

**CITY OF JONESBORO
WORKSESSION MINUTES
DECEMBER 3rd, 2012 – 6:00 p.m.**

The City of Jonesboro Mayor and Council held a Work Session on Monday, December 3rd, 2012. The meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. at the Jonesboro Police Station, 170 South Main Street Jonesboro, Georgia.

Council Present: Joy B. Day, Mayor
Clarence Mann, Councilmember
Wallace Norrington, Councilmember
Joe Compton, Councilmember
Pat Sebo, Councilmember
Bobby Wiggins, Councilmember
Randy Segner, Councilmember

Staff Present: Pat Daniel – Assistant City Clerk.

Mayor Day called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

WORKSESSION ITEMS:

- Discussed ratification of Historic Preservation Commission members: Arlene Charles, Harry Osborne, Karol Osborne, Cathy Roark, Donya Sartor-Constantine and Betsy Wester. Mayor Day advised that the City Code requires that the Mayor will appoint members and that the council would need to vote at the December Regular Meeting. Mayor Day stated that all the members are new except Ms. Wester. Mayor Day stated that the commission has met one time recently. Mayor Day stated that Mr. & Mrs. Osborne will serve as joint members, they have a business in the city and reside here as well. The remaining members are all citizens of the city and have agreed to serve.
- Public Comments – NONE.
- Discussed fees for rental of Lee Street Park – Leagues, deposits, agreements, insurance and procedures. Mayor Day stated that this was addressed at the November meeting and that she feels that the city does not need to take on this project at this time. Councilmember Compton asked if the leagues would still be able to continue playing there. Mayor Day answered that it is up to the Council, but there is a lot involved in the process. Mayor Day reminded the Council that the city has no equipment or any other necessary resources that are needed to utilize the football fields. Councilmember Sebo stated that at this point, the Council has not completely decided exactly how the Park will be used, so she is against making any decisions now. Councilmember Compton asked if the teams would be able to play on an informal basis until a decision is made. Mayor Day answered that the city is

not in the position to allow it at this time. Mayor Day stated that the Police Department would have to know who and what is going on there and at this point all of the liability would fall on the city if anyone was injured and we do not have anything set up as thus far as fees or agreements. Councilmember Sebo suggested re-visiting this issue after the first of next year. Mayor Day advised the council that she will get information for them regarding rental options.

- Public Comments – Mr. Wells asked Mayor Day to appoint a committee to look into the pros and cons for rental purposes. Mr. Wells stated that there could be problems if multiple groups show up at the same time, rules would be needed. Mr. Barron asked if the city was responsible for the basketball courts in regards to liability. Mayor Day stated that those are individuals playing pick-up games, not organized teams or leagues so there is no liability placed on the city.
- Discussed Clayton County resolution regarding Energy Excise Tax allocation and distribution proceeds. Mayor Day stated that she had provided the Council with copies of the procedures. Mayor Day explained that the state eliminated the Excise Tax state wide for manufacturing, but that the cities can impose a tax if they choose. Mayor Day stated that Clayton County is imposing the tax and the cities will receive a part of that. Councilmember Wiggins asked if this included gas or electric businesses. Mayor Day stated that it is manufacturing only. Mayor Day advised that if the City does not opt-in, we can go in later and we can get out whenever we choose to. Mayor Day stated that the portion that the City would receive is equal to what we receive from LOST. Councilmember Wiggins asked if all the cities were signing. Mayor Day stated that Forest Park did not sign. Mayor Day stated that the City Attorney advised her to sign.
- Public Comments – Mr. Barron stated that it does not sound like this would hurt the City. Mrs. Beverly Lester suggested that Mayor Day find out why Forest Park did not sign.
- Discussed “GIS” Software purchase. Mayor Day stated that the City has a machine that is capable of making maps and that the City has had this machine for a very long time and the software is outdated. Mayor Day stated that Officer Perry and Detective Pair have been studying to use the machine so that we would be able to make our maps in house. Mayor Day stated that the City Clerk and the Code Enforcement Officer would also be trained to use it. Mayor Day advised that the estimated cost for the program software is \$3,000.
- Public Comments – Mr. Wells asked who owned the machine. Mayor Day stated that the City owns it and it is housed at the Police Department because it is very large. Councilmember Wiggins asked if the Police Department was going to learn all aspects of the machine or just for their needs. Mayor Day stated that there will be four people trained to cover all needs of each department. Mrs. Bruce stated that a license should be held for the Police department and one for City Hall.

- Discussed Jonesboro Nuisance Abatement Ordinance. Mayor Day stated that the council has an edited copy with highlights to show the changes. Mayor Day stated the Code Enforcement Officer suggested changing the grass issue from 10” to 6”, because after that point it is past being able to cut. Councilmember Compton stated that some people let that grass grow so that it will seed. Mayor Day asked the Council for their input and Councilmember’s Segner, Mann, Norrington and Compton suggested 10” so Mayor Day stated that it will stay at 10”. Mayor Day continued to read the Ordinance with all the suggested changes.
- Public Comments – Mr. Bruce stated that he had called the Code Enforcement Officer about the property next to his house and wanted to thank him for getting the issue resolved very quickly. Mrs. Lester asked if this ordinance addresses homeless people. Mayor Day stated that the City has a Loitering Ordinance that covers that issue. Mr. Swint asked what part of the yard is covered in the grass section of the Ordinance. Mayor Day stated that it would be to the property lines. Mr. Swint stated that he did not think that Code Enforcement should be able to go behind someone’s house. Mayor Day stated that sometimes it is necessary because some issues cannot be seen from the front and are only seen by the next door neighbor that calls in the complaint. Mr. Wells stated that he did not want to be invaded like that. Mayor Day stated that this issue is covered by law. Mr. Swint stated that he would like to make a negative comment regarding the Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Swint stated that he was charged with littering after he had made an attempt to clean up. Mrs. Lester stated that she lets her grass grow to re-seed. Mayor Day suggested that Mrs. Lester let the Code Enforcement Officer know.
- Considered Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.
[Motion: Norrington: 2nd, Sebo, Vote: Unanimous].
- Considered resuming Worksession meeting.
[Motion: Norrington: 2nd, Sebo, Vote: Unanimous].
- Vote on matters, if any, discussed in Executive Session. No vote taken.
- Considered motion to adjourn.
[Motion: Norrington: 2nd, Mann, Vote: Unanimous].

Mayor Day adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

JOY B. DAY – MAYOR

PAT DANIEL – ASSISTANT CITY CLERK