



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING AT 4:30 P.M.

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

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

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Harold Perrin said one of the things that is very special for me to do tonight is to do this. I have worked for probably 30 years in banking and economic development and industrial recruitment for many years in my career path. When we go down in January, the city council and I have an invitation to go down and many of us go down every year and we have an annual conference and a winter conference put on by the Arkansas Municipal League. The Arkansas Municipal League is made up of all 500 cities in the state of Arkansas. We submit certain projects and things that we do throughout the year to try to get awards for that. I am pleased to tell you that we are going to walk out with three awards. One of the main awards that we are going to be walking out with is tied to what this is all talking about with Hytrol and with Shelle Randall of the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce and Bob West of Hytrol and that is workforce development. You cannot have something unless you have people who are trained and ready to go work for your company. We are very excited about what Hytrol is doing. In fact, I was there this last week when we had the Navy Seal here that made the presentation. He can get your attention, I can tell you that.

This is called Manufacturing Day Proclamation and it reads: Whereas, the manufacturing community of Jonesboro is a critical sector for the Jonesboro economy and provides many rewarding, high-skilled careers; and whereas, Manufacturing Day is an annual celebration of modern manufacturing meant to inspire the next generation of manufacturers and occurs on the first Friday in October and throughout the month of October; whereas, Hytrol Conveyor, Inc. is a leading manufacturer headquartered in Jonesboro, Arkansas that provides employment to more than 1,000 employees and invests countless hours and dollars in order to build its future workforce, insure its ongoing prosperity, and act as a positive force in our community; and whereas, Hytrol

Conveyor, Inc. recognizes Manufacturing Day 2018 by leading a hands on project and onsite tours for local high school students and recognizes the significant partnership between Hytrol and Arkansas State University with a presentation made by students from TekStarz Jonesboro Summer Manufacturing Camp facilitated by Jonesboro Unlimited to AState Chancellor Dr. Kelly Dampousse; and whereas, the Jonesboro City Council commends and supports this important cause and organizations involved; now, therefore be it proclaimed that Jonesboro, Arkansas does proclaim and declare Manufacturing Day to be a noteworthy component of our workforce development strategy and Hytrol Conveyor, Inc. to be a key manufacturing leader and urges all citizens to join in recognizing the value of manufacturers to our future workforce and the importance that they serve in our city, our state, our nation, and around the world.

The proclamation was given to Mr. Bob West of Hytrol Conveyor, Inc.

Mr. West said I always appreciate the city's support. We do have over 1,000 people working at Hytrol, about 1,200 now actually, and we need some more. If anyone would like to come out and build a conveyor, we would be happy to have you.

A short clip was shown to the council about Manufacturing Day 2018 at Hytrol.

Mayor Perrin said that I will say that I do have a clock in my office that was cut out by lasers that is a Red Wolf. It is incredible. These students learn a great deal of hands on and they see that. As statistics show, the workforce here in Jonesboro is good. Unemployment is so low and that is the good news. The other part is that we need, as he said awhile ago, we need more folks with a skill, a trained skill to do these jobs. We are doing a good job here, I think in Jonesboro. We are going to bring that award back and share it with Ms. Randall. She has done a great job of putting this workforce development together for the City of Jonesboro and the Chamber of Commerce. Together, as a partnership, collaborative effort, I think we have done a great job of doing that. So, thank you very much Shelle and Bob for being with us tonight.

[COM-18:062](#)

PROCLAMATION BY MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN FOR MANUFACTURING DAY PRESENTED TO SHELLE RANDALL OF THE JONESBORO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND CHRIS GLENN OF HYTROL

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

Read

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

[MIN-18:096](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 2, 2018

Attachments: [CC Minutes 10022018.pdf](#)

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

[RES-18:161](#)

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO THE AUDITORIUM COMMISSION AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN

Sponsors: Mayor's Office

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

Enactment No: R-EN-147-2018

[RES-18:163](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND ACCEPT THE FY 2018 BODY-WORN CAMERA POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM (BWC PIP) GRANT

Sponsors: Grants and Police Department

Attachments: [Award Letter 2018-BX-0045](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-148-2018

[RES-18:164](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO APPLY FOR THE FY 2018 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT (AFG) PROGRAM FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Sponsors: Grants and Fire Department

Attachments: [FY 2018 AFG Fact Sheet Final Sept 24 2018](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-149-2018

[RES-18:166](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND ACCEPT THE 2018 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG)

Sponsors: Grants and Police Department

Attachments: [JAG Award 2018-DJ-BX-0775](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-150-2018

[RES-18:167](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA) AND ACCEPT THE FY 2018 BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT

Sponsors: Grants and Police Department

Attachments: [Application Summary](#)
 [Award Email](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-151-2018

6. NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

[RES-18:162](#)

A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO APPROVE A SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH FISHER & ARNOLD, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES TO THE HIGHWAY 18 AND MAIN STREET INTERSECTION

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Supplemental Request](#)

Councilmember Joe Hafner said he understands the additional fees of \$33,116 are really going to be paid by the state because we are capped at a \$1 million. Mayor Perrin said that is correct. Councilmember Hafner said I guess my questions are two-fold. What were the reasons for the changes to the northbound lane? Do we have any idea of what the additional construction costs will be? I know it is not City of Jonesboro money, but it is still taxpayer money and I was just wondering. Mayor Perrin said to answer that, we have met with many of the owners on Southwest Drive and we tried to look at whether we wanted to go to the west or go to the east. So, we had to make some changes on that. Basically, what we are doing is shortening the dedicated right hand turn lane. So, they had to go back and re-engineer all of that deal which would obviously affect McDonald's too. The billboard that is on the McDonald's lot will be going down too. I'm not sure if the large big sign will have to be moved from McDonald's as well. So, that is exactly why we are having to redo all of this to get it done. The engineering changes all of this that Fisher & Arnold are doing now. Are they at Fisher & Arnold or are they at ARDOT? Do you know Craig? City Engineering Craig Light said none of the changes have been made yet. We are waiting on this execution of this change order before any changes are made to the plans. Mayor Perrin said Councilmember Hafner is asking why and I think that is why. Mr. Light said this should actually reduce construction costs a little bit. We will probably re-coop that \$16,000 just in construction. It will be less construction work. Councilmember Hafner asked if the right turn lane is still going to be long enough to serve its purpose. We are not shortening it to keep somebody happy. Mr. Light said yes. Mayor Perrin said we are not decreasing safety nor the flow. It is just taking it down a little bit on the deal. Mr. Light said it takes it back to the length that was in the original study that was done. We chose to lengthen it during the design process, but then we had some issues with some driveways and some impacts so we went back and we would like to just shorten it back to the original. Councilmember Hafner asked, where will it start? Mr. Light said it will start just north of the Starbucks driveway, just a few feet north of the Starbucks driveway.

Councilmember John Street asked, what additional drainage work is going to be done there? Mr. Light said as you know, that intersection has had a flooding issue for quite some time. When they started the design and we executed the contract, the plan was

just to modify the intersection. When they started getting into it, they realized that the system is not adequate. They had to go back and do a bunch of detailed hydraulic analysis and we are actually doing a little bit more drainage work on the project than was originally planned for. It was all extra work on their part. They actually took the fee and split it in half so we are not paying the full fee for the extra work. Our recommendation is we go ahead and pay them for what they have asked for, for that. Mayor Perrin said we have had a lot of water there.

Councilmember David McClain asked, what kind of improvements are we making for pedestrian safety there? Mr. Light said there will be new crosswalks, countdown signal heads for the crosswalks. There will be sidewalks on all four corners, even the Walgreens side, which isn't there now. Councilmember McClain asked, there are not sidewalks on the Walgreens side? Mr. Light said, not currently. There will be. Councilmember McClain asked, are they helping pay for that part? Is Walgreens helping pay for that? Mr. Light said no. Mayor Perrin said that Walgreens will not pay for that. Mr. Light said that it is all part of the highway. Mayor Perrin said that it is part of the cost of the highway construction. Councilmember McClain said I didn't know if they were helping with part of the cost. Mayor Perrin and Mr. Light said no.

Beverly Parker, 205 Windover, said she had a question or a comment and it is in line with what Councilmember McClain is speaking of. With the pedestrian assistance, I would just like to know in terms of timing and I just would like to make a comment here. I was in the area two days ago and saw some high school students attempting to cross from the CVS over to McDonald's, in that direction and they were having quite a bit of difficulty and, in fact, had to sprint and when there is a group of kids, some try to run and some do not and it was very scary. So, I just want to make sure that the improvements that are being made take into consideration the students that are in the area and if grandma is trying to get through on her electric scooter that she gets to make it on time. Mayor Perrin said it will be in that study that we are talking about. That is why we don't have the deals now to click the lights and all of the etcetera's and also the crosswalk is there now. For the students to walk across, we built the crosswalk in front of the high school and it is used very little. Ms. Parker said, I understand. Mayor Perrin said when they do use it, they don't use it properly. The crosswalk is to walk to the middle, to look, and to yield to ongoing traffic and they walk right straight through it. Ms. Parker said there is such high traffic in that area, it would be nice if somebody could actually go to get their drugs and if they wanted to get a cup of coffee, to be able to cross without feeling like their life is in danger. So, I would appreciate any improvements that can be made in that area. Mayor Perrin said, good comment.

Councilmember McClain asked, state law is that if anybody is in the crosswalk, the cars are to yield, correct? Councilmember Hafner said they are supposed to. Mayor Perrin said yes. Councilmember Hafner said it doesn't always happen. Councilmember McClain said I know. Mayor Perrin said that this would be a much more improved intersection because it will help address the issue of turning onto Main Street and cutting over into the other lane to go into Walgreens. This is going to be a whole change in that intersection. Councilmember McClain said I appreciate it. Mayor Perrin said thank you. Beverly, thank you for your comments. We will get that so noted.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: R-EN-152-2018

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

[ORD-18:065](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE RITTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AND TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN RITTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND THE CITY OF JONESBORO

Sponsors: Finance

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Ann Williams, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:065 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

[ORD-18:066](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT WITH DELTA DENTAL TO PROVIDE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CITY EMPLOYEES FOR 2019

Sponsors: Human Resources

Attachments: [9448-City of Jonesboro Renewal Pkg2018-Updated](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:066 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember David McClain asked if Chief of Staff Bill Reznicek would mind touching on this and why we are going with Delta Dental. Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, said when I saw this in the paper, it kind of took me by surprise because I don't know why we want to waive something that maybe we could probably get a better deal. I just went on the website. You can go to deltaplans.com and there is a whole bunch of dental plans on there. I don't know what the dental plan is, whether it is the cheapest one, but if there is another plan out there that offers the same benefits, I think that you all need to look at that. Mayor Perrin said, let me explain that to you so you will understand. A lot of questions are asked on the deal. We start looking at all of our coverages in health, disability, and dental insurance in August. That is getting ready and looking. So, the Human Resources Director calls all of these insurance companies and asks for their policies, some of their prices, some of the benefits and options that are in that deal. When we take that, Delta Dental was obviously one of the best. Prices are also, no question, a big figure and also customer service. The City of Jonesboro, many years ago, we changed companies. The customer service and the billing operation was so bad and so terrible, it was taking a lot of our people in the Finance Department a long time to even correct that. Another reason we went with Delta Dental on this presenting to you all is that Delta Dental has a \$250 rollover provision within their contract. So, any employee, and there are probably many of these employees here, that have not used their maximum. If they don't use their maximum between now and December, they can roll that \$250 over and add it to the face value of that contract. We have been extremely pleased with Delta Dental over the years here in Jonesboro. If, in fact, we saw a wide variety or a big spread on cost, then obviously, we would go back and try to do some type of major proposal. Sometimes, about every 2-3 years, we will do a Request for Proposal on all of that stuff. But, I wanted to kindly share with you why it is on here like that tonight.

Councilmember Bobby Long said a lot of times, what you find online is not what groups get. There are individual policies and there are group policies. I have been

doing this for 20 years and I know that Delta Dental, I have worked with them, I have worked with probably ten different companies and Delta Dental will give you very, very good service. If you have been online or on the phone with customer service, Delta Dental has a good mix of cost and quality of service, as well as a good benefits plan for the employees. So, when I saw Delta Dental, I was pleased because I do know that they are here. They are in Arkansas. They are here to stay. Their provider network is expansive and they give good quality service at a fair, reasonable pricing. If you went out and shopped it like I do, then you are going to see that their prices are comparable and they will either meet or beat what else is out there and the service is outstanding as well. So, I think the city got a good plan with Delta.

Mayor Perrin said we start that back in August. The reason we want to get this done is that these people have to come in and start enrolling our people, 580 people, in November and December to get ready so that they will have their cards when they do go to the dentist. Delta Dental is unique and different than any other insurance company in the fact that Delta Dental was started by dentists. The dentists in each state that Delta Dental operates in, the dentist have what they call their withhold and instead of getting their money from a patient in the very beginning, they take that and put it in the paid in capital. So, basically, the dentists of Arkansas, 965 of those dentists are in or a part of this organization. That is what he is talking about which is the PPO or Preferred Provider Organization. I loved your question when you sent that. I wanted to apologize that you didn't get it before tonight.

Councilmember Long said I think you could almost say the same thing for every benefit that is offered by the city. A lot of times when you add those benefits, a lot of the work happens months and months earlier when you start requesting for them to give quotes on different services. Then, you have to look at the plan summaries and look at the plans and see and just start reviewing those. Then, you have got the network to consider. Just like with Delta Dental, I think it would be difficult to find a dentist that is not in Delta Dental. Mayor Perrin said, in the City of Jonesboro, they are all in there.

A motion was made by Councilperson Charles Frierson, seconded by Councilperson Gene Vance, that this matter be Waived Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

[ORD-18:067](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2018 BUDGET FOR THE FY2018 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM

Sponsors: Finance, Grants and Police Department

Attachments: [Budget Narrative](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Chris Gibson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:067 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

[ORD-18:068](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL, R3 TO RESIDENTIAL INTERMEDIATE-URBAN, RI-U FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 207 CEDAR AS REQUESTED BY TRAVIS FISCHER WITH TRALAN ENGINEERING ON BEHALF OF JORGE DELAGARZA, DELANEX, INC.

Attachments: [Staff Summary - 207 Cedar Street.pdf](#)
[207 Cedar-COJ Rezoning Ordinance.pdf](#)
[Rezoning Plat.pdf](#)
[Application.pdf](#)
[Warranty Deed.pdf](#)
[USPS Receipts.pdf](#)
[RP 18-52 DELANEX REPLAT LOTS 1, 2, 3 - CHURCH STREET.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:068 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at one reading

[ORD-18:069](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM RESIDENTIAL, R2 TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, C-3 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1906 KATHLEEN AS REQUESTED BY TRAVIS FISCHER WITH TRALAN ENGINEERING ON BEHALF OF HIGHLAND KATHLEEN, LLC

Attachments: [Staff Summary - 1906 Kathleen Street.pdf](#)
[Rezoning Plat.pdf](#)
[Application.pdf](#)
[USPS Receipts.pdf](#)
[Warranty Deed.pdf](#)
[1906 Kathleen-COJ Rezoning Ordinance.pdf](#)

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-18:069 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember David McClain asked City Planner Derrel Smith about the staff report. Looking at the staff report, it shows that suitability of the subject property, it had an x there. Was the feeling that maybe you want to see apartments go there or is it ok to be rezoned for commercial? Mr. Smith said they probably should have put a green check there. You are not going to put apartments on the corner and residential is not really suitable in that area. So, it is probably more suitable for commercial or an industrial use. Councilmember McClain said ok. I was curious as to why they marked it with an x.

Held at one reading

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-18:064](#)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM R-1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO RS-8 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 100 KATHLEEN STREET AS REQUESTED BY MARK MORRIS HOMES

Attachments: [Staff Summary - 100 Kathleen.pdf](#)
[Rezoning Plat.pdf](#)
[100 KATHLEEN REZONING ORDINANCE.pdf](#)
[Application.pdf](#)
[Aerial View of Area.pdf](#)
[Layout for Development.pdf](#)
[FAA Approval Letter.pdf](#)
[Letter From School.pdf](#)
[Picture of Rezoning Signs.pdf](#)
[Quit Claim Deed.pdf](#)
[Warranty Deed.pdf](#)
[USPS Receipts.pdf](#)

Councilmember David McClain asked if we were ever able to get a letter from Brookland schools. It looks like we still have Nettleton's letter, but we don't have one from Brookland. Mayor Perrin said I am not sure if we sent one to Brookland. City Planner Derrel Smith asked if it was requested that they get a letter from Brookland. Councilmember McClain said I thought we asked for one the last time. Mr. Smith said I haven't called anybody. Mayor Perrin said I remember Nettleton, but I don't remember Brookland. Councilmember McClain and Councilmember Bobby Long said it is Brookland school district. Mayor Perrin said that if it is in that area, we can do that. So, we will do that. Councilmember McClain said ok. Mayor Perrin said I know that we will hold that on the second reading. We will have two weeks to get that done and we will send that certified. Councilmember McClain said do you know, and maybe I missed this through a different portion, do you know if they notified all of the property owners within the radius that is required. Mr. Smith said they did. Councilmember McClain said ok.

Held at second reading

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mayor Harold Perrin reported on the following items:

This past weekend at Southside Ball Park, we had 35 teams here and they were from several states. All of the gate admission went to the Cancer Society in which they were able to give them a check on Sunday for about \$5,000. I thought that was wonderful. Our concessions and field rental total was \$7,791.85. We had a very good turnout. Even with the rain, I think we did a good job. We had a little problem with people trying to get in the new concession stand and the restrooms at the end down there, but we worked on that. I think you all met with Bailey Contractors today to get that done on that before the next tournament. In two weeks, we will have probably one of the biggest softball tournaments that we have there, the Halloween Bash. We will have that open and running along with the concession stand and the restroom facilities.

The Bike and Pedestrian Trail Plan has been completed and has been sent to the Advisory Board of the Parks Department for their review. I met with the Chairman this morning. They are going to send me a note on Friday and I am assuming that they are going to approve that. With that in mind, I want to have after that, a hearing, another public hearing on October 30, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. I have contacted Jason McDonald to have the boards there to look at that. It is a very extensive master plan. I want everyone to take a look at that. It will be on October 30, 2018 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. and I will get Communications Director Bill Campbell to get a notice sent out tomorrow. It

will be on the first floor in the lobby and we will probably have to use the conference room on the first floor as well. If that goes well, we will try to get that to the Council on November 6, 2018 so you all can start reviewing the plan for the public. What would be good, if in fact, we could get this approved by the end of the year. Then, we would have it. Since it is an ordinance, you will probably want to read it three individual times. Then, that is going to put you somewhere in December, but that is ok. That would at least give us a master bike and pedestrian trail that we could send out for grants and submit our grants with a plan as well to the Kellogg's Foundation and many other foundations like the Walton Foundation, which we have already talked with. We have been up there and talked to them on several occasions. Again, that is something that we will want to work on.

On the Grants report, I know many times we talk about Grants and I pulled the Grants report on that and this year alone, we have received, not only applied, but received \$2.5 million in grants. We also have \$9,891,000 of grants that have already been submitted that is in the hopper at one stage or another. In 2017, total grants at this time last year was at \$1.7 million. So, we have grown from \$1.7 million up to the \$2.5 million. We are trying every way in the world to get every grant we possibly can. If it is something that needs to be gotten, we are also going to look at the match to see because with a 50/50 match, you are going to have to pay 50% of it. So, we look at all of that. I just wanted to say that the Grants Department has really been generating the grants out. In fact, the grant for the Veterans Village went out yesterday for \$1.3-\$1.4 million to ADFA. Prior to that, three weeks ago, we submitted one for \$2.6 million that was for the railroad spur in the Industrial Park as well as taking the switch out which is going to have to be redone so those cars won't be setting there in front of C.W. Post. Hopefully, we will be getting some answers on those grants.

Chief of Staff Bill Reznicek is heading up the Forum within administration. We have been working and getting prices for the Forum. If you all remember, the Rotary is doing a great job of putting that wonderful Park Pavilion right in front of the Forum. To help that and to take care of that, what we have done is that we are getting prices for the inside. We will be getting prices on painting as well as putting the soundboard on so you can have any type of activity or event inside the Forum. Also, I am sure we are going to have a new concession stand that will be built downstairs as well as up. We have one company now ready to go ahead and willing to take that cost, which is over \$35,000, and they want to pay for that. We also want to take the ticket boxes, the old ticket boxes, take them out front like it used to be and put the marquee in there so we can have that open and to help when something or some event is going on at Rotary Park. We can also help the vendors and serve out of there as well. We will also be having a lot more activities within the Forum that will be used on an annual basis such as musicals and bluegrass and all types of entertainment that can be used and should be used in that building year around. That will bring more folks downtown to help the Downtown Association. That will help us get some things going on.

Tomorrow, I have Becky Kehoe who is the Director of ADEQ, coming to Jonesboro. I will be visiting with her, having lunch, and then attending some meetings out at Arkansas State University with the Chancellor and some of the people here in town on some of the projects they want to come out with. Also, Chris Gardner, who is an attorney here in town is also on their commission. I have asked him to join us on those meetings. Becky will be taking a tour of the university tomorrow along with me and some others from ASU.

The entrance to the Lacy property, I understand, is complete with the exception of putting up a street sign as well as putting some barriers at the end of that. It is the

entrance. If you will remember, we bought the Lacy property and we had so many years to get that road into that and that has been completed. Obviously, we have not signed off and closed the contract, but it is actually done.

Next is our downtown lights on Main Street. Now, we are doing all of the parking lots downtown. If you came in on the south side of this building, you can see all of the construction going on. There will be all new poles up with LED lighting in which you will not hit your head, I promise you Patti on that pole out there. We are going to Cate Street and every downtown parking lot will have LED lighting and some of them will have more poles than they have now. It will be lit up just like St. Bernards at the emergency room. When you get in your car and step out, you will see. You will be able to see underneath the car and inside of the car next to you on both sides for safety. We wanted to do that and it should be done by the end of October.

This week, I met with the Arkansas State University City Coalition or Council Coalition and I see some of those in the audience back there. If you want to know what students want, ask them. I have yet to get my list, but I know the chairman is going to do that. We had a great meeting. They talked about a lot of things that we have been talking about, but they are putting a list together for us so that we can start working on that list. They brought up a lot of good ideas. These students, when they are working particularly during the semester and stuff and at mid-term and things of that nature, and they want to go out and have a cup of coffee or cheesecake or whatever, everything closes at 10 p.m. and they don't have any place to go. And, so, all of the things they brought up, I am going wow, I didn't know that. This is something that we will be working with. In about two weeks, we are going to get a JETS bus, we are going to take the whole council and give them a complete tour of all of our parks and recs and all of our facilities and show them Jonesboro and stay with them and let them take notes and come back and let them give us feedback on what they see. I just want to say thank you all for coming and spending an hour and a half yesterday of your time when you could have been studying. I really enjoyed that. It was a great meeting I thought. It is an opening of the city and Arkansas State University of listening to the Student Government Association. The Chancellor and I have dinner every month. We sit down and talk about certain things and what is going on in the community and what he would like to see. I will share with him all of our projects. It all goes back to communication. If you don't have good communication, you have got a problem. Again, my hats off to the Council. This won't be our last meeting. As you all know, we will have more when I get that list and start working on it. Thank you all for being here tonight.

[COM-18:068](#)

Airport Commission Financial Statements ending September 30, 2018

Attachments: [JAC Jonesboro Airport Financials 09 18.pdf](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember John Street said he wanted to take a minute and commend the Fire Department for the excellent response that they did on the Patton fire. That was extremely alert work by Jason Wills, the Fire Marshall. It was quickly solved. The Fire Chief and I were talking about that earlier. It probably would have happened again. So, that was excellent work. Again, it goes back to the nature of Police and Fire in public safety and the importance they are to our community. We have a great bunch of people over there and they are well trained and they give it their all. I hope you keep

Ms. Patton in your prayers. I am not sure how she is doing, but last I heard she wasn't responding terribly well. Mayor Perrin said that is what I heard. Councilmember Street said Community Development Director Tiffny Calloway had invited us to a meet with the Jonesboro Neighborhood Leadership group to meet with their representatives. Several of us showed up and that was a pretty good group too. It seemed like Ms. Calloway had put them through the mill. They asked some good questions and grilled us fairly well, but I think they will be pretty involved I hope. It is your goal so I hope they will be involved with them. It was a good group and I enjoyed that. It was great, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board presentation the other day. I look forward to the city cooperating with them. That has presented some great opportunities, some additional opportunities for us to secure funds as you talked about on grants for initial entry level housing and possibly homeless. I mean it was a great presentation. It was a shame that everyone couldn't make that. We should have filmed it. I look forward to us working with them. Mayor Perrin said he said he would come back again and we had most of the bankers in this room because you have to have partners for that so the primary deal is the bankers and then the Federal Home Loan. I know St. Bernards worked. Behind us is the big, beautiful manor. I think, St. Bernards Manor or something and that was a project, one of them, that I was involved in with the bank with the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. So, that is good. Councilmember Street said I appreciate you working together. I mean that is great. You are right, all the bankers and stuff working together encourages their cooperative to work together to help with that. That guy said he had the greatest job in the world giving out money. Well, I hope we can accommodate him and take some of it. Mayor Perrin said that we would be delighted to get it. Councilmember Street said yes.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said that the Craighead County Community Foundation this week brought in several folks from the Arkansas Community Foundation and other groups. There were a lot of statistics that were enlightening. But one of them and Mike Downing might have shared this with us before, the percentage of kids, if you will, in Craighead County that are pursuing any sort of education after they graduate from high school is in the mid-50 percent. So, I commend the Chamber and Hytrol and others because we have got to figure a way to fill the skills gap as the Mayor eluded to, to make sure that our kids when they come out of school have the skills they need for our local industry. But, it was a really good meeting and there were several council members there.

Councilmember Bobby Long said he had two comments and two questions. I wanted to thank Community Development Director Tiffny Calloway for putting all of that together. It was well run, well organized, good group of people. You couldn't ask for anything better. That thing just ran like clockwork. So, I imagine that is a reflection on Ms. Calloway and how she works. Two, talking about the workforce and our future. I don't know if many of you know, but Jonesboro High School has a vo-tech center out there. They get students from all over northeast Arkansas that come into that place and they learn skills. So, local industry has a good, good enroll out there. I also chair the Northeast Arkansas Workforce Development Board. Through that board, we supply financial aid and help to kids, you know, as they go out and they start to look for jobs and we start giving them skills and soft skills that seem to be not as prevalent. That is a way we are starting to build our workforce and working together with industry like Hytrol and others that go out and do things like they do. Working together we are building the next future and the next generation of workers. It is exciting to see what they do out there at JHS. Like I said, if you have never been out there, see if you can't go out there and do that because that is a phenomenal thing that they have got going on out there. Those kids learn so much. So, that is my spill on the workforce. My question is, speaking of the Fire Department, how far out are we on needing another

fire station? And, where would that be located? Where do you see that? I know what comes up now is multiple areas that we are looking at, but where do you think the greatest need is for another fire station?

Fire Chief Kevin Miller said we have two areas of concern that we are looking at. We have two areas that we are looking at right now. What I call the immediate future is from now until the next 3-4 years. Two of those areas that are very obvious are: one is what I call the Highway 49 corridor heading out towards Brookland. There is a lot of growth that we have seen out there with commercial development. We also have another area in the southeast part of town or the southwest part of town down around the Culberhouse area. They have a large amount of residential housing. This continues out into the Valley View area. Those are our two most immediate areas of concern that we are looking at. And, those are things that are going to have to be addressed if we are going to be able to continue to maintain our current ISO rating and our current level of protection that the citizens are expecting. As these areas grow, we are going to have to address them in the next few years. Councilmember Long said that is an important thing. It helps all of the citizens of Jonesboro when we keep that ISO rating where it is. Chief Miller said absolutely. Councilmember Long said also, how far in advance will you hire and how many people? How many more firemen do you see hiring within the next few years? Chief Miller said the biggest cost with any fire station is actually going to be the personnel. Yes, building a building is expensive. There is no doubt about that, but once it is built, it is good to go for the next 40 years other than the annual upkeep. But, the personnel are the thing. When we build the station, it is going to take a minimum of 12 people to staff and operate that at full-time around the clock. That is the biggest issue and the biggest challenge we have is with those personnel. Now, in order to get those hired, it is roughly a one-year process to get someone hired and up-to-speed. That same timeline could also be used with the construction period. So, basically, a timeline that we would like to use that we have done in the past, if we start construction on xyz day, it is going to take approximately a year to be able to build that. We hire those people the same time so when the station comes online, the people, the equipment, everything is ready to go in conjunction with that. So, you are looking at a one year turnaround. If you say go today, it is going to take me a year to get it up and going. Councilmember Long said ok. Thank you. When will we see those plans in the areas where we are going to put those? How far out are we on seeing that? I know we need them right now. Mayor Perrin said I think what Chief Miller is saying is that in the next 3-5 years, somewhere in that area, depending upon how fast growth continues, what we do is look at that each year at the budget. Budget time is when we look at that. So, this year, we will be looking at that. We will be talking with him about that. I don't anticipate having to budget in anything for next year in 2019 for that. However, when you get into 2020 and 2021, I think you are looking very seriously about having to put it into the budget of the building. And, that is a major cost which needs to be done, don't get me wrong. But, when you are talking about that, you are putting 12 people in there, you have got to put the equipment in there, and you have got to buy the building and the land. So, you are looking at several million dollars that you would have to put in there. We talk to him all of the time on that and he has got a five year plan now. We are working that five year plan and he keeps scooting that out which is good so he is always current on his plan. I don't think we will have to budget anything in 2019 for the Fire Department. Now, he did get a grant, if you all remember, just the other day for three more firemen. That is incredible. The federal government will help pay for that. He will immediately get those and next year, he will start training those people sending them to the academy and all of that.

Councilmember Long said the last question I have is on Airport Road. I know that I was talking to our engineer before and it seems like heading north on Airport when you

come up to the intersection of Highway 49 North and Airport Road, there needs to be a left-hand turn lane. You can be lined up there and that light turns green and there is no left hand turn arrow there and only two people get to go and then the light turns red and you are staying there. That is a huge thing. And, also the white flags. I have had questions on what are all the white flags doing down that road. City Engineer Craig Light said he doesn't know anything about the white flags, but that is a funded Highway Department project to do improvements to that intersection and I think it maybe 2020 before it goes to construction. Mayor Perrin said that it will be in the STIP. I think they are getting ahead of that and just doing some survey work and that is why there are flags out. You are right. It is what I call a guarded left hand turn lane because when you get the green light, the people across the street get the same thing/time. Councilmember Long said there is no where to go. Mayor Perrin said right. Councilmember Long said you just sit there and you hope that everybody wants to go straight. Mayor Perrin said you will probably need a guarded right hand turn lane as well even though we have made one there. I am talking about really guarded as in synced. Like Mr. Light said, it is going to be on the project and it will start next year. I think what you are going to see next year is a lot of barrels around here because what we have been doing is planning for two or three years, but if you will remember, the 2018 overpass is out for bids now from the Highway Department. I can't remember the closing deadline on that, but I believe it is the 25th or the 24th of this month. We will know exactly what that is going to cost, the two overpasses and the deal. They will probably let that bid out. In other words, it will have to go to the commissioners and they will have to sign off on it. Thank goodness CWL has already been working real hard on that and moving a lot of the utilities out of there in that whole area. Once that goes out for bids, I would hope that we could get going very quickly. At least, get Watts overpass built as fast as we can so we can get that traffic in the Industrial Park and emergency vehicles and things of that nature. Councilmember Long said thank you.

Councilmember David McClain said the only thing I have, I know this time of year everybody is busy, but I didn't know if we had plans, but I felt like in the past, we have done ward meetings around this time. I didn't know if we had planned to do them or when we plan to do them. Mayor Perrin said we planned to do those right after when school started back this year and we did not do the ward meetings this year because we were doing some more of the strategic planning with Jonesboro Unlimited and taking some trips on economic development and stuff. So, we did not do those this year. Now, we are so close into Thanksgiving and Christmas, I thought we might try to do it sometime in March of next year. We would have the new budget. We would have the new projects to show them that you all passed and approved in the budget. Also, in my State of the City that I will do in January, I will show the public everything that we have done this year. Councilmember McClain said that is all that I have.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said that Public Services met earlier today and I want thank JET Director Michael Black and Parks and Recreation Director Danny Kapales for their presentations. They were very informative. We also voted to recommend waiving the JET bus fare on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 to accommodate polls to the Mayor's Office so if you will take that under consideration please. Mayor Perrin said we will see to that. That is no problem. Councilmember Gibson said that is all I have got.

Councilmember Chris Moore said that Tuesday, November 6, 2018 is election day and that is also our council meeting. Are we going to hold council that night or are we going to vote to postpone that meeting until Thursday, November 8, 2018? Mayor Perrin said I think normally if it falls on there, we went ahead and done it. But if you all want to move it, I will be out of state. I have not had a chance to visit with you all on that. I will

be at a Municipal League meeting out of state on the 6th. Councilmember Moore said on the 8th would be the day that we would typically reschedule to. Mayor Perrin said right, you would move it to Thursday. Councilmember Moore said it is up to the Council. I just know that half of the Council is up for election. It is going to be election day and it may not be a good day to conduct business here. Mayor Perrin said, well, why don't you just make a motion to do that.

Councilmember Chris Moore motioned, seconded by Councilmember Gene Vance, to reschedule the City Council meeting from Tuesday, November 6, 2018 to Thursday, November 8, 2018. All voted aye.

Councilmember Moore asked Mayor Perrin if he would need to run the meeting that night. Mayor Perrin said I don't know what night I am coming back. You may have to, but I will let you know. Councilmember Moore said the other thing on the Halloween Bash Softball Tournament, it might be a good time on the following Monday to start follow up to find out what the occupancy rates were for hotels and stuff. It is something to consider. I liked the fact that Mr. Pomrenke over there thought that you were joking about wanting a discount for the city. Mayor Perrin said that was just a good way to bring him into Jonesboro. Councilmember Moore asked Mayor Perrin if he had mentioned that there was progress on Citizens Bank with Mike Downing. Mayor Perrin said there is progress working on that and probably there will be a meeting, probably I and some others will be taking a trip, maybe in the next 2-3 weeks. It may be after I get back on the national meeting, but I am going to say that there is a firm out of Mississippi that had a pretty good interest in that and he has them in Mississippi and he does it in every college town, Cleveland, Oxford, and all of those. So, I am probably going to get the plane and take that down and take some folks with me and take a look at those and meet with him along with Mike Downing and just discuss the feasibility and the possibility of looking at them acquiring the Citizens Bank Building. Councilmember Moore said I am interested in knowing the progress on that and thank you Carol for sending out the email this week on the ice house. I know you knew I was going to ask. Ms. Duncan said I knew you were interested. Councilmember Moore said I would also like to thank the Fire Department. I am friends with Marcia Patton and their whole family and I am pretty convinced that if they hadn't had a quick response, although I am impressed that they caught the boys that set it on fire, to me that was secondary to saving Marcia's life. I think that probably within another minute or two, we might have had a different outcome. That was the only other item I had.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said that on October 27, 2018, we are supposed to have a cleanup off of Highway 141 across from Parker Park, in that area. That will depend upon the weather, but it is scheduled for October 27, 2018 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mayor Perrin said we will get Mr. Campbell to get a notice out on that.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, said I think this evening has been really encouraging talking about the kids and the town whether it is in the grade schools, the high schools, and the college. I think it is really important that we start focusing on them because that is what is going to keep Jonesboro going. One thing that really concerns me and I think where we need to stop and kind of realize what we are doing with our town and that was with the rezoning of the houses over on Kathleen Street. I drove out there when I saw that a couple of weeks ago when it hit the MAPC. I looked at it and when you add up the number of houses and it was 105, but I guess it was that they could have built more. I got in touch with Mr. Dunivant. He is the Superintendent for Nettleton. I guess I have a little partiality towards Nettleton because my kids went

there. So, when I contacted him, he got in touch with the MAPC people and it turned out I guess in favor of Nettleton because it turns out that it is in the Brookland School District. But, what he started doing is, he added up 105 houses and when you think of it, it might be 2 or 3 kids per house so that is that many more students in the Nettleton School District. I know that you all got a letter from Mr. Dunivant saying that we really need to stop adding more kids to the Nettleton School District because they are really, really overcrowded right now. But, when you drive out there on Morton Drive and on Mitchell Drive, there are more apartments being built so I know there is nothing we can do about the areas that are already zoned. You know that we don't have to rezone a property to put more houses, smaller houses and apartments. We can't do anything about that. But, I think what is interesting is that I go up to Nettleton High School and I help out some of the teachers up there and I was up there this last week helping out with FBLA and to walk through those hallways, they are packed, crowded with kids. You know teachers can only do so much. I have a lot of friends that teach out there. There are some wonderful teachers, not just in Nettleton, but in all of the school districts that we have. They are overwhelmed with the number of kids and the quality of education they can give these kids and they can't speak out about it. So, the kids are really the ones suffering from the overcrowding because there is only so much you can do with so little time teaching those kids there and also too trying to control some of them because not all of them are good kids and I will leave it at that. One of the things we can do and there are three things that the city can do. The first thing would be to build another school district. Well, that is not going to happen because we don't have the funds to make a new school district. The second thing would be maybe redistrict some of the lines for the schools and let some of the other schools have the overflow of some of that. That is not going to happen because you are going to make a lot of people angry. But, the one thing that we can do is that and I ask of you guys is that we need to put really a stop on building so many apartments, especially in the Nettleton School District. They are overwhelmed and I can't tell you the number of teachers that I talk to and they are just, they don't know how to handle it anymore. The ones that are going to suffer are going to be the kids. So, I just ask of all of you, not just in the Nettleton School District, but the Jonesboro and Valley View School Districts, they are just getting overcrowded. When we start building more apartments in these places, is that these people just move to these newer ones and that leaves it vacant and it is just an overflow. What I ask you guys to do is that when you have time, go to one of these schools and walk the hallways with these kids when they have intermission or the break between the classes. It is just overwhelming. And, I was there last week and I just had to stop and think that it was only a couple of years ago that my kids were in that school and it wasn't that way, but now it is. So, what I ask of you guys is that when we start to have rezonings for a lot more apartments, that we can just keep on building and building, I don't know how much we need them because if you look there are lots of for rent signs all over Jonesboro. I think if we focus on today talking about the kids and the quality of education and we want them to stay here, I think we have got to start even at the elementary level at all of the schools that we have. So, I just hope that you guys take into consideration, even with Mr. Dunivant's letter, is that Nettleton especially, cannot take any more kids in their school district to give them a quality education. So, thank you. Mayor Perrin said thank you Mrs. Lack.

Pedro Ramirez, 912 W. Jefferson, said I was just curious as an individual how I can get involved with the progression of the homeless shelter and the crisis stabilization unit that was being discussed last year. Mayor Perrin said if you are talking about getting involved, first of all, that is a county project on the mental crisis deal. The homeless shelter, we are still working on some stuff. I had met with some people, in fact today, who have made an offer. I don't know if they have closed on the property. They are bringing to me next week a complete program on how they want to put this

homeless shelter together. But, the crisis center is with Sheriff Marty Boyd. So, I would just contact them. Contact Sheriff Marty Boyd. When we get closer down on the homeless and obviously that is a city project, which probably it will be, then just feel free to call my office and get with Chrystal Glisson and either give her your name or send her your resume. I would be happy to call on you. Mr. Ramirez said thank you. Mayor Perrin said you are quite welcome.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilperson Mitch Johnson, seconded by Councilperson LJ Bryant, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams;Charles Frierson;Chris Moore;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner;David McClain and LJ Bryant

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk