

TO:

Jonesboro City Council

FROM:

Mayor Harold Perrin

RE:

Resolution 20:139, Building Maintenance Facility

DATE:

September 15, 2020

I would ask that Resolution 20:139, which involves the relocation of the Building Maintenance Department, be tabled until the Council meeting on December 1 to allow further research to be performed by city staff, the Building Facilities Committee, and the Committee on Homelessness.

The Committee on Homelessness, created by Resolution 20:034, has worked hard to study the issues and needs of the homeless in Jonesboro, and we appreciate their diligence. They have also reviewed potential sites and buildings for a homeless shelter. Some of the members have expressed a desire to acquire the existing facility of the Building Maintence Department at 215 E. Allen to be converted into a homeless shelter. While that may be an option, further study regarding the redevelopment costs of that facility and the operating/maintenance costs are needed, as well as looking at other properties. In addition, the Maintenance facility may require rezoning.

The building at 907 Congress would adequately meet the needs of Building Maintenance – size, configuration, location, and reasonable cost. Another consideration is whether there should be a new facility built for Building Maintenance, possibly at the site of the Public Works buildings on Lacy Drive. This was discussed several months ago, and a cost estimate was over \$900,000, however, there may be value in looking at this again with a more efficient design and refined cost estimates.

Finally, I want to thank you for your concern and prayers. I've greatly enjoyed our relationship and cooperation over the years in making Jonesboro a better place.