



City of Jonesboro

Municipal Center
300 S. Church Street
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, June 30, 2020

4:30 PM

Municipal Center

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

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

2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK DONNA JACKSON

Deputy City Clerk April Leggett recorded in the notes that Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman entered the virtual meeting via zoom at the 2:27 video timestamp (Approximately 4:57 p.m.) during the reading of RES-20:089. At the 3:30 video timestamp, Councilmember Gene Vance verbally recognized Dr. Coleman.

Present 9 - Ann Williams; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner and LJ Bryant

Absent 3 - Charles Frierson; Chris Moore and David McClain

3. NEW BUSINESS

[RES-20:089](#)

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO UTILIZE FEDERAL-AID RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF JONESBORO GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE FY20 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) FROM THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

Attachments: [MLK Trail, Project Cost Estimate Sheet-RTP-2020](#)
[Proposed Trailhead and MLK Monuments](#)
[Map, Bike-Ped MLK Trail with Education path to Matthews](#)
[Matthews email 06302020](#)
[Wysocki email 06302020](#)

Councilmember John Street made the original motion to Pass RES: 20:089 at the 3:25 video timestamp. Councilmember Ann Williams seconded the original motion to Pass RES:20:089 at the 3:27 video timestamp. At the 3:30 video timestamp, Councilmember Gene Vance verbally recognized that Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman entered the meeting.

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, I will take a second to remind the council that there were two comments sent in. Those addressed more the design of the project and those are attached in Legistar.

Patti Lack, 4108 Forest Hill Road, said, I have a couple of comments and questions. I know that the paper had stated that this grant was just found out about two weeks ago and, if I am correct, I think we applied for a similar grant a while ago and we didn't get

it. And, I know that this grant is a large amount of \$332,000 and I am sure that there are a lot of cities that are applying for it and it just kind of surprises me because I know that Regina is on top of things. And, I am glad that we are going to apply for it. And, I know that the deadline is tomorrow, but I wish this would have been brought up at the Finance meeting on the 9th and the City Council meeting on the 16th. But, with that being said, you all know that I met with Regina and she made me a little bit smarter with grants. My question to you on this one right here is because I know this grant is an RTP grant. From my understanding, is that an RTP grant is more for rural areas like through the woods and like similar to Craighead Forest Parks one. I know that there are eight categories that are permissible for this type of grant. So, I am wondering if this grant the right type versus a TAP grant because I look at some of the project applications on like monuments and benches and fresh limestone. How do those items fit into the RTP grant versus a TAP grant? Is Regina there to answer that and would it qualify?

Regina Burkett, Community Development Director, said, yes, I am here Patti. I just wanted to let you know that we were told that there was no money in that account and that is why we did not take it to Finance. I just found out that there was money. We were told last year that there would be no money in that Recreational Trail Program and so that is why we didn't apply earlier and that is why we are doing it late. And, it is also an educational grant and so that is why we applied for it for the Martin Luther King Trail Program because it focuses also on education. Ms. Lack said, I am looking at the Recreational Trail Program, the funds, the eight categories that it fits into and so I am just a little confused about, I want to make sure that it qualifies for it, but I am kind of confused as to what categories that the benches and the monuments and all of that fit into. Ms. Burkett said, it says educational. On the part that we looked at you can do it for education so that is exactly why we applied for it because this is an educational trail. Ms. Lack said, okay, so it absolutely qualifies under the RTP? Ms. Burkett said, yes. Ms. Lack said, okay. Second question to you Regina is that if we apply for it and we receive it and we look at some of the different types of, we have the University Heights trail and I know this one is going to cost \$80,000 to the city and I am just kind of thinking is when is this grant, where is the expiration date on this because we are no way ready for this to be implemented because the trail seems to be changing all of the time too with the location. So, when is the expiration date on this and how long do we have to get it started? Ms. Burkett said, I think it is between 3-5 years. I would have to look it up for sure, but I am thinking three for sure, but something in my mind says five. But, I will look that up and see and let you know. But, I know three. Ms. Lack said, three years will go by pretty fast. You know, and I think there is a lot of work to do on that. Okay. The third and last question is that I know last year between June and November, we were discussing the road change and we were talking about things with educational purposes and also too there was an MLK Committee. You all know that I am pretty involved in the city. I have not seen a lot of public notification of when their meetings have been. I was wondering if there is anybody there that can tell me what the status is because they were the ones to go out and get funding for different educational monuments and stuff like that. So, I was wondering if there is someone there that can tell me that and then also too with the architect. I know this isn't going through because we haven't quite gotten the grant yet, but is there going to be a public meeting so that the public can have input into all of the design that has been out there on the attachment.

Mike Downing, Chief of Staff, said, Patti, I didn't hear your whole question, but the MLK Committee which is chaired by Dr. Coleman met, I believe, it was March 8, 2020. We had another meeting scheduled for a couple of weeks later and it was cancelled due to the pandemic. There were some email comments by the members on the

design and the ideas prior to that scheduled second meeting. So, the layout that you saw from the architect was a draft. The committee still needs to meet more and determine location and what is going to go on the educational monuments and many other things so this is still a grant application. So, if we get the grant funded, that is a whole different issue. But, at this time, there is still a whole lot of flux in the process. Ms. Lack said, I understand that this is just applying for the grant, but I was wondering if you could for the meetings have that publicized and hopefully the public will have a little bit of input too with the design and all of that. I think it is really important that everybody gets input with the community. Mr. Downing said, sure, we would be glad to do that. Ms. Lack asked, where would that be posted? Mr. Downing said, well, we don't have another meeting scheduled right now so I can't say that. Ms. Lack said, okay, but will you let me know? Mr. Downing said, sure. Ms. Lack said, okay. I appreciate it and thank you very much. Mayor Perrin said, Patti, I appreciate your comments. There are a lot of things to be done on the committee and we will get it done.

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

Aye: 9 - Ann Williams;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner and LJ Bryant

Absent: 3 - Charles Frierson;Chris Moore and David McClain

Enactment No: R-EN-072-2020

4. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 9 - Ann Williams;John Street;Mitch Johnson;Gene Vance;Chris Gibson;Charles Coleman;Bobby Long;Joe Hafner and LJ Bryant

Absent: 3 - Charles Frierson;Chris Moore and David McClain

_____ Date: _____

Harold Perrin, Mayor

Attest:

_____ Date: _____

Donna Jackson, City Clerk