



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, July 21, 2015

5:30 PM

Municipal Center

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

1. CALL TO ORDER AT 5:30 P.M.

In the absence of Mayor Perrin, President Pro Tempore Chris Moore presided over the meeting.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Present 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

[MIN-15:070](#)

Minutes for the City Council meeting on July 7, 2015

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

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

[RES-15:099](#)

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY TO AND ACCEPTANCE OF REAL PROPERTY FROM JONESBORO CITY WATER AND LIGHT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A SITE FOR A FIRING RANGE

Sponsors: Engineering

Attachments: [Property Swap Letter of Intent](#)
[Appraisal Dan Ave](#)
[Appraisal East St](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-097-2015

6. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

ORD-15:033

AN ORDINANCE DETERMINING THAT THE COST OF ACQUIRING SHIELDED LIGHTING FIXTURES IS PROHIBITIVE

Sponsors: Engineering

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

City Engineer Craig Light explained they are asking the Council to pass the ordinance saying the shielded lighting fixtures on the street lights are too costly to put in. They would like to continue using non-shielded lighting fixtures around the city for street projects. He asked that the ordinance be taken care of tonight because there are some lighting fixtures needed around the Aggie/Airport Road project that would be affected by the outcome of this ordinance. Passing the ordinance would help with the bidding process for that project.

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

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

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Enactment No: O-EN-030-2015

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

RES-15:109

RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF MADISON STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY AS REQUESTED BY HARP'S FOOD STORES AND SHARON PORTER

Attachments: [Plat](#)
[Utility Letters](#)
[Engineering & Planning Letter](#)
[Petitions](#)

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

following vote.

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

Enactment No: R-EN-098-2015

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN HELD IN COUNCIL

RES-15:057

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS to condemn property located at 700 Cate, owner Samuel A. Rosse III.

Sponsors: Code Enforcement

Attachments: [County Data Rosse](#)
[Home Ice inspection report](#)
[Home Ice case file](#)
[025](#)
[021](#)
[030](#)
[022](#)
[023](#)

Code Enforcement Officer Michael Tyner explained Ms. Siegel is handling the Rosse Family Trust while Mr. Rosse is away. Ms. Eagle has started the application process for a permit, but hasn't completed it. Ms. Karen Siegel, 621 Cate Avenue, asked for an extension. She has spoken with an architect, who is supposed to meet with her later this week to view the property. They have plans, but they are not on paper. They have already cleaned the property. Councilman Moore asked how long Ms. Siegel would have if they proceed with the condemnation. Mr. Tyner stated she would have thirty days to purchase permits after it's condemned and then the permits will be good for up to six months.

Councilman McCall stated he hates to condemn a Jonesboro landmark that has so much history. Ms. Siegel added they have applied to the Historical Society for funding. They are still waiting to hear back from the Historical Society.

Discussion was held concerning Ms. Siegel's hiring of an architect. Councilman Vance expressed concern about thirty days being long enough to hire an architect and purchase the permit. He suggested tabling the resolution for another thirty days. He noted Ms. Siegel can bring her architect or the plans they have at that time to show progress. He sympathized with Councilman McCall's statement about it being a landmark, but noted the building also hasn't had any improvements done in a long time. But, if an architect will say the building can be salvaged then maybe they will look at tabling the resolution again. Councilman Moore added the architect needs to confirm that the building is stable and salvageable.

Ms. Siegel noted there is a fence around the building and they are putting metal around the windows to decrease the public safety hazard. Mr. Tyner agreed, adding the construction fence that has been erected has a gate so someone would have to make an effort to get onto the property.

Councilman Moore clarified that Ms. Siegel will have another thirty days to hire an architect and bring that architect/engineer to the second meeting in August to discuss the property.

Councilman Vance motioned, seconded by Councilman Coleman, to table the resolution until August 18th. The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Councilman Moore reported on the following items:

He congratulated Code Enforcement Officer Ronnie Shaver for being promoted to Building Maintenance Director.

The city has received sixteen applications for the Grants Administrator position. They are doing a national search to replace Ms. Heather Clements.

The Property Maintenance Code Committee recently held an organizational meeting. They will be meeting every Thursday at 5:30 so they can finish by October 6th.

COM-15:044

Airport Commission financial statement for June 30, 2015

Sponsors: Municipal Airport Commission

Attachments: [Financial Statement](#)

The Airport Commission was successful in receiving two grants. One grant is for \$500,000 and the other for \$294,183. The money will be used for taxiways and other items for the Airport.

This item was Filed.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Burton referred to RES-15:099 on the agenda. He stated he echoed other Council member's statements in hopes that the firing range facility will be open to the public in some aspect. He added the city will be missing a big opportunity if they don't look at some sort of trap range to accommodate the shooting sports the school districts are starting to get involved in. Councilman Moore agreed, noting he has had several calls from citizens who are excited about having a shooting range they will be able to use.

Councilman Gibson reminded the Council of the policy and rules audit meeting that will be held this Thursday, July 23rd. The meeting will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room. They will be reviewing the changes that have been submitted, but will try to keep the meeting at no longer than an hour. The deadline is October, so if they don't get through everything in this meeting they can have subsequent meetings.

Councilman Coleman stated the North Jonesboro Initiative has elected a new chair. They are currently putting together new bylaws and policies and procedures. So, they may be coming to the Council the near future to get approval on some issues.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Phillip Cook, 5261 Richardson Drive, thanked everyone involved for their diligence in finding the person who recently murdered Lavinda Counce of Bay. He then questioned the roundabout project. He asked how the city missed the estimated cost by \$519,000. Mr. Light explained the consulting company Garver submitted the initial proposal. There was a lot of underground drainage that was added, as well as asphalt thickness needing to be increased. The original estimate also didn't include curb and gutter or pedestrian facilities, such as sidewalks. Mr. Light stated he agrees that when the city hires a consulting firm they should provide the city with a realistic estimate and that he was just as shocked as everyone else when the new estimate came out. He noted Garver's contract was with the Highway Department and not with the City of Jonesboro. He added Garver also did the original estimate for the Parker Road Extension project, which they now know was also under-estimated. The roundabout project should cost the city less than \$250,000. They will get the exact number from the Highway Department.

Bill Smith, 314 S. Main, referred to Councilman Burton's comments concerning shooting sports. He explained Arkansas State has a shooting sports program, so the university will support anything that helps build interest in shooting sports within the high school student body.

Eugene Holloway, 408 Marshall Street, addressed issues with the property maintenance code. He stated he was told the public could attend the Property Maintenance Code Committee meetings, but were not allowed to make comments at the meetings. He stated he hopes the landlords and tenants are both being represented on the committee. He hopes the recommendations will be fair and balanced. He explained the residents he has spoken with have showed interest in the code applying to interior as well as exterior. He then discussed a recent report concerning a tenant's living conditions. Mr. Holloway reiterated he is just trying to make sure the committee's work is equitable to both tenants and landlords.

A tenant living at 1009 E. Washington stated she has a possum problem in her house. She added the only time she was able to get the landlord to do anything to help her home was after the city sent the landlord a letter telling her to make improvements. She explained the landlord said a lot of nasty things about her, as well as the possums living in her house.

Ms. McDaniel, 902 Creath Apt. A, stated her complaint is related to fair housing. She had to move out of her rental in January due to the conditions of the space, but the lease isn't due until August. She had carbon monoxide poisoning, a mold infestation and roaches. She asked the landlord to provide her with handicap facilities such as ramps to help her get in and out of the bath. He didn't want to do it and was going to make her move before Christmas, but she was able to stay a little while longer. Ms. McDaniel explained they are just asking for fair housing and conditions. She noted there are plenty of people going through a lot and has contacted Little Rock offices before.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 12 - Darrel Dover; Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Tim McCall; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Charles Coleman and Todd Burton

_____ **Date:** _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ **Date:** _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk