

## **City of Jonesboro**

Municipal Center 300 S. Church Street Jonesboro, AR 72401

# Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:30 PM Municipal Center

#### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:00 P.M.

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

## 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

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

Mayor Harold Perrin was not in attendance. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore presided over the meeting.

Present 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

## 4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

COM-20:057 PRESENTATION OF 40 YEAR SERVICE PIN TO ARTHUR COFIELD

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, Mr. Cofield is not able to be with us tonight but we want to thank him for his 40 years of service.

Read

COM-20:059 PRESENTATION BY JASON RATLIFF ON THE GRANICUS VOTECAST SYSTEM

#### <u>Attachments:</u> Jonesboro AR Votecast Budgetary Quote

Information Systems Director Jason Ratliff said, on this piece of software here we've had a few questions from different people and I believe some of the questions have come from you guys and the Mayor on a voting system of how you guys vote here in council. This piece of software here is from Granicus which we have so it would integrate really well with what we have. The main key subjects that we are looking at are the flow of the meeting, the transparency, and the remote use part. This is a SAAS Solution which the software is a service that enables government organizations to streamline the meeting process for both the clerk's office as well as elected officials. By leveraging this solution, the client will be able to automate meeting data capture and display, improving accuracy and keeping all attendees informed of meeting proceedings. Each one of you will have a device, an ipad per say, it doesn't have to be an ipad, it can be an android device, but you could vote from home. The audience would be able to see up on a screen of who is voting. They would also be able to see who second that, who raised the motion or if there is an abstain. It helps the clerk out

also. As you may know when you guys say, I second that, sometimes it is hard to actually decide who actually spoke that so this system will kind of streamline that. You will have to push a button on your device to actually do that. The remote part, you know with Covid going on, again, you should be able to vote with your device at home so that helps with that part. I believe that is just about it. Like I said, some of the questions raised up of transparency of how the audience or how people at home would be able to see how you vote, who voted for what and then, of course, you have got the remote part for the Covid and just integrating it into the system that we have. I am not sure of who all raised these questions. I was just asked to come up here and go over this piece of software. Do you all have any questions or thoughts on this part?

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, the main thing and I raised part of the questions, the main thing is, I want it to note on the screen if it was going to be possible to have the item we are discussing and then have a column over here of how the vote was tallied. In other words, the alderman's name and yea or nay. Now, that was the part that I wanted. Anything above and beyond that, I wanted the people in the audience and the people who viewed the screen from the telecast on Channel 24 to be able to look at the screen and tell how everybody voted. Mr. Ratliff said, that is what this does. April and I have looked at this and we have kind of selected Granicus mainly because that is what we have and it would integrate very well with it and it would do exactly that. We could put it on the projector screen or we could have a separate screen where it shows your votes. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, I understand if you are at a remote location and having to tune in on an app on some form of device in order to be able to vote, but we are present in person, can we just, rather than being on our phone or on an ipad, is it to where we could just push a button right here at our console? Mr. Ratliff said, we could have those ipads where you could mount them right there in front of you and you could have that or where you could take it with you at home if needed or we could have it mounted right there in front of you and you would select that device. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, several of us use our iphones. Would we be able to just use our iphones right here? Mr. Ratliff said, unfortunately, the iphone will not work with it. The iphone is such a small device. It needs that bigger picture to hold all of that information on that. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, I don't necessarily want an ipad just to be able to vote once every two weeks. I mean it kind of seems like an overkill for me just to be able to vote at the council meeting to have to have an ipad issued to me. Mr. Ratliff said, I understand. And, you would use this, not just at council meetings, all of the other meetings, you would do that too. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, okay. Mr. Ratliff said, any other boards that we have that they have devices, ipads, such as MAPC, BZA, Land Bank, they would have devices also to use for that. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, that was the only question that I have.

Councilmember John Street said, you said every other committee can use this and it will work the same exact way or council committees or MAPC or MPO or everybody that uses this system? Mr. Ratliff said, yes. Councilmember Street said, you did say that it is impossible to have a box here physically mounted that you can push? Mr. Ratliff said, we could have an ipad there. Councilmember Street said, I am not talking about an ipad. I am talking about some other electrical thing. You are saying it has to have an ipad. Mr. Ratliff said, their system works off of ipads or droid devices. Councilmember Street asked, is there a system out there that works on some kind of a physical button that you could mount and use that would integrate with? Mr. Ratliff said, not as far as integrating with Legistar and Granicus. Councilmember Moore said, I am kind of like Chris. I am not real interested in having to haul that ipad around if I am sitting here just to cast a vote. I think there is something better. Mr. Ratliff said, I know that six of you have ipads already so those ipads would obviously be used for

this or you would have to purchase ipads for the rest of you.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, I have a question. So, you mentioned all of the other committees and commissions. There are a lot of commissions that might vote on something rather it be a SkyCop Committee or something that has motions. They wouldn't necessarily have ipads and use this would they. It would just be committees of elected officials. Mr. Ratliff said, we could have them do that. Councilmember Hafner said, because I think that would if everybody has to have an ipad, that would drastically increase our expense and I don't know. Deputy City Clerk April Leggett said, it would only be the ones that use Legistar. Those committees do not use Legistar. BZA does. MAPC does. Mr. Ratliff said, okay. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, Jason, what about this, what about at the start of the council meeting, you had a set of ipads that we use but also the committees use also but they are not exclusively John's or mine. We would come in here and sit down and the ipad is right here and we can vote on that ipad and then at the end of the committee meeting, you collect them back and then when the MAPC meets, they use the same ipads and we just share them. Mr. Ratliff said, we could do that too. The only thing there is if we have members that are remotely doing something, they would need a device to vote that way. The other part of it is the workflow meeting. Another part of it is it has you raise a hand when you want to speak. It is really changing the flow of the meeting and putting some organization to that part. Councilmember Hafner said, so, basically, if we went with this, it wouldn't really do voice votes anymore, everything would be when it is time to vote, you hit a button. Mr. Ratliff said, that is right. When you pass a motion, you would have to push a motion button. Is that correct April? Ms. Leggett said, I thought the law states that it has to be recorded so you would still have to say it. Councilmember Hafner said, so we would still have to say it. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, I would be in favor of having a voice vote and then you can enter your vote electronically also. I mean I think the public and everybody else deserves to hear how everybody votes.

City Attorney Carol Duncan said, does it allow us to change? We don't have to incorporate everything they have in the meeting. Can we pick and choose whether we just use the voting or we use raising the hand and the motions? Mr. Ratliff said, I believe the raise the hand, we could not do that, but as far as the voting parts, the second, all of the parts that have to do with the voting, we would have to go by that. Ms. Duncan said, right. I want to encourage if this is something that council decides to do, that we do talk about investing in a separate screen that shows the votes and the reason I say that is if you are doing meetings like this, I think that it is important that you can see the faces of the councilmembers as they vote as well so you know that is who is sitting there. You don't want to take that off in order to put the other up so I think it would be important to look at the cost of investing in a second screen as well for remote meeting purposes. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, I assume the presentation tonight was purely informational so I think we probably should think about it all a little bit. And, maybe even when the new mayor comes in, we will get his input on it also.

Councilmember Bobby Long said, I have a question. What you said that it integrates with Legistar which means that everything that we push, then it automatically becomes part of the record. Mr. Ratliff said, yes, that is correct. Councilmember Long said, would that cut down on key errors or anything like that? Ms. Leggett said, I am not aware of any key errors. If you were to press a button and you decided you pressed the wrong button on your vote, you will be able to change that before it is finalized, before the end of the section that you are talking on. Once you hit that button, it is not final. So, you could change it if you needed to. Councilmember Long said, once that becomes final and that session is closed, the information that was gathered from the

ipads and our voting automatically connects with Legistar and becomes part of the record. Ms. Leggett said, yes. Mr. Ratliff said, I do want to say that I think you guys passed a part of this on the budget for this piece of software. I don't think what we took into effect was the yearly fee that comes along with it. I think you guys probably got the attachment in the agenda here on that budget. But, this might be a next year's budget item. But, like you said, this is more just informational right now to see where you want to go. Ms. Leggett said, it would help because I know that on a few occasions that we have had to come back to a special called meeting because either a motion or a second wasn't done. It will catch that immediately. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, yeah, and we have had that pop up in the last couple of months or so. Councilmember Street asked, April, do you know of any other cities in Arkansas that are using this exact system right now that you could look at and see? Ms. Leggett said, Fayetteville uses Legistar and they may use the VoteCast. I am not really sure on that. They have a lot more on their programs. The city that we were given was Nashville, TN. I do know that Batesville has a voting system, but it is an older one. And, there were some security concerns with that. Councilmember Hafner said, obviously the agenda is set before the meeting, but then as we come into the meeting, there could be amendments or something like that. As the City Clerk, do you have the capability to say amend it or motion to amend and it will pop up on our screen to make sure all of that stays straight. Ms. Leggett said, yes. I will have on my second screen here, if anything needs to be changed, I can change it right then. Councilmember Hafner said, alright, thank you. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, thank you Jason.

#### Read

COM-20:061

PRESENTATION BY CHIEF OF STAFF MIKE DOWNING REGARDING OPTIONS FOR FINANCING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

#### Attachments: City Financing Options

Chief of Staff Mike Downing said, this issue was raised several months ago in discussions about other projects. I thought it was good discussion for future use for future reference. Here are some considerations for projects. The economic impact and return on investment to the community especially where you are a catalyst using public improvements to facilitate the redevelopment of blighted areas. I can tell you that numerous projects that I was involved in my former career in Missouri, we used public improvements to spur redevelopment projects. It is just incredible what you can do. Impact on quality of life, especially for young talent. I have heard that in this community since I have been here. And, the impact on public safety and the needed things that we need for public safety as you all know about. Now, the other one is how significant it is to attract money for grants, foundations, contributions, and naming rights. We have done that on a lot of projects here in this community. And, then, we also have to consider that any public improvement is going to have additional operating costs, staffing, equipment, and maintenance. So, those all have to be considered when you are looking at doing any kind of project.

Now, one of the other things that is I mention about doing is on when you are putting in a facility, you are considering, what is it going to do to spur private investment. And, something that hasn't been done here very often and maybe not at all is doing a request for proposals to join in partnership with private investment. So, using public funds for public improvements that is designed to spur private investment. So, you want to prioritize those in a redevelopment area that will have a significant economic benefit and wind up catalyzing additional development. For example, if you were to take the TRG site, which everybody knows about in the north part of downtown and put some type of fantastic public facility. Let's say it's a massive recreation center,

aquatics center or whatever. Look at what would happen to all of that property south of there. That would just be phenomenal and something like that could then be a request for proposal where you are having a developer commit to a certain amount of development if we put in certain public improvements and that could work. The RFP would determine has the capability for this kind of project and proposes the best scope of development because it is going to vary depending upon what the developer's interest are. And, then you get into what is the least amount of city funding for these public improvements that's needed. In this business for RFP's, it is called the "but-for" test. And, that means "but-for" the public investment the project would not occur. And, so, there is a way to look at the return on investment to a developer and determine what is the least amount of city funding necessary to create that project. Please stop me if you have any questions. I think it would be easier than running through this the whole time.

Okay, so let's look at the financing methods and as you can imagine, cash is the easiest and the fastest, but then you get into how much reserves does a city need to have. Now, I am just going to get into what is the recommended amount which is if you can see, we have unrestricted reserves we have estimated at the end of this year, \$19 million, that is unrestricted. We have restricted reserves that is in addition to that. These are the unrestricted reserves and then Arkansas law requires 15% of O&M which is \$7.8 million and the Government Finance Officers Association recommends 17% which is \$8.7 million. Let's take the \$8.7 million minus \$19 million that means using that we have around \$10.3 million. We could if you wanted to, now I wouldn't necessarily recommend it, that is being pretty little tight, but somewhere in that neighborhood, you could without a lot of concern, do that for projects. Now, the other part of this is using cash. Our cash deposits are only getting around 1.25%. If you borrow money, whether it be from a revenue bond or leases, it is going to be 3%, 3.25%, 3.5% depending on what happens so that is another way to look at it. Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, I have a question on that financial method number one on that revenue and unrestricted. How much floating time would it be? I guess I am looking at it if we have a disaster or we have snow a couple of months or another tornado, how would that work in that formula? Mr. Downing said, well, that is why we have the reserves is for emergencies such as that. So, the Arkansas 15%, that would be a consideration and the GFOA which is a little bit longer. I mean, I wouldn't necessarily recommend taking the minimum amount that is recommended here. I would think that you would sleep a lot easier if it was more that you would retain. So, I wouldn't necessarily say that we should spend \$10.3 million on projects, don't get me wrong. Councilmember Coleman said, okay. Mr. Downing said, okay, alright, any other questions?

Alright, so Financing Method #2 is either debt or lease payments from existing cash flow which does not require a tax increase. So, the council could approve without a public vote either a maximum of a five year term which you have done before. I think you did on the Miracle League and a few other projects. Or, a term longer than five years, but you are restricted to only using your franchise fees. Okay, so again, you can do a five year term using sales tax or any other cash flow that you feel comfortable with, but if you go over five years, you are restricted to only using franchise fees. Now, if you are talking about something more than five years and pledging sales tax, then you would have to get voter approval. Okay, so then it gets into a different situation. So, let's look at what options, again, you have. These are no tax increase. You have got Cash from Reserve Funds. You have got the Bank Loan or the lease. You have got the Sales Tax Revenue Bond which is again higher amounts, longer terms. You have a Franchise Fee Revenue Bond which is limited to franchise fees. And, you have a Municipal Lease which is also restricted to franchise fees. So, let's look at the

difference between a Revenue Bond versus a Municipal Lease. Stop me if you have questions because I know this is thrown at you pretty quick. So, the biggest differences are a Facility Owned Revenue Bond is owned by the City and the Developer owns the facility under a Municipal Lease. The Municipal Lease is a little shorter than a Revenue Bond, not a whole lot, but some. The Architect and Construction Management, the Developer would do that under the Municipal Lease. The Contractor is selected, because they would own the project, by the Developer whereas City Council would select it for a Revenue Bond. And, the Developer Fees, you don't have those in Revenue Bonds, but you do in Municipal Leases because they do the construction management, the architect, and some other activities. But, under both situations, the city would be required for operation and maintenance, taxes, insurance, etc. So, the city still operates the facility. The difference is under a Municipal Lease, they sell it back to the city for \$1. It is a very similar process. There are a few differences.

Because franchise fees are restricted to either the Municipal Revenue Bond or the leases, let's look at our franchise fees and what that could generate. Well, the franchise taxes have been going down in Jonesboro for several years primarily because of cord cutting. Suddenlink is the biggest payer of franchise taxes and over the last several years, people have been cutting the cord to cable and that affects our franchise fees. So, you can see in 2020, we are expecting about \$1.6 million and I have ballparked. This is not a real good estimate, but just ballparked 2021 at \$1.5 million. So, if we are pledging that for debt service, you have to discount it and I am estimating that as much as 30% so that means that the maximum debt service for franchise fees would be \$1 million per year.

Well, what kind of bond issue would that come up with? If it was a ten year, you can see that a Revenue Bond would generate about \$8 million and a Municipal Lease of \$7.4 million and you can see the others. So, it is not a huge amount of money, but you can do these in some kind of flexibility because it is relatively fast. Any questions? Councilmember Dr. Charles Coleman said, Mike, I have a question. On these franchise fees, is this from all of the industry that we have in Jonesboro or is this from a partial list or from what? Mr. Downing said, the franchise fees are primarily Suddenlink, the gas company, and a few others, but Suddenlink and the gas company comprises probably 80% of it that I would guess. Councilmember Coleman asked, we don't charge franchise fees for any industrial areas? Mr. Downing said, no, not for industrial, no. Councilmember Coleman asked, is there a reason why not? Councilmember Joe Hafner said, it is different than a privilege license. Councilmember Coleman said, well, I understand that. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, in general, the franchise fees covers for Suddenlink using our right-of-ways and property like that. Is that correct Mike? Mr. Downing said, yes. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, and the gas company, they are actually being charged a franchise fee for using city property and that would be in the form of right-of-ways. Councilmember Coleman said, I don't know. There is something wrong with that. Councilmember Bobby Long said, I have a question. What percentage of these franchise fees do you think Suddenlink is? Of overall franchise fees, what percentage? Mr. Downing said, you know, I looked at that a while back. I am just going to ballpark guess about 50%. Councilmember Long said, 50% and the other franchises make up the 50 between them? Mr. Downing said, yes. Suddenlink is number one and the gas company is number two and then you have a bunch of them that are smaller then. Councilmember Long said, okay, thank you. Mr. Downing said, yeah, okay, any other questions?

So, the Financing Method #3 is for larger bond issues. If you really want to go, then you are talking about a tax increase which we tried several months ago. It requires

voter approval. And, for, let's just say a 1% sales tax increase, it would generate on the low end about \$17 million. I want to say that is a conservative number because we have been experiencing a growth in sales tax over the last couple of years so I used a very conservative number. So, just for the sake of discussion, a 10 year term financing is about \$130 million and a 15 year term would generate about \$180 million. So, you could do some pretty good size projects with those, but as you know, it would take voter approval. So, that is pretty much it unless you have questions. President Pro-Tempore Moore said, thank you Mike. Mr. Downing said, thank you. Councilmember Hafner said, thanks Mike.

#### Read

#### COM-20:062

PROCLAMATION PRESENTATION FOR MANUFACTURING DAY (JONESBORO CHAMBER)

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, I have a proclamation by Mayor Harold Perrin proclaiming Manufacturing Day and Ms. Fawn Parke with Unilever is on Zoom to accept it. Thank you for being here Ms. Parke.

Whereas, the manufacturing community of Jonesboro is a critical sector of the Jonesboro economy and provides many rewarding, high-skilled careers; and whereas, Manufacturing Day is an annual celebration of modern manufacturing meant to inspire the next generation of manufacturers and occurs on the first Friday in October, and throughout the month of October; and Whereas, Jonesboro Unlimited, created in 1986, is a private partnership organization dedicated to the advancement of economic prosperity in Jonesboro and the region; and Whereas, Jonesboro Unlimited supports the powerful and enduring contribution that Jonesboro manufacturers make to the region, and recognized that in Jonesboro, every day is Manufacturing Day; and Whereas, the Jonesboro City Council supports this cause and the organizations involved; and Now, therefore I, Harold Perrin, Mayor of the City of Jonesboro, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim Manufacturing Day to be a noteworthy component of our economic development by encouraging students to explore careers in manufacturing, and that in Jonesboro, every day is Manufacturing Day; and urges all citizens to join in recognizing the importance of our manufacturers to our city, state, nation and around the world. Thank you Ms. Parke and I will give this presentation to Mike Downing to forward to you.

Fawn Parke, Factory Director of Unilever, said I am happy to partner with Jonesboro. As you said, Manufacturing Day is every day. We provide essential products including soap products from Unilever so we are happy to partner and to support the advancement and the technologic skills of our local communities so that we can give them valuable careers at our location at Unilever. So, thank you very much. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, and we recognize Unilever as being an important part of our manufacturing community and we look forward to working with you in the future. Thank you Ms. Parke. Ms. Parke said, thank you so much.

## Read

#### 5. CONSENT AGENDA

President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, we have one item that has been requested to be pulled for review. It will be RES-20:178. Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long to remove RES-20:178 from the Consent Agenda and to approve the Consent Agenda without RES-20:178. All voted aye.

## Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilperson John Street, seconded by Councilperson Bobby Long, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motioned PASSED

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

MIN-20:097 MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020

Attachments: CC Minutes 10082020

A motion was made that this Minutes be Passed . The motion PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

RES-20:141

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 317 NORTH SECOND STREET, PARCEL 01-144182-17500, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY MARSHALL MOONEY

Attachments: 317 N. Second

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-135-2020

RES-20:142

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 409 NORTH FISHER, PARCEL 01-144181-10500, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY JOSHUA GAMBILL.

Attachments: 409 Fisher

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-136-2020

RES-20:143

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 500 ALLEN, PARCEL 01-144181-30100, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY KENNY COLEMAN

Attachments: 500 Allen

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-137-2020

RES-20:144

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 816 HOOVER, PARCEL 01-144181-14800, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY ROBERT WHITAKER

Attachments: 816 Hoover

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-138-2020

RES-20:145 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1100 E.

WASHINGTON, PARCEL 01-144173-13000, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401,

OWNED BY DOROTHY HESTER

Attachments: 1100 E. Washington

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-139-2020

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2203 GLENWOOD, PARCEL 01-144302-17900, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY ERIC

**GRIGGS** 

Attachments: 2203 Glennwood

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-140-2020

RES-20:147 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2501 MARY JANE,

PARCEL 01-144272-24200, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY

KENNETH & DENA BRADWAY

Attachments: 2501 Mary Jane

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-141-2020

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3519 E. NETTLETON,

PARCEL 01-144213-00100, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY

HAGGENMACHER BETTY ANN IRREVOCABLE TRUST

Attachments: 3519 E. Nettleton

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-142-2020

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3806 SCHOOL ST, PARCEL 01-144272-16500, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY MELVIN

& PAULETTE WESSELL

Attachments: 3806 School

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-143-2020

RES-20:150 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3809 GRIFFIN, PARCEL 01-144272-16400, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY M&M

**GLOBAL ENTERPRISES LLC** 

Attachments: 3809 Griffin

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-144-2020

RES-20:151 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4304 RACE, PARCEL 01-144271-19900, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY CHARLES

**CONYERS** 

Attachments: 4304 Race

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-145-2020

RES-20:152 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 202 LAMESA, PARCEL 01-143103-02600, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY

STEPHEN GILLIAM

Attachments: 202 Lamesa

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-146-2020

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS,

TO PLACE A MUNICIPAL LIEN ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 309 SECOND

STREET, PARCEL 01-144182-17700, JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72401, OWNED BY

JOHNNY MEADOWS

Attachments: 309 Second

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-147-2020

RES-20:160 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS TO AUTHORIZE THE

MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ACCEPT A PERMANENT DRAINAGE EASEMENT

FROM PAUL CURTIS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING DRAINAGE

**IMPROVEMENTS** 

<u>Attachments:</u> Plat, Coleman Property

**Drainage Easement, Coleman Property** 

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-148-2020

RES-20:161 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR HAROLD PERRIN

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-149-2020

RES-20:175 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

TO LEVY A ONE-HALF (.5) MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

FOR THE LOCAL FIREFIGHTERS PENSION PLANS

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-150-2020

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

TO LEVY A 2 MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY TAX

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-151-2020

RES-20:177 RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

TO LEVY A ONE HALF (.5) MILL TAX ON ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

FOR THE JONESBORO POLICE PENSION PLANS

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-152-2020

RES-20:179 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE

MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ADMINISTRATION FOR A \$2,000,000 GRANT AWARD

<u>Attachments:</u> EDA Grant, RD Award Letter City of Jonesboro 08-01-05393

EDA Grant, CD-450 City of Jonesboro 08-01-05393 RD Signed

This item was passed on the consent agenda.

Enactment No: R-EN-153-2020

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

RES-20:178 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE

MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION TO RECEIVE GRANT FUNDING OF \$2,664,809 FROM THE CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND

<u>Attachments:</u> Coronavirus Relief Fund Program Sub-Recipient Agreement

Cares Act Exec Certification

Patti Lack, 4108 Forrest Hill Road, said, last week I had talked to Joe Hafner about this when it was at the Finance meeting and I know that Steve Purtee and Regina Burkett were on the Zoom there on the screen. Joe was talking about some of the options that we have with this money and I know that the money has to be used by the end of the year. I would like to just say some of the suggestions, I know that IT Director Jason Ratliff came up here and he said something about the Voter screen up there that way we can see your votes and that was one of the things that I thought because of \$2.6 million if we can use it because Joe said that we can use it to make our meetings better if we still stay in this state for a while and it looks like we might be that way. So, I don't know if we can use the money to purchase this VoteCast which would be wonderful. I think also too is that I think we all know that sometimes we have technical difficulties with the Zoom and the meeting and the audio and all of that. Maybe we can upgrade the system and use the money on that situation too. But, then also too, the third part of it is that I know that it was last year we were talking about maybe upgrading Legistar. I know I contacted the City Clerk's office. I know I talked to Deputy City Clerk April Leggett and I did not realize that we have a contract under Legistar until 2024. So, we are actually paying for this. I know that I am one of the persons that use Legistar a lot, but I know I tell people that if you want information about the city about the ordinances, about the resolutions, go to Legistar. I think when you use it a lot, it is fairly easy. All you really have to do is read the screens, but learning from April is that there is actually a way that we can upgrade it and if we are going to be using this for the next couple of years, I think it would be to an advantage because I remember all of you guys said and it was last year or the year before that we probably need to upgrade Legistar. And, the comment was is if we had the money. Well, guess what, we have got this money and so that would be one of the areas that I would like you guys to really consider. You know, looking at improving the Zoom meetings that we have here, looking and paying for this VoteCast, and then also too, of improving Legistar because I think that is where a lot of the citizens and all that get their information about what is going on. If we can make it easier for us and also for the Clerk's office for you April I know I call you a lot and I always get an answer, but if I don't have to call up the Clerk's office as much, I think people will appreciate that. So, I hope that we can take this \$2.6 million and I don't know whether it is the Finance Department that we make suggestions to, but for all of you to encourage all of those areas, I think it would make it a lot better. So, I just wanted to say that. Thank you. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Ms. Lack.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: R-EN-154-2020

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

## ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING

ORD-20:040

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 112 OF THE JONESBORO MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING STORMWATER MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-20:040 by title only. All voted aye.

#### Held at second reading

ORD-20:042

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE BIDS AND PURCHASE IWORKQ SYSTEMS AND AVOLVE SAAS SOLUTION BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Attachments:

UPDATED 101520-Avolve SaaS Agreement Exhibit 2 SOW - City of Jonesbo

UPDATED 101520-Avolve SaaS Agreement Exhibit 2 SOW - City of Jonesbo

Derrel Smith email to change contract 10162020 iWorQ Jonesboro Agreement PWCD 10022020

iWorQ Sole-Source Letter Jonesboro

Jonesboro, AR - PNow Budgetary Pricing 2020-10-08 (delivered) v2

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Mitch Johnson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-20:042 by title only. All voted aye.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, in speaking with Planning Director Derrel Smith today, ordinarily, this would have been a resolution, but since we are waiving bids because it is a uniquely designed platform, it is going to have to go, an ordinance should have to go through three readings ordinarily. This software was part of our approved budget appropriations that we did a month or so ago. In order to make this easier to get this into the year 2020, I am requesting that we waive second reading. I am not asking for second and third or making it an emergency or anything like that. I am simply making a motion that we waive second reading so that it can be completed in 2020 as we budgeted.

A motion was made by Councilperson Joe Hafner, seconded by Councilperson Gene Vance, that this matter be Waived Second Reading . The motion PASSED with the following vote:

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

ORD-20:044

AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR SUNRISE HOSPITALITY TO BE LOCATED AT 2230 S. CARAWAY ROAD

Application - Redacted Attachments:

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Bobby Long, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-20:044 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at second reading

ORD-20:045

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 FROM R-1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO C-4 NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT LIMITED USE OVERLAY FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 604 E. HIGHLAND DRIVE, JONESBORO, AR (the "PROPERTY"), AS REQUESTED BY THOMAS W. HAYNES ON BEHALF OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH.

Attachments: Rezoning Plat

**Application** 

Staff Summary - Council

Minutes from Community Meeting
Email in Support of Rezoning
Answers to Rezoning Questions
Property Owner Notifications
Sentor and Co Addition

Warranty Deed for Existing Property

**USPS** Receipts

Councilmember John Street motioned, seconded by Councilmember Mitch Johnson, to suspend the rules and offer ORD-20:045 by title only. All voted aye.

Held at second reading

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING

ORD-20:035

AN ORDINANCE TO PLACE VARIOUS TRAFFIC SIGNS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TRAFFIC CONTROL COMMITTEE

Councilmember John Street said, City Engineer Craig Light had an issue with one item on this and asked that it be amended. He wants to strike Forrest Hill Drive and he is going to take it back to the committee and make sure. He believes it is a typo on there, but it is another street in fact so he wants to bring it back later. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, we are going to remove the reference to Forrest Hill Drive.

Councilmember John Street motioned to amend ORD-20:035, seconded by Councilmember Joe Hafner. The amendment is to strike part of Section 2 and take out Forrest Hill Road. All voted aye.

Held at second reading

ORD-20:038 AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR CITY ATTORNEY RETIREMENT BENEFITS

Held at second reading

ORD-20:041 AN ORDINANCE FOR A PRIVATE CLUB PERMIT FOR EVERYDAY ASSOCIATION

TO BE LOCATED AT 515 S. GEE STREET

Attachments: Application Redacted

baker

EverydayAssociation.FictitiousNameReg.Page1
EverydayAssociation.FictitiousNameReg.Page2

Craig 1 email 11052020
Craig 2 email 11052020
Bowers email 11052020
Davis email 11052020
Cornell email 11052020

#### Held at second reading

## ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING

ORD-20:036

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 FROM R-1 RESIDENTIAL TO C-3 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT LIMITED USE OVERLAY FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3707 S. CARAWAY ROAD AS REQUESTED BY JOSHUA MOSS ON BEHALF OF SOUTH CARAWAY BAPTIST CHURCH

Attachments: Application (2)

19313-01 rezoning

Staff Summary - City Council

**Legal Description** 

Map of Zonings Marked (1)
Returned Signed Notifications

Rezoning Plat (2)
USPS Receipts

Joshua Moss, 218 E. Union, Suite E, Executive Broker at Westbrook & Reeves, said, I am here representing South Caraway Baptist Church located at 3707 South Caraway Road requesting to amend the zoning from R-1, residential to C-3, general. The church has an offer for purchase and the buyer has a need to rezone the property for a childcare facility.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe

Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: O-EN-036-2020

ORD-20:037

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 117, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CHANGES IN ZONING BOUNDARIES OF JONESBORO, ARKANSAS, FROM CR-1, COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL MIXED USE DISTRICT TO C-3 GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT LIMITED USE OVERLAY FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 911 PARKER ROAD AS REQUESTED BY ASHLEY TALLANT

Attachments: Application (3)

Staff Summary - City Council

Plat email

**Warranty Deed** 

Legislation Details of Rezoning from 2007

**Returned Property Owner** 

Rezoning Plat (3)

**USPS** 

Ashley Tallant, 673 CR 338, said, I just appreciate the time you have taken to consider my rezoning. So, thank you.

Patti Lack, 4108 Forrest Hill Road, said, I met with Ashley. You all know that I am out in that area and I was asked to come to her business a couple of months ago when she was trying to rezone because there were a couple of people that noticed that a rezoning sign was going up there and they were a little concerned. I just want to say to you that I think that Ashley has done a really good job with the business and it is nice to see that there is a business on that corner instead of that building being vacant. So, I hope you guys approve it. Thank you. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Ms. Lack.

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

Enactment No: O-EN-037-2020

#### 8. MAYOR'S REPORTS

President Pro-Temp Chris Moore said, I have a couple of things that the Mayor passed on that he wanted me to mention.

Early voting started yesterday at 315 W. Jefferson and lasts until 5 p.m. November 2nd. The early voting stations are open Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 to 4 and to bring an ID with you.

A video produced by ARDOT about Issue 1 is on the city's Facebook page.

Halloween will go on as normal, but we want everyone to be mindful of COVID. Safety tips will be listed on the city's Facebook page.

Under the Census, reporting has concluded with 99.9% of households enumerated. The Craighead County self-response rate was at 67.9%, with the highest in Arkansas being Benton County at 68.0%. So, that is a fabulous turnout for the census in Craighead County. Thanks to all those who helped.

The Beautification Commission sponsored two "pop-up" cleanups last weekend and with more to come.

The Mayor wanted to note that a change for this years' Jaycees annual Christmas

Parade. It will be at Joe Mack Campbell Park, where Christmas at the Park is staged on December 3rd. There will be no charge, but donations for Christmas for Kids is suggested. Christmas at the Park will start on November 25.

The "Fill the Food Bank" competition continues until November 6th and you can go to: www.foodbankofnea.org for more information on that.

Grant applications will be accepted by the state for businesses affected by COVID-19 starting November 16th until November 25th. This is for businesses with less than 250 employees located in Arkansas in the personal care, tourism, travel, recreation, and hospitality industries. Information is now available at www.ArkansasReady.com

I want to remind everyone that the next council meeting was moved to November 5th due to the election.

#### COM-20:060

#### SEPTEMBER 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS

**Attachments:** Financial Overview September 2020

Observations Regarding September 2020 Financial Statements

Statement of Changes in FB, Required Reserve and STIP Balance September

Deposit Collateralization Report September 2020

Revenue Report September 2020
Expenditure Report September 2020

Sales Tax Report (Combined) September 2020
State Turnback Report (Combined) September 2020

Filed

#### 9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember David McClain said, this past weekend, we had the DARE to Share the Trails Run for the DARE program. Hats off to Jamie Seaborn and Tony Zaffarano for putting that on. That was a great event and something to help with the DARE program in which they do a great job.

Councilmember Bobby Long said, just make sure that when you do go vote you don't have any campaign logos or materials on your body including masks. If you do, you can't have any campaign material within a 100 feet of the voting annex. So, please, when you do go vote, make sure that you don't have any logos or any campaign materials on your mask or on your shirt or you will be asked to remove them or flip them under.

Councilmember Joe Hafner said, I appreciate Steve Purtee and his staff for getting out the September financials so quickly. Just another strong month. I think we are really fortunate. The other thing I have and this is from a pretty neat perspective, but apparently we have the Unified Lightweight Champion Boxer currently living in Jonesboro. Teofimo Lopez won a unanimous 12 round decision on Saturday night and beat Vasiliy Lomachenko who is apparently very good. I don't keep up with boxing like I used to. He is from Brooklyn, NY, but he moved to Jonesboro earlier this year to stay with his in-laws. He may be buying them a new house after this big win this past weekend, but he is 16-0 and holds all four lightweight titles. So, it is pretty neat that he lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas right now. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, I heard that today and I wasn't aware of that. Mike, can you get that on our list of

presentations? I would think that we would want to give him some kind of proclamation or presentation.

Councilmember LJ Bryant said, I just appreciate Mike Downing's presentation tonight. I thought that was very good for him to outline our options. So, thanks to Mike.

Councilmember John Street said, as Mr. Moore eluded, the support for amendment one as most of you or many of you know, the governor flew in yesterday and there was a pretty good gathering of local leaders and officials. Alec Farmer, our Highway Commissioner, and Dr. Damphousse, ASU, we had Marvin Day, the County Judge and several other dignitaries, Leslie Rutledge, the state's Attorney General and they emphasized the need for the money to be used for the roads in Arkansas, not just Craighead County which means a lot to us. It is \$2,787,635 to Craighead County. Jonesboro alone is \$1,567,655 and that means a lot to our street budget overlay programs and things and it's not just for Jonesboro. It means a lot to the state, the areas, the communities around us, industry and their ability to get products in and out of here for many things. We are improving on the rails. The roads are very important as well. Medical, to get people to and from medical care. Schools, to get kids to and from school on buses safely. Basic transportation, for people with Covid, getting them to and from medical care and around. So, please vote for amendment one. We have passed a resolution endorsing it here. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has as well. The Chamber of Commerce has worked hard to push this and so has the county. I just encourage everybody when you do go vote, vote for amendment one. It means a lot to Jonesboro and this area.

Councilmember Chris Gibson said, I have been by the polls the last few days and it looks like we had a good turnout already. I just want to encourage everyone to exercise your voice.

## 10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patti Lack, 4108 Forrest Hill Road, said, I just want to bring something up to all of your attention and this was in the last couple of weeks. And, this was talking about the salary that we have for our elected officials. I did a little talking. I talked to Councilmember Joe Hafner and Dewayne Douglas in Human Resources Department and I found out that there is no salary plan for our elected officials. I found out that in 2018, there was a committee to establish one, but we don't have one. So, there was a question about how much do our elected officials receive. From my understanding is that it is what you all approved on the budget from the last year that the officials will receive on that, but I just want to let you know that there is a big concern. A lot of people are saying that is that if we don't have a plan in place for the salary, then ten years from now, if they keep on getting the increases is that we might overprice that position. So, I would just like for you to kind of consider that maybe next year, that we establish a salary plan for our elected officials so we have a base salary that they start out at instead of increasing that amount of money for that and I think that there is a lot of concern that people have said. So, I just want you to be aware of that because I didn't know that either. So, I hope that we have a plan because when we have a plan, we work out things a lot better. Thank you. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Ms. Lack.

Kimberly Chase, 204 E. Nettleton, said, I am the Director of the HUB, the homeless resource center here in Jonesboro. I spoke a couple of weeks ago about the challenges that we face with our homeless population, mostly because of Covid right now. But, I wanted to share some statistics with you guys tonight. In direct response to

Covid, the HUB started feeding hot lunches to homeless individuals twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays for two hours. Since July, we have given out 770 lunches. Those are all to people who have need in our community. According to CRDC, since January, they have made 307 rent payments for individuals in our community. The number of calls taken by the HUB taskforce members and CRDC per week is 30 for homeless individuals in our community. Right now, I believe that Jonesboro is in a state of dire need for our homeless population. I touched on it a little bit two weeks ago that a lot of our resources are non-existent or very severely limited because of the virus. The clothing closets are closed. The Care Center next door who used to feed our population every day, they are closed. And, a lot of these places are not expected to open again until well into 2021. So, any consideration that you guys give to the homeless population and trying to get a shelter established in Jonesboro would be greatly appreciated. Thank you. President Pro-Tempore Chris Moore said, thank you Kim.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Aye: 12 - Ann Williams; Charles Frierson; Chris Moore; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Gene Vance; Chris Gibson; Charles Coleman; Bobby Long; Joe Hafner; David McClain and LJ Bryant

	Date:	
Harold Perrin, Mayor		
Attest:		
	Date:	
Donna Jackson City Clerk		