



# City of Jonesboro

900 West Monroe  
Jonesboro, AR 72401

## Meeting Minutes City Council

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Tuesday, January 17, 2012

6:30 PM

Huntington Building

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### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:30 P.M.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR PERRIN AT 6:30 P.M.

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

#### 3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

*Councilman Fears left at 7:30 p.m.*

**Present** 10 - Darrel Dover; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Mikel Fears and Charles Coleman

**Absent** 2 - Ann Williams and Tim McCall

#### 4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

##### COM-12:002

Proclamation for Roy Ockert

**Sponsors:** Mayor's Office

*Mayor Perrin presented the proclamation to Jonesboro Sun Editor Roy Ockert for his service to the community. Mr. Ockert thanked the Mayor and City Council for their openness with city government.*

**This item was Read.**

##### COM-12:003

Presentation by Wannda Turner regarding PAWS for Excellence Award

*Ms. Turner presented the award to Animal Control Supervisor Sgt. Larry Rogers for his devotion to animals and the City of Jonesboro. She noted adoptions and rescues have increased since Sgt. Rogers has been head of the department.*

**This item was Read.**

#### 5. CONSENT AGENDA

*Approval of the Consent Agenda*

**A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman John Street, to Approve the Consent Agenda. A motion was made that these**

**files be approved by consent voice vote**

**Aye:** 10 - Darrel Dover; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Mikel Fears and Charles Coleman

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Tim McCall

**MIN-12:003**

Minutes for the City Council meeting on January 3, 2012

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

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

**RES-11:216**

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES FOR BARRINGTON PARK PHASE V, A RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION

**Sponsors:** Engineering

**Attachments:** [image0001](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-002-2012

**RES-11:217**

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES FOR 1005 E. LAWSON, A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

**Sponsors:** Engineering

**Attachments:** [image0001](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-003-2012

**RES-11:219**

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH THE ROTARY CLUBS OF JONESBORO

**Sponsors:** Mayor's Office

**Attachments:** [Rotary Clubs Amended Agreement](#)  
[2010 Amendment](#)  
[Original Agreement](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-004-2012

**RES-11:222**

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH ADAMS AND COOPER PLUMBING FOR SPONSORSHIP OF A OUTFIELD SIGN AT SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

**Sponsors:** Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [Adams and Cooper Plumbing](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-005-2012

**RES-11:223**

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH HOLIDAY INN FOR SPONSORSHIP OF A OUTFIELD SIGN AT SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

**Sponsors:** Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [Holiday Inn](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-006-2012

**RES-11:224**

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING FREE UTILITY SERVICE AT 9100 FRITO LAY DRIVE AND 9001 C.W. POST ROAD FOR THE CITY OF JONESBORO

**Sponsors:** Engineering

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

Enactment No: R-EN-007-2012

**RES-11:225**

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH ARKANSAS POLICE SUPPLY FOR SPONSORSHIP OF A OUTFIELD SIGN AT SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

**Sponsors:** Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [Arkansas Police Supply](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-008-2012

**RES-11:226**

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH DAIRY QUEEN FOR SPONSORSHIP OF A OUTFIELD SIGN AT SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

**Sponsors:** Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [Dairy Queen](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-009-2012

**RES-11:227**

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH COMFORT SUITES FOR SPONSORSHIP OF A OUTFIELD SIGN AT SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

**Sponsors:** Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [Comfort Suites](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-010-2012

[RES-11:229](#) A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT A PERMANENT DRAINAGE EASEMENT FROM DENNIS MALONE AND DONNA MALONE FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

**Sponsors:** Engineering

**Attachments:** [Permanent Drainage Easement.pdf](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-011-2012

[RES-11:230](#) A RESOLUTION TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT A PERMANENT DRAINAGE EASEMENT FROM ILEANA PATRU AND DANIEL PATRU FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

**Sponsors:** Engineering

**Attachments:** [Permanent Drainage Easement.pdf](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-012-2012

[RES-11:231](#) A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, CERTIFYING LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENDORSEMENT OF BUSINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TAX BACK PROGRAM (AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 15-4-2706(d) OF THE CONSOLIDATED INCENTIVE ACT OF 2003).

**Sponsors:** Mayor's Office

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

Enactment No: R-EN-013-2012

[RES-11:232](#) A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH J.K. PRODUCTS INC. FOR SPONSORSHIP OF A OUTFIELD SIGN AT SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

**Sponsors:** Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [J.K. Products](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-014-2012

[RES-11:233](#) A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH HAYS FOOD TOWN INC. FOR SPONSORSHIP OF A OUTFIELD SIGN AT SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

**Sponsors:** Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [Hays Food Town Inc.](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-015-2012

**RES-11:234**

A RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT WITH BANCORP SOUTH FOR SPONSORSHIP OF ONE SCOREBOARD SIGN AT SOUTHSIDE SOFTBALL COMPLEX

**Sponsors:** Parks & Recreation

**Attachments:** [Bancorp South](#)

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

Enactment No: R-EN-016-2012

**6. NEW BUSINESS****ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING****ORD-11:092**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF JONESBORO TRAVEL POLICY TO CLARIFY REIMBURSEMENT FOR TIPS AND PARKING EXPENSES

**Sponsors:** Finance and Human Resources

*Councilman Dover offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.*

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

*Councilman Dover clarified this ordinance will bring City policies up to State regulations. Mayor Perrin agreed.*

**A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED by a unanimous vote**

**Aye:** 10 - Darrel Dover; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Mikel Fears and Charles Coleman

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Tim McCall

Enactment No: O-EN-002-2012

**ORD-12:002**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FROM R-1 TO C-3 LUO FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3603 HUDSON DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY PAUL CURTIS

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

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

*Councilman Dover questioned whether there has been any opposition. City Planner Otis Spriggs answered no.*

**A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Darrel Dover, to Waive Second Reading . The motion PASSED by a unanimous vote**

**Aye:** 10 - Darrel Dover; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Mikel Fears and Charles Coleman

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Tim McCall

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## 8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

*Mayor Perrin reported on the following items:*

*He thanked Chief Financial Officer Ben Barylske and the Finance Department for their work. He stated the City received a good audit report with no major deficiencies. He noted the audit did indicate improvements were needed regarding consolidation of duties, but 99% of all city audits include that finding.*

*Several people attended the recent Winter Conference with the Municipal League. There are topics he would like to discuss, so he will be sending those out to the Council members.*

*Speed limits were discussed at the last meeting. State law indicates streets with no posted speed limit will be 30 mph. On highways, if the speed limit is unposted it will be 50 mph. He would like to go back and reinstate the Traffic Committee in order to be able to hear comments from the public regarding traffic signs. They will work on putting the committee back together. The ASU Overpass was also discussed because the speed limit is 20 mph. Effective today, ASU sent out a memo indicating the speed limit will be increased to 30 mph. He will be presenting a resolution to the Council reinstating the Traffic Committee.*

*The spatial study is being conducted. Offices in the Huntington Building will have to be vacated in a year and a half. The study should be completed by February 1 in order for them to provide recommendations to the Council.*

*The Master Land Use Plan was adopted two years ago. They will be presenting the plan as adopted with the rezonings that have occurred in the past two years in order to show whether the rezonings went along with the plan. He would like to review the plan every two years. He stated, for example, due to the high level of construction taking place on Stadium Boulevard the City should look into decelerated lanes to help with traffic flow.*

*Friday he sent a request to the Highway Department for traffic signalization at Parkwood and Stadium due to the fire station on Brazos and the increase in development in the area.*

*By the end of the month, they will have a project outline concerning the Miracle Field. They will present it to the Council. They continue to get calls from people wanting to donate time and services to build the field.*

### COM-12:004

Financial Reports for December, 2011

**Sponsors:** Finance

**Attachments:** [2011 County Sales Tax Revenue - Cash Basis](#)  
[2011 City Sales Tax Revenue - Cash Basis](#)  
[2011 Dec State Turnback Budget Comparison](#)  
[2011 Franchise Fees Period Comparison](#)  
[2011 Hotel tax \(cash \) Report](#)  
[2011 Hotel tax \(cash \) & Comparison Report](#)  
[2011 Public Safety Sales Tax Revenue and Expense](#)  
[2011 Combined Sales Tax Revenue - Cash Basis](#)  
[2011 Dec State Turnback Report](#)  
[Deposit Collateralization Report](#)  
[Preliminary 2011 Revenue vs Expense](#)  
[Required Reserves 12-31-11 before accruals \(1\)](#)  
[Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances](#)

*Financial reports for December, 2011, show revenues exceeding expenses. Reserves are higher than required by the State. Sales tax is up by \$1.133 million, which is about a 4.6% increase over budget. The public safety tax collected \$584,000 in December, but the total for the year covers only about 1/3 of what it takes to run the public safety departments. Total State turnback increased \$139,000. Hotel occupancy tax increased 9.8% from 2010 to 2011. He predicts that will increase again in 2012 due to the number of tournaments being held in the City this year. All accounts are collateralized. Franchise fees are up 1.27% for 2011. Fuel expenses were \$75,000 over budget for 2011. They hope to save money with the fuel depot that is currently being constructed at new public works facility on Dan Avenue.*

**This item was Read.**

## **9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

*Councilman Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilman Street, to suspend the rules and add ORD-12:001 to the agenda. All voted aye.*

### **ORD-12:001**

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF DIGITAL CAR CAMERA SYSTEMS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FLEET.

**Sponsors:** Police Department

*Councilman Dover offered the ordinance for first reading by title only.*

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

*After adoption of the ordinance, Councilman Johnson motioned, seconded by Councilman Moore, to adopt the emergency clause. All voted aye.*

**A motion was made by Councilman John Street, seconded by Councilman Chris Gibson, that this matter be Passed . The motion PASSED by a unanimous vote**

**Aye:** 10 - Darrel Dover; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Mikel Fears and Charles Coleman

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Tim McCall

Enactment No: O-EN-003-2012

*Councilman Coleman thanked everyone who participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr. events and JETS for helping with the transportation.*

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

### **COM-12:001**

Statement by Dr. Anthony Troy Adams, Dr. Norman Stafford and Dr. George Grant on behalf of the Diversity Coalition of Jonesboro

**Attachments:** [Diversity Coalition](#)  
[Statistics](#)  
[Statement from Dr. George Grant](#)  
[Statement from Dr. Norman Stafford](#)

*Dr. Anthony Troy Adams, 2606 Rosewood Circle, discussed diversity in law enforcement agencies. He noted African Americans comprise 1.5% of sworn officers and 0.9% of the Fire Department, showing a disparity in the hiring of officers. He added there are several points of pride with the Police Department for its record of public safety in crime reduction and public involvement.*

*Dr. Norman Stafford read the attached statement.*

*Dr. George Grant read a statement (see attached).*

*Councilman Fears questioned why the coalition group is targeting just the public safety departments and not the other City departments, such as Parks and Recreation. Dr. Grant stated they are concerned about all of the City departments, but they were focusing on the public safety departments because they are the departments that are the most visible.*

*Councilman Moore thanked everyone for attending and noted several months ago he recommended the group forming and bringing back recommendations. He explained he was optimistic their group would provide some insight, but he recently received a flyer that misrepresents facts and suggested everyone attend tonight's Council meeting for a groundbreaking presentation. Councilman Moore added the flyer suggests that civil rights have been violated. He stated today's newspaper also reported the group indicated they have not received all of the information they requested, giving the idea that the City is hiding something. He further explained he has been on the Council for ten years and the current administration is more open when it comes to race and gender than previous administrations. He also noted he received written responses to the coalitions concerns on November 15, 2011, and he assumed they had received those responses as well. Councilman Moore referred to the coalition's ten recommendations and stated seven of them have already been implemented and three are not possible. He then questioned if anyone's civil rights have been violated and, if so, he would like them to inform the Council. He added he would ask that the coalition refrain from casting a race shadow over this issue in fear of hurting recruitment of minorities. Councilman Moore stated information on the flyer indicated only 1.4% of the Police Department is a minority when, in fact, 77% of the civilian force is women and 23% is African American.*

*Dr. Stafford explained he sent an email to the Mayor via Human Resources Director Gloria Roark with 15 requests for information, but less than half were answered. He noted they did not receive the statistics concerning the civilian force that Councilman*



Moore stated, nor did they receive other information, which is why their comments today were limited to recruitment. He noted they are here to be positive. He also explained the City has followed what is legal, but he thinks the City should be beyond that. Dr. Stafford stated they want transparencies in that they don't see enough minorities and women in the public safety departments. Councilman Moore explained in the email he referred to earlier, all 13 of the questions that were asked were answered. Dr. Stafford answered at the next meeting he would explain that. He added they have not received information on how many minorities have taken the test and have not been provided with a sample test to determine why more people aren't passing the test. Dr. Grant stated he has not seen answers to those questions and he questioned who the answers were given to. Councilman Moore explained the email requesting information was sent to the Mayor on November 10, 2011. A reply was sent on November 15, 2011, to Dr. Stafford's email address with answers to all 13 questions. Dr. Stafford stated he did not receive a reply email.

Dr. Grant explained they would like to help the City with these issues in order to raise the City's awareness to these issues. He recommended the City putting together a task force with citizens such as Jonesboro Sun Editor Roy Ockert as members. He noted no one has responded to the ten recommendations as a courtesy to let them know the City is already practicing some of the suggestions.

Mayor Perrin stated over the weekend was the first time he saw the 10 recommendations by the coalition. He explained all qualified candidates will be considered for employment by the City of Jonesboro. He added his office will be contacting them after he can meet with Ms. Roark and City Attorney Phillip Crego.

Police Chief Michael Yates stated they recognized a reduction in minority representation in the Police Department four years ago and they have taken measures to try and correct the issues. He explained they feel very strongly about the issue, but it will take time for this problem to be corrected. He further explained the City is being held as the sole responsible party as to why there is an under-representation when there are other considerations. He asked that the other factors be considered, such as police work being a male dominated profession just like teaching and nursing being female dominated. He noted applicants must have a high school diploma and United States citizenry, which will directly affect Latinos and Hispanics who want to be officers. Chief Yates added people can apply for the job, but they have to have the motivation to show up for the test. He stated 44% of the people who apply don't show up for the test. 41% of the African American males who apply don't show up to take the test. In the last four hiring cycles, 78% of African American females who applied didn't show up for the test. He also explained due to the high number of applicants it's hard to get a position because you can't just pass the test, you have to be at the top of the list. He further explained hiring is a blind process, meaning he doesn't know who the applicants are.

Fire Chief Leonard Jadrich stated he thinks it's a good idea for the coalition to help with the hiring process to ensure the most qualified candidates are given the jobs.

Ms. Felicia Parks explained they do not intend on upsetting the Council; rather, they are there to work with the Council peacefully. She further explained they just want to have Police and Fire Departments that are approachable. She noted people will not apply for jobs if they don't feel accepted. She added they want to come up with ways to make the minorities feel accepted.

**This item was Read.**

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Councilman Chris Moore, seconded by Councilman Rennell Woods, that this meeting be Adjourned . The motion PASSED by a unanimous vote**

**Aye:** 10 - Darrel Dover; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Rennell Woods; Mikel Fears and Charles Coleman

**Absent:** 2 - Ann Williams and Tim McCall

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Harold Perrin, Mayor**

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Donna Jackson, City Clerk**