



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes Finance & Administration Council Committee

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

4:00 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL (ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE) CONFIRMED BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Present 6 - Joe Hafner; Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent 1 - Anthony Coleman

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[MIN-25:009](#)

Minutes for the Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2025.

Attachments: [Minutes](#)

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Brian Emison, that this matter be Passed. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman

4. NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-25:011](#)

A RESOLUTION TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF RAB ALED5T52/PCT-LED POST TOP LIGHT-OR EQUIVALENT LIGHT FIXTURES AND RAB PR4-11-15D2-OR EQUIVALENT LIGHT POLES.

Sponsors: Grants, Engineering and Finance

Attachments: [Lighting Specs - Tec Electric.pdf](#)
[Quote 1355173-00 \(002\).pdf](#)

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I have one question. Is this for the whole city of Jonesboro? Engineering Department Director Craig Light approached the podium and said, it is the fixtures that are being specked out for the downtown, or the improvement redevelopment district area. So, these particular ones will be for the Creath Street lighting project to go along that trail. There'll be other ones going down

different things. We've got two developments, I think, down here on Cate Street, I believe they've already ordered some for their project to put in front of their thing. And I think over here on Burke Street, they're about to order those to go in front of the Best Manufacturing building that's being redeveloped. So, they'll put these same streetlights in there. So, it's basically in the downtown core area. They're real similar to what is out at ASU, same over the Marion Berry bridge. No, actually over the HWY 18 bridge. They're similar light fixtures as those. We're trying to get one standard one, so we don't have to stock multiple parts, and when things go down we have one standard... When you're looking at have several hundred light fixtures that we're going to be maintaining. And that number is going to grow, you know, it could be several thousand by the time this is all done. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, that's the only reason I asked the question. But this is probably a part of the question you can't answer but I guess it's just a mindset. Because everything is going to LED. Everything that CWL is putting in is LED, right? Ok, so I guess back to my question. From a serious standpoint. Throughout the city that's going to happen, do you know? Director Craig Light said, these are the fixtures that the city is going to have installed and maintain not CWL. And so, I don't know if that will be citywide at this point. Until CWL adopts these to use outside this redevelopment district. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, thank you Craig. I appreciate you.

Councilmember David McClain said, I guess the only other question. We're waiving the bidding, and I know it says for the preservation of public safety. Can someone touch on that a little bit for me. Just give me some clarity on that if you don't mind Craig. Director Craig Light said, we've spent quite a bit of time reviewing different types of fixtures and poles to use and with different suppliers. This is the fixture and pole that's basically... we'd have to go with a different manufacturer, a different supplier of pole, and we wouldn't have one that could possibly stock them locally and the parts locally, it could be a one-time sale. And so, by purchasing them from a local vendor that's willing to stock the parts and poles, so if one gets hit by a car, we can quickly replace it sort of thing. That's the reason why we went to this outsource, waive competitive bidding. Chairman Joe Hafner said, and the public safety part is simply a lit area is safer than a dark area. Director Craig Light said, yeah. It's a matter of getting them put back up quickly when they do come down. You know, we get them knocked down on Main Street often, and they have to order them out of Canada to get those. And they're very expensive and it takes a while to get them in, and we don't have them in stock, and so when we're going to put this many in, we don't want to have that problem every time one of them gets damaged or goes out or whatever. So, having a local supplier on it was important to us.

A motion was made by John Street, seconded by Brian Emison, that this matter be Recommended to Council. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman

5. PENDING ITEMS

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I have a question for Steve. I asked him last time and it wasn't answered, so I thought I would ask him again. Finance Department Director Steve Purtee approached the podium and said, what did I forget?

On a serious basis. I wished the mayor was here, but I'll go ahead and ask this question. And if I'm out of line, it's fine, you know, I stay that way. The bond issue. Is there any movement or what? But I need to make a statement on the bond issue. It's not that I'm against it. I want to make sure; I'm really for the bond issue. But is the gun complex finish to be finished? Is that going to be involved with the bond issue or do you know? Director Steve Purtee said, I believe the mayor is still reviewing that final list of projects that would be included with that. To kind of give a brief update. I did have a conversation with Paul Phillips, who is our investment advisor. We were just, kind of, comparing notes about where we are, where we left off, what wasn't approved, where we are regarding the public hearing and all of that. And so, pretty much the consensus was we'll just kind of reset everything and start that process again since we kind of reached a point of stand still. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, that's good. Director Steve Purtee said, that particular project is getting more and more conversation inside the offices. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, well the reason why I asked that question is it's kind of like going to the bank, and I'm very serious about this statement. The bond issue to me, since we're going to go that route and I'm not sure the council is going to totally approve it. But for my personal point of view. It's like going to the bank, borrowing money to pay your bills. So, if we've got other things that's lacking, that's like in the number five of prioritizing, you know, I think we should take care of that instead of waiting to do a bond issue. And then later on try to get grants and get money to pay other bills off to finish up the gun complex and things like that. That's really bothering me, and I think we just really need some answers on that. I'm glad to hear that y'all are reassessing the process that you had. I had to speak to that because I sent Brian and asked him about it. He sent me a nice text, so he did answer me, but he didn't answer me. And so, I want to make sure I'm going on record to make sure that I have no problem personally with the bond issue, but I have a problem if we don't pay, take care of all our business, and then come back to the council later and say well we need more money. Because you can do grants for so long, and you can do adding to the grants from our revenue for so long. And so that needs to be taken care of. Director Steve Purtee said, I'll share your comments with the mayors office. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, appreciate that Steve. Thank you.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Brian Emison, seconded by Charles Coleman, that this meeting be Adjourned. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 5 - Charles Coleman; Ann Williams; John Street; David McClain and Brian Emison

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman