



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

5:30 PM

Municipal Center, 300 S. Church

PUBLIC WORKS COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR HAROLD COPENHAVER AT 5:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL (ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE) INITIATED AND CONFIRMED BY CITY CLERK APRIL LEGGETT

Councilmember Chris Moore presided over the City Council meeting as President Pro-Tempore in the absence of Mayor Harold Copenhaver.

Present 11 - Brian Emison;Chris Moore;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent 1 - Anthony Coleman

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman, to adopt the Consent Agenda less RES-24:057. All voted aye.

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

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman

[MIN-24:049](#)

MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 21, 2024

Attachments: [CC Minutes 05212024](#)

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

[RES-24:051](#)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE FY2025 SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (STEP) FROM THE ARKANSAS STATE POLICE

This item was passed on the Consent Agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-046-2024

RESOLUTIONS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

[RES-24:057](#)

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 3 FOR THE JONESBORO DOWNTOWN TO ASU CONNECTION JOB 100971 (2023:01)

Attachments: [Change Order No.3](#)

Councilmember David McClain said, I have a follow-up question from the Finance meeting last week. Craig, you mentioned that everything was on pace to complete in August. I was just curious, are we still on pace and will we be able to continue to meet that deadline by August? I know we had some weather last week is the reason why I am asking. Do we think they will have to extend and if they do extend will they cost us anything for that? Engineering Director Craig Light said, we have not received any requests from the contractor for an extension of time at this point. I can't guarantee that there won't be an extension for time request at some point between now and August, but, so far, he has not mentioned any extension of time needed to complete the project. If there is an extension of time, it wouldn't be coupled with a price change increase, I wouldn't anticipate for the time extension. Hopefully, that answers your question. Councilmember McClain said, yes. Councilmember Chris Moore said, was your question not was there a penalty clause? Did you not ask that also? Councilmember McClain said, I did not ask that. Councilmember Moore said, okay, I thought you asked if there was a penalty clause. Councilmember McClain said, no. Mr. Light said, there is a penalty clause in the contract if it runs long and there is not a reason for the time delay that is not covered by a change order then there could be a penalty. But, hopefully, we don't do that. Councilmember McClain said, okay. Mr. Light said, he is working on the project. There shouldn't be, we are about to hit the dry season and it should go pretty quickly.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, Craig, a question for you. I know we have talked about this some before but when it's all said and done, minus Marion Berry, which I know, it's kind of TBD or pending grant application, what do you think our total cost will wind up being? And, then what's the, is it like 1.6 miles, I was kind of trying to equate like a per mile price when it's all said and done. Mr. Light said, I could put those numbers together for you and get those to you. I think this contract was a little over \$2 million and then this change order, I think the other change order, change order No. 1 was like \$1,200 and I think change order No. 2 might have been like \$7,000 or something like that. There may be a fourth change order coming, but I don't know where that's going to land yet, what all that's going to entail. I know it has been discussed a little bit by the engineers that are overseeing the project. There are a few other items we need to work out as this goes through. Councilmember Bryant asked, when it is all said and done, do you think our per mile cost is kind of a mid per mile cost. I mean if the next time we do a project is this going to be something on the low, middle, or high end to look at as an example? Mr. Light said, this project is kind of a high-end because we are doing so much road work. We are doing sidewalks on both sides, a separate bike lane, so it's not just a side path like what we are doing on Culberhouse. It is a

complete road section rebuild. So, it's pretty expensive per foot cost. I can get that number to you. I just don't have it off of the top of my head. Councilmember Bryant said, and then a last question. Kind of what was the timeframe from the time we started to the time we finished or hopefully will finish it soon? Mr. Light asked, of the construction costs? Councilmember Bryant said, well yeah, kind of from the time concept to the beginning of the engineering to hopefully when we get done here in the next couple of months. Mr. Light said, it's been a concept for six years now. I think once we got the first grant, you know, we went through and we have gotten three separate grants to go towards the projects for costs, to cover the costs of it. So, it's, I mean, it's kind of taken some time to get the funding all available. I think we have talked about that before. If the money is available, we can move pretty quickly on it, but when you have to build the project budget through multiple year grants, it really does slow down and then of course, we had covid mixed in there and we had 37, I think, properties to acquire on it. So, there is a lot of property acquisitions. So, it has been a grueling process so I am really looking forward to it being done and move on to the next one. Councilmember Bryant said, thank you Craig. Mr. Light said, thank you.

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

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman

Enactment No: R-EN-047-2024

RESOLUTIONS TO BE INTRODUCED

[RES-24:058](#)

A RESOLUTION SCHEDULING A HEARING ON THE DENIAL BY MAPC OF A REZONING REQUEST FOR 5500 C.W. POST ROAD, JONESBORO, AR

Attachments: [Appeal Letter](#)
[Proposal](#)
[Plat](#)
[PROOF OF MAILING](#)
[Staff Summary](#)
[MAPC Minutes](#)
[Publication Receipt](#)

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, before we begin, we need to set a date and time for this hearing. There has been some discussion since the last council meeting we didn't have a quorum for the appeal hearing that was set at 4:30 p.m. So, there has been a question about whether we would want to just put these on the regular council agenda under Special Presentations and just handle them at the beginning. Councilmember David McClain asked, both? Ms. Duncan said, yes, both of them. Just tell people to be here at 5:30 p.m. when council starts and it will be first after the pledge of allegiance. Councilmember Chris Gibson said, I would put that in the form of a motion. Councilmember John Street seconded the motion. Ms. Duncan said, I will read it then. When is our next meeting April? City Clerk April Leggett said, it would be June 18th.

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

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman

Enactment No: R-EN-048-2024

[RES-24:059](#)

A RESOLUTION SCHEDULING A HEARING ON THE DENIAL BY MAPC OF A REZONING REQUEST FOR 5415 SOUTHWEST DRIVE, JONESBORO, AR.

Attachments: [Appeal Letter](#)
[Zoning Application](#)
[Zoning Plat](#)
[Zoning Mail Receipts](#)
[MAPC Meeting Minutes](#)
[Publication Receipt](#)

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore asked to abstain from voting on RES-24:059 due to the fact that the proponent Jeremy Moore is his brother.

City Attorney Carol Duncan asked, do we want to say 5:30 p.m. or a little bit after? President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, I think you would schedule them both at the same time. Ms. Duncan said, okay, just in case.

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

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman

Recused: 1 - Chris Moore

Enactment No: R-EN-049-2024

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

[ORD-24:015](#)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO ACT 1112 OF 2017, AND APPLICABLE ABC REGULATIONS APPROVING THE RESTAURANT PRIVATE CLUB APPLICATION OF BRICK OVEN OF JONESBORO, INC. D/B/A LA TORCIA BRICK OVEN PIZZA AT 604 E. HIGHLAND DRIVE, JONESBORO, CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS

Attachments: [Brick Oven Application Redacted](#)
[Publication Receipt](#)

James Elwin Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, said, I want to point out that it has been less than a month since I have had to detour route back to my house because of a wreck right

in this neighborhood. Traffic can be kind of hectic there and I don't see how adding alcohol to it is going to help any matters. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Mr. Hinds.

Melissa Hicks said I am the Director of Operations for Brickoven. So, I am out of Cabot, Arkansas. And, I just first want to apologize that we were not here last week or at the last meeting. We kind of got our wires crossed and just missed it and I want to apologize for that because I saw the recording and realized that there was some concerns or questions that came up. And, so, we did want to be here, you know, today to make sure that we can answer any questions or comments or possibly speak on behalf of anything that may come up. So, that is why I wanted to introduce myself and kind of open the floor. Councilmember Janice Porter asked, in reviewing your packet, there was no mention of any charitable activity and that is something that we have almost come to expect and I was just wondering if that was an omission or what the case was. Ms. Hicks said, yeah, we don't have, like, a, this is the organization that we donate to. So, we are not a type of corporation that likes to put a lot of monies in one fund. And, so, we like to really work with the community, once we get into the community. So, whether that be schools or special interest groups. But, all of our locations do give back into the community. But, we want to make sure like not, we all support national causes, I'm not saying that, but we want to be more, put our money into the actual community that we are in and not like just making a donation for the sake of a donation. Councilmember Porter said, thank you. Ms. Hicks said, you're welcome. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, thank you ma'am. Ms. Hicks said, thank you.

Held at second reading

[ORD-24:016](#)

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR THE ARTS ANNEX INC.

Attachments: [Application Redacted](#)
 [Publication Receipt](#)

Councilmember Joe Hafner asked, can we get more explanation on what the prepackaged food is? What is the prepackaged food that they said they will be serving? Is there anybody here that can answer that? Brian Nobles, 1300 S. Church Street Apt. E-6, said, so what we are doing here is partnering with the FOA on their annex location across from the Forum. This is going to be a limited menu, limited access, limited to the public kind of thing. So, we are only going to be open on Friday and Saturday nights for more of a venue type of situation. Now, as you probably know, the annex doesn't have a kitchen in it. So, right now, I am waiting for correspondence with the State Health Department. I have already spoken to the city health department. And, we are trying to figure out what actually constitutes a kitchen. In Section 5.57 of ABC code, they state that you just have to prepare some food on location to be able to qualify for the permit. So, the food that we will actually be having there is more concession, not necessarily prepackages and we buy cookies and crackers and stuff like that from the store, but more so, we are going to be preparing more kind of a snack food, spicy crackers, chocolate covered espresso beans, homemade trail mix, popcorns of different sorts, a wide variety of things that people can eat while they are there enjoying kind of a lounge setting on the weekend only. Now, since this is a venue that when it is not in operation as a private club, it will have youth there. They will use it for functions that coincide with FOA. So, therefore, we can't apply for a venue itself license which would require it to be 21 and up. So, we are having to do the kitchen way. So, we are trying to figure out with the city and state, how we can get the minimal amount of things in there to qualify as a kitchen. We have already got cold storage in

there. We have a third department sink, handwashing sink, all these things, but it is the food preparation part that is in question. So, I am working with them right now. FOA has signed on to allow me to put in whatever minimal amount of equipment assuming it is not gas lines, vent-a-hood, stuff like that. So, again, I am working with the state right now to get the details on that so we can, you know, figure out what kind of, you know, concessions we are going to need.

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, I can speak to that the city doesn't have any requirements about the food. The food is 100% an ABC requirement. My understanding is there has to be a full kitchen that prepares food if you are going to have juveniles in the facility at all. Mr. Nobles said, right. Ms. Duncan said, so, but that is an ABC rule. That is not a City of Jonesboro rule. So, they will have to satisfy the ABC in that regard. Councilmember Hafner said, thank you. President Pro-Tempore Moore asked, does that satisfy your question? Councilmember Hafner said, I'm good. Councilmember David McClain asked, what happens if it's not, do we vote on that now? Should we vote on that now? Should we wait? Ms. Duncan said, it doesn't have anything to do with what we are approving which is the location and the owners, essentially. ABC approves. ABC can say no if they chose to say no or they can say this type of venue doesn't allow anyone under 21 which is what they would do. You don't have to have food anymore. That used to be a rule. You don't have to have food anymore in a private club, but you can't have people under 21 inside of it if you do not have food. Does that make sense? If it doesn't have a restaurant component, then no one under 21 can enter the facility. So, that is my understanding.

Mr. Nobles said, that is how the agent put it to me was that the only other option was if the state didn't approve the kitchen, then it would have to be a private event kind of thing where you know you weren't open to the public and you couldn't advertise that. But, the unclear part is what actually constitutes a kitchen which is what I am trying to get clarification on from the state and the city really said it had nothing to do with it as well. Ms. Duncan said, right. I am not sure about the private event part. I just think it can't have children under 21. Mr. Nobles said, right, if I was to apply as venue only, then it would have to be at a certain age. On Fridays and Saturdays though from what I was told, they would still be able to operate privately without, you know. Ms. Duncan said, I'm not sure that is correct. We better check on that with the ABC. Mr. Nobles said, okay, yeah sure, alright. Ms. Duncan said, I would have to reread the rule, but I'm not sure that is correct. Mr. Nobles said, okay. Ms. Duncan said, okay. Mr. Nobles said, thank you.

Councilmember Janice Porter said, I have a question, one question please. I assume that you will be storing the alcohol in a separate location when the children are there for their classes and so forth? Mr. Nobles said, correct, and everything is already built to be under lock and key and you know inaccessible to anybody, correct. Ms. Duncan asked, did ABC approve that? That children could be in there at times that it wasn't operating as a club? I just was curious. I've never seen that in their rules. Mr. Nobles said, ABC, from what I have understood over the years of operating with a liquor license and without a liquor license as well is that as long as you're closed, nobody can see you, nobody knows what is going on in there, you can have a private party. Ms. Duncan said, I don't think that is accurate. Mr. Nobles said, okay. Ms. Duncan said, okay, alright. Mr. Nobles said, of course, thank you.

James Elwin Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, said, something really caught my attention on KAIT last week. And, it didn't occur to me, and when they were starting to promote this summer camp that the Foundation of Arts is going to have and I realized it is talking about the same place. We are talking about putting this in a thing and you know what

there is going to be between the kids and you know this is isn't even across the street. All of that is going to be between the kids and the liquor is a wall, that's it. What are we going to do next? Day care center by day and saloon by night? Where do we stop? We seem to be and what I said may sound silly to you but it's very close to what's being asked to be approved here. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, thank you Mr. Hinds.

Held at second reading

[ORD-24:017](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 117, ARTICLE III, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6103 DALTON FARMER DRIVE FROM R-1 TO I-1 AS REQUESTED BY JOHN EASLEY ON BEHALF OF FARMER ENTERPRISES

Attachments: [Ordinance and Plat](#)
 [Staff Summary - CC](#)
 [jeasley](#)

Held at second reading

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

[ORD-24:011](#)

AN ORDINANCE TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

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

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman

Enactment No: O-EN-017-2024

[ORD-24:014](#)

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 4002 MT. CARMEL ROAD AS REQUESTED BY HORIZON LAND SURVEYING ON BEHALF OF RICK WHITE

Attachments: [Application](#)
 [Rezoning Plat](#)
 [Cert Mail Receipts](#)
 [Adjoining Property Owner Notification](#)
 [Signs](#)
 [Staff Summary](#)
 [Tommy Gray Handout 06042024](#)

Councilmember David McClain motioned to amend ORD-24:014, seconded by Councilmember John Street, to reflect adding a stipulation which is as follows: PROHIBIT AN INGRESS OR EGRESS ACCESS DRIVE SOLELY FROM THIS PROPERTY TO MOUNT CARMEL ROAD. All voted aye.

Councilmember David McClain said, Mr. Chairman, I want to make a motion to approve however. I know there is a request to make an amendment to this ordinance that we would not allow traffic to exit the property onto Mount Carmel Road. And, I think speaking to Derrel and Carol even, they felt that was, we could do that, but then also Derrel felt like that was. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, okay, let's take them one at a time. So, you want to make a motion to amend. Councilmember McClain said, correct. President Pro-Tempore Moore asked, will you state that amendment clearly? Councilmember McClain said, amending to where we do not allow traffic to exit the property onto Mount Carmel Road. Councilmember Mitch Johnson replied, shouldn't we specify enter as well on that? Councilmember McClain said, okay, enter and exit. Councilmember Johnson said, yes. Councilmember John Street said, I will second that. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, we have a motion and a second to amend. Anyone on the council have a question or a comment? Hearing none, all in favor on the amendment say aye.

Michael Boggs with Tralan Engineering and Horizon Land Surveying in Jonesboro representing the owner came to the podium to speak before the vote was verbalized. On that amendment for this, the traffic control plan ordinance for the City of Jonesboro right now allows, you know, there is about 225-250 ft. of frontage along Mount Carmel Road right now. Mount Carmel is recognized on the Master Street Plan as a collector street. So, right now, per ordinance, an access to that road would have to be 225 feet from the signalized intersection. So, it put that there if any property to the south of that was to be accessed, you know, to rezone to commercial, there would be shared access to Mount Carmel from that way. So, I don't necessarily know that amending the rules, amending the ordinance request would be, you know, it's already going to be controlled by the ordinance as is. If he develops, if the property develops, it's going to be done through a traffic study to know what is going on with that area anyway with that intersection. There is already some other stuff going on. So, amending it, I don't necessarily know if it is necessary to move forward with that. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you. Councilmember Janice Porter said, I would like to make a comment please. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, yes ma'am. Councilmember Porter said, I understand his point, but I think the residential neighbors would like the assurance of this amendment being passed so that they can be confident that there will not be an access from Mount Carmel Road.

Tom Gray, 4404 Jeannie Lane, said, I am president of the Layman Crest Property Owners Association and I just want to point out to the council, I have got some diagrams if you want to look at them. I don't have enough to go around about how tight this street is. Mount Carmel is 23 feet wide from the edge of the asphalt to the end of the asphalt. We have a sign at this intersection that sets back 55 feet that we have to stop at because you can't pull up to the intersection and turn because of the traffic trying to turn into the intersection. I have talked to Craig Light. There is no plans for the Highway Department or the city to redo this intersection. I have also talked to Derrel about this. I am not telling the city to not approve the rezoning, let me get that out first. We are just trying to get ourselves protected because if you drove down Mount Carmel, it is narrow and there is just no way that we are going to be able to cope with an access to exit or enter off of Mount Carmel. This property has 637 feet of road frontage on Keller's Chapel. Keller's Chapel is designated a collector street. I don't know for sure what Mount Carmel is, but I don't believe Mount Carmel is a collector street. So, I mean I will show these and y'all can look at them and I don't know if I have enough to go around, but I have got some diagrams and photos of that intersection. Y'all may have to share a little bit. I apologize. I didn't get this to the city in time to get it on the screen. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, give the Clerk one

here okay. Mr. Gray said, if you will look at the diagram on there, it shows the intersection of Mount Carmel on Keller's. It shows the stop sign is setting back 55 feet from that intersection and that is where we are supposed to stop because you can't turn in an intersection. And, I wasn't for sure how far their property line went south, but I found a stake at about 155 feet from the intersection. But, anyway, so, if you'll look at and I won't be long, but if you will look at photo #1, that is just kind of, photo #1, photo #2, and photo #3 just kind of shows you the intersection. Now, if you go to four, you will see a truck that is actually stopped at the sign and a car is going to turn there and there's not much room. And, if a dump truck tries to turn, they get over onto the church property. And, then photo #5 shows the truck stopped at that sign. So, and I know we are asking something just a little unusual, but the city has, once it goes to the study of the traffic, once it goes to approving the plans, the public is kind of left out of it. And, so, looking for a way to control that intersection. We would like to see this ordinance pass because it would give us some confidence knowing that we are not going to increase the traffic problem. But, it is only 22ft. wide down Mount Carmel. So, I don't know if you've got any questions for me that I can answer before I sit down, but I do appreciate y'all talking about this anyway. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, alright, thank you sir.

Michael Boggs asked, can I make one request though? You know, we are okay. If it is just this one property that is going to see that thing, but can we put like a stipulation in there if the property to the south was ever to be rezoned to commercial, that there could be a shared access between the two for that to get back out to Mount Carmel because their property doesn't go back, doesn't have any other frontage to any other road to Keller's Chapel. They will have to come out to Mount Carmel. City Attorney Carol Duncan asked, are you suggesting that the, that it would say that this property gets access? Is that what you are saying? That if it could share access? Mr. Boggs said, that it could share access if the property to the south. Ms. Duncan said, I feel like we could do that. Derrel might want to speak to that. Mr. Boggs said, right now, if it was developed today, the access would be 225 ft. minimum from the intersection which is going to put that right there at the south property line of this property already. Because there is no way to access, enter or exit, any closer than that because per ordinance. But, if the property to the south was to ever be rezoned, you know, the ordinance also requires us to create shared accesses between properties. So, there would have to be something there so I'm just asking.

Ms. Duncan said, so my question would be if that shared access existed on the next property then I don't know that it would have to be part of this ordinance. Does that make sense? Mr. Boggs said, well, if it is going to be there where it needs to be at, you know, to be a normally shared access part way on each property. Ms. Duncan said, part way on each property, right. Mr. Boggs said, if we are saying we can't have access period for that, I'm just saying in the future that if this was to ever, that property was to ever be rezoned, then it could have that access. It is only going to be allowed one access to Mount Carmel per ordinance. You know, there will be, the majority of the access is going to go to Keller's Chapel. But, for future whatever looking at that if that could be added to that. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, well I understand what he is saying and he doesn't want to be. Your amendment is to not allow access on Mount Carmel and what he is saying is if we are on the next property, he doesn't want to be left out. Mr. Boggs said, because you're going, per ordinance, they are going to have to have the shared access agreement. Am I not, is that not correct Derrel? Am I making that right? Councilmember McClain said, I am trying to make sure I understand. So, really and truthfully, us putting it in there doesn't matter because we are going to have to at some point add access south. Mr. Boggs said, if the property to the south is developed, rezoned, it is going to have to have access to Mount Carmel because it

has no street frontage to anything else. President Pro-Tempore Moore, what is the total distance from that intersection that you can't have access already. Mr. Boggs said, per ordinance, it is 225 ft. from a signalized intersection. President Pro-Tempore Moore asked, what is the total distance of your property? Mr. Boggs stated, it is about 225-250 ft. roughly somewhere in there. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, so really the amendment is not allowing, it is not changing your priority, is it? Mr. Boggs said, it is not changing, you know, we would.

Planning Director Derrel Smith said, the property to the south if you follow the Land Use Plan, it's not going to be a high intensity growth sector. So, it wouldn't be in a commercial sector. But, if you wanted to allowed shared use, you can do that, but, you know, I'm not sure that the property to the south is going to be able to be zoned commercial. If it does, it won't follow the growth plan. Mr. Boggs said, but in the future, the growth plan could change couldn't it? Mr. Smith said, that is up to these guys. President Pro-Tempore Moore asked, could that be addressed at that time Derrel? Mr. Smith said, that could be addressed at that time. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, alright, so right now before us we have an amendment to prohibit access onto Mount Carmel. Anyone else have a comment about that amendment? Anyone else on the council have a comment about that? City Attorney Carol Duncan said, could we allay the fears by saying prohibit an access drive solely from this property to Mount Carmel instead of just saying prohibit access to Mount Carmel. Does that make sense? That way if ever in the future if everybody agreed that a shared drive was appropriate and that may not ever happen, but it would not preclude that down the road, but that is all going to come back here and everybody is going to talk about it again and it may never happen. Councilmember Joe Hafner said, that was one of my thoughts. Ms. Duncan said, if you just rephrase it slightly to say there is not allowed sole access. Mr. Smith said, well, this council has made decisions in the past and then changed them years down the road. Ms. Duncan said, yeah, they can change them later. I do understand. Mr. Smith said, and that is a possibility too. Ms. Duncan said, but I just didn't know if that made it more helpful to just word it a little differently. Councilmember Johnson said, especially in particular a piece of property today. We are not discussing anything in the future. Ms. Duncan said, right.

President Pro-Tempore Moore asked, Mr. McClain are you agreeable to changing your amendment to change the wording to access drive instead of access? Councilmember McClain said, I am fine with that. President Pro-Tempore Moore asked, who made the second? Councilmember Street said, I did. President Pro-Tempore Moore asked, will you second that motion? Councilmember Street said, I will. President Pro-Tempore Moore asked, does anyone have a comment on the council? Anyone in the audience have a comment or a question about the amendment? Madam Clerk, do I need to call a voice vote? Ms. Leggett said, a voice vote. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, all in favor, say aye on the amendment. (The voice vote was all ayes.) All opposed. (There was no opposition voiced.) Alright, the amendment stands.

Now, we are back to the original ordinance 24-014 as amended. Carol, do you want to read it? Ms. Duncan said, I already read it, but I'll read it again. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, we have the third reading on it. Ms. Duncan said, I think I already did unless April tells me I didn't. President Pro-Tempore Moore asked, what is the will of the council? Councilmember Chris Gibson motioned to adopt ORD-24:014 as amended. Councilmember Brian Emison seconded the motion. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, I have a motion and a second to adopt as amended. Does anyone on the council have a question or a comment? Anyone in the audience have a question or a comment? Hearing none, Madam Clerk, will you load the vote. (All present voted aye.) And, it passes.

A motion was made by Councilperson Chris Gibson, seconded by Councilperson Brian Emison, that this matter be Passed as Amended. The motion PASSED with the following vote.

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman

Enactment No: O-EN-018-2024

8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

Chief Administrative Officer Brian Richardson said, I will be really brief. Of course, two weeks ago, we had a pretty significant windstorm come through and I just wanted to give a public thank you to CWL and all of the city departments that really got to work very quickly to help kind of restore some normalcy and provide power back to a lot of our residents. I believe at one point I had heard that there was somewhere around 8,000 outages and by the time I went home after talking to some crews, about 11:00-11:30 p.m., they were down to just a handful of houses that still did not have power. So, we are really fortunate to have, not only the city staff that we have on hand, but also CWL and for the excellent job they do. So, I wanted to say thank you on behalf of the Mayor and city for their efforts.

There was a Memorial Day Celebration put on at the courthouse this past weekend that the Mayor attended. I wanted to say thank you to the Craighead County Veteran's Monument Foundation. There is a lot of volunteer hours put into these type of events. They are certainly not the only ones who put together Memorial type of events like this, but it was a good turnout and I would encourage everybody to go and show up for people that put this type of effort into a good cause like that.

This past weekend, Fisher Street Cleanup, three full roll-offs and a handful of other miscellaneous taken out and 72 tires. I was reading a report last week that said on a tire could produce up to tens of thousands of mosquitoes in a single breeding season. So, 72 tires, think about that for a second, that is a lot of mosquitoes. And with these cleanups, I continue to be amazed by Code Enforcement, Sanitation, how many tires that we do take out and obviously to win a war, you have to win a lot of individual battles. I would like to think that is making somewhat of a difference. I appreciate everybody involved and thank you Dr. Coleman for kind of laying the foundation for that cleanup. It is a good strong effort every year.

Councilwoman Williams will no doubt have more to add to this, but we did get to flip the switch on the HAWK signal. It was a little bit ahead of schedule which is something we don't get to say in these construction days with the continued supply chain disruptions. But, we got to turn that on on Johnson. There were a couple of little quirks, not too surprising the first time you fire up a new system. But, Jonathan and our signal team were able to get it all lined out. You know, there is no perfect answer, but as we have seen, some people think they have way better answers for it. But, the bottom line is a vast improvement over in providing people a safer access to get across a five lane non-divided highway. I know we spoke to several people right there around that use it daily and they were really excited. Some of them were even pretty emotional. You know, there has been some tragedy there in the last couple of years and it has been a problem for as long as I can remember when I grew up over there in that area. So, I am glad to see that. We are going to continue working towards similar projects like that. Out at Parker Park, we are in the process of working towards one of those there and I just encourage pedestrians to still use caution. You can't expect

every vehicle to stop. It's a new traffic signal. And, for motorists, to please use the utmost caution in going through there. When you see red, just stop. Councilmember Williams said, that morning I talked to Mrs. Porter and she had been to Fayetteville and seen several of these in operation. Which I think they have five. We were discussing the fact that each one of these has installed increases motorists awareness of pedestrians. You know, and it raises the awareness of pedestrian safety and I feel like this will help expose drivers to the system and pedestrians as well and I think it will be great, you know, prior to having one installed near Parker Park on Hwy. 141 soon. Mr. Richardson said, well, I just feel like, I mean, I know that the administration and city council, we all feel like we have a moral responsibility to do what we can, when we can to help save lives obviously. And, I have no doubt that this provides a safer opportunity than just trying to make it across the road. We will take lessons from this and try to improve every time we do something like that.

Lastly, there is a slew of Juneteenth events going on this week. I am not going to try to recite every single one of them, but there is a calendar on the city website and you can visit KLEK's website too for some of those. I do know that one of those is a currently scheduled pool party at the new Parker Park Pool. They are on the finishing touches of that. I went over there yesterday to kind of look at it. It's really coming along great. The rumor is that Dr. Coleman is going to lead it off with the most beautiful swan dive you have ever seen. So, we are all anticipating that. With that, I will say no more with the Mayor's Report. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman stated, the pool is for the community. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Brian.

[COM-24:021](#)

MARCH 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Attachments: [March 2024 Financials](#)

Filed

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember John Street said, Brian, you alluded to the straight line winds, how they called the city, Police, Fire. Everybody kicked in and did a great job. The Street Department, Steve Tippitt, I mean very quickly cleared Shadow Ridge of a two foot diameter tree that fell directly across the road blocking everybody in there. So, the Street Department did a great job too. I think the HAWK is wonderful. We worked on that for years and years. It is great to have it. I can't wait until we get the one out by Parker Park.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, yeah, just real quick, I was actually out at the pool this afternoon and they were taking the construction fencing down and getting the chemicals regulated. Everything out there looks great with the exception of my lot which is atrocious right next door. I just can't get a bush hog on it to get it mowed, but we are getting close. Secondly, we will have a Special Called Public Services meeting tomorrow to push the Master Parks Plan through to full council.

Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I just want to thank Patrick and the people who work at Sanitation for the hard work. You said we had 72 tires, but it felt like it was a whole lot more. My back felt every tire. Again, I thank Code Enforcement. They just did a great job, a really great job.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

EXPRESSED VIEWS DISCLAIMER: The views, thoughts, and opinions expressed in the Public Comments section of the agenda are solely those of individuals of the public who approach the podium to speak. They do not reflect the views, opinions, or positions of the City of Jonesboro, Members of the City Council, the Mayor, the City Attorney, the City Clerk, or employees of the City of Jonesboro.

Mark Rademaker, Craighead Forest RV Park, said, city council, good citizens of Jonesboro, thank you for giving me a portion of your time. Many of us know that this is Pride month. Well, us, by grace, good citizens are proud of Jesus. We deserve and will always deserve eternal torment for disobeying God's good, wise, loving, protective, easy to keep law. Jesus drank the bitter cup of righteous anger for us. Our merciful savior filled it back up with his love and gave it to us to drink fully and with sober gladness. So, back to the Pride thing, we have been hating the LGBTQ+ people by acting like sissies, like girls. Let us in accord with God's law, codify the death penalty for homosexual acts and similar acts. The fear of punishment may check all, but the vilest offenders from outwardly doing their dastardly deeds. It's love. Another outcome is that God's law may drive the sinner from trusting himself to trusting Jesus. Jonesboro, let us stop pretending that we are more loving than God by avoiding his law. Turn from yourself to him, the Savior. Thank you. Good night.

James Elwin Hinds, 508 Ridgecrest, said, first let me state how happy I am to hear that there are plans to do something about the crossing in front of Parker Park. That is long overdue. I do, however, want to say, I want to invite you all to do something. Come join me in crossing at what I call the Death Race 2000. I don't know how many of you all are familiar with that movie. Crossing at Culberhouse and Southwest Drive. Let me be sure to be on record for saying this, I will not guarantee your safety crossing. If you get killed, it is not on me. If you can cross that thing without the during the time you have the right of way and get across, I think maybe you ought to try out for the Olympics that's coming up.

11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 10 - Brian Emison;Chris Gibson;David McClain;Joe Hafner;Mitch Johnson;Janice Porter;John Street;Charles Coleman;LJ Bryant and Ann Williams

Absent: 1 - Anthony Coleman

_____ Date: _____

Harold Copenhaver, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____

April Leggett, City Clerk