." Director Danny Kapales said, "No, that's absolutely something we're going to be doing and part of this grant, we have a schedule for next week, we do have a community input scheduled in this room on I believe the 17th and so that is something we will have public will be able to come in and talk about location, talk about what they would like to see, how they would like to see a park moving forward so all of that is in plans to have the community to have that input but there has been nothing decided on at this point we just know that side of town is missing and it's a big gap and this is an opportunity for us to be able to get a grant to build a park on that side of town." Councilmember John Street said, "Absolutely, I'm glad you're moving on that." Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman asked, "I still have a question. Have we ever thought about putting a swimming pool on the north side?" Director Danny Kapales said, "For me and my personal masterplan, it's still in the masterplan to do a pool on that side of town. On the unfortunate side of when you start dealing with grants there's no water grants out there to be able to build pools, so until we are in a position to be able to build pools in Jonesboro it's on that dream list." Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, "I just think that's a tragedy. We have 80,000 people in Jonesboro, almost or more, we only have one swimming pool. That doesn't even make since." Chairman Joe Hafner said, "We need at least 3 or 4." Director Danny Kapales said, "I agree with you." Chairman Joe Hafner said, "I can't remember what the ratio is but I think one time I looked it was at least 4 pools." Director Danny Kapales said, "I would say that's minimum. We are missing one good size Olympic pool and then 3 to 4 community pools."*

*Chairman Joe Hafner said, "And for those that are here, we don't actually approve or vote anything down. All we do is vote whether or not to send it to full council for their consideration, so just because we approve a resolution here doesn't mean that it's a done deal or anything."*

**A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

[RES-21:165](#)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO SUBMIT THE 2022 OUTDOOR RECREATION MATCHING GRANT APPLICATION FROM THE

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ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, HERITAGE AND TOURISM

**Sponsors:** Grants and Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [Information on Scope of Project Change for the Arkansas Outdoor Recreation](#)

Councilmember David McClain asked, "Mr. Chairman if I may. Danny, you may touch on this in just a second. How does this fit in our master park plan? These are 2 grants that we're looking at, northeast and now southwest. Where does this fit in terms of our overall plan?" Director Danny Kapales approached the podium, "Same thing, if you look at that section of town there's zero parks in that location in that area of town. Plus, with this location there's potential land donation that might be part of this. Very seldom do you get an opportunity to get a land donation to be able to build a park on, so if there's an opportunity to get that donation and be able to obtain and retain green space, protect green space, I think that's an opportunity for us to move forward. With this grant we would be able to maintain and keep that green space." Councilmember David McClain said, "Ok, the other question. We will have to come up with the \$250,000 or is that another one?" Councilmember John Street said, "That's another one." Councilmember David McClain said, "Ok, the property donation is the match of the \$250,000 we need or the \$500,000 we need, am I missing that?" Director Danny Kapales said, "It would be \$250,000 grant, that's the max we could get on this type of grant. The donation of property would be the match to that." Councilmember David McClain said, "Ok I understand."

Chairman Joe Hafner said, "I want to say something because I know there's been a lot of conversation on this. The council or the committee, I don't believe any of us has been presented any final details on what this is going to encompass, what this is going to cover. I think the timeliness right now of this grant is a August 27th deadline, but I mean we have not been presented any information to act on on this potential park." Director Danny Kapales said, "This has all been just a conversation at this point with a family that is wanting to make a donation. I'll say, in the Parks Department, it's been wanting to be done for a long long time. I'm the fourth parks director that's been part of this process and I think it's a piece of property that should be protected. It's one of the prettiest pieces of property in Jonesboro, and I think if we don't act on it and move forward with it then it's not going to be the green space it is today. We talk about protecting green spaces, this will be the opportunity, if ya'll choice to move forward with it down the road, that we'll be able to. We have not at this point had any conversation or moved anything forward to Council to ask ya'll to approve this."

Mayor Harold Copenhaver said, "Mr. Chair if I may. I'd like to make a statement because there are some in the room today that are curious about it as well. Basically, the grant application deadline for this is August 27th. This is obviously just a formal request so we can go to the state to make sure we're following the guidelines and if we don't meet the guidelines for this grant then we're not going to have the application submitted. In that process then we will meet the criteria to many of the questions that City Council and participants in our community will want to have. We will have public hearings before this grant is then formally submitted and we want to make sure that we're upholding to the guidelines of the grant but also the grant of the communities wishes. But that will all have to be done, again, before the 27th of August. So basically with us just asking for your approval through Danny then we're going to go ahead and see if we can fit the parameters and we can answer the questions not only the citizens but the City Council in order to apply for the grant."

Vonn Burnett, Ridgepoint Property Owners Association, approached the podium, "I've had some conversations with Mayor. Mr. Kapales came out maybe a month ago and

*presented some information to the POA and we sure appreciate that. I would just like for the record to reflect that the Ridgepoint Property Owners Association are interested in what's going on out there. We would like to see all the information that's out there. I think that Mayors going to come out and speak to the POA again about some of the documentation and some of what's going on so we look forward to receiving that, reviewing it and discussing it with the home owners out there and presenting the information and forming our opinion based on that."*

*Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson approached the podium, "I would just like to add that before any kind of property acquisition can actually happen, that is a separate action that the City Council would have to approve so regardless of this grant if this park would happen to come to ferritin then Council would have to approve that. We're just asking for permission to spend the time and the man hours to prepare the grant to submit it to see if we happen to get it." Chairman Joe Hafner said, "Brian, someone asked me earlier today, that this is a highly competitive grant that we've applied for in the past years like for the Northside Park and stuff and we haven't gotten it, but some grants we get they say if this land donation doesn't happen or this doesn't happen, we get awarded the grant but it doesn't happen. Are the 2 possibilities, one we ask permission to move it to another project in Jonesboro that's parks related or two we simply have to return the money back over?" CAO Brian Richardson said, "Well, there wouldn't be really any money warded until we provide the match, so we wouldn't just get a check." Chairman Joe Hafner said, "What I'm saying is we could potentially use that money." CAO Brian Richardson said, "We could potentially move that grant money somewhere else as long as it met the parameter of the grant. There's a little bit of a process for that but the way we look at it is it's better to apply and if we get it then we can make that decision, if it has to be moved, we can figure out a way to make that happen. It's one of those things that you won't receive this if you don't ask for it. It's a 50/50 match, we could do a lot of good with \$250,000 but it has to meet the specific requirements of the request and those are quite stringent in the fact that the land donation is involved puts us further up the list then just saying we are putting money behind it. That's my understanding, that it shows a commitment from the community. But again I just want to clarify that, regardless of this grant, that has no determination on even requiring the property. We could get the grant and if Council turns down receiving acquisition of the property then it's all on the void anyway. So I just wanted to make that clear that this does not authorize City Council or the city or anybody to make a land acquisition or even accept the land donation. That's a separation action that will have to come in front of the City Council."*

**A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Ann Williams, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

[RES-21:166](#)

RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO A SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT WITH GETBACK INC.. FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY VAN WRAP

**Sponsors:** Information Systems

**Attachments:** [Van Sponsorship 2021](#)

**A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson David McClain, that this matter be Recommended to Council . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison

**5. Pending Items**

**6. Other Business**

**7. Public Comments**

**8. Adjournment**

**A motion was made by Councilperson Joe Hafner, seconded by Councilperson John Street, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.**

**Aye:** 6 - Charles Coleman;Ann Williams;John Street;David McClain;LJ Bryant and Brian Emison