

CITY OF JONESBORO
WORK SESSION MINUTES
MAY 7ND, 2012 – 6:00 p.m.

The City of Jonesboro Mayor and Council held their monthly Work Session on Monday, May 7th, 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 - absent
Pat Sebo, Councilmember
Bobby Wiggins, Councilmember
Randy Segner, Councilmember

Staff Present: Joe Nettleton – Public Works Director and Pat Daniel - Assistant City Clerk.

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

WORKSESSION ITEMS:

- Discussed Annexation and Rezone request made by Mr. Robbie Moore representing Weisbaden Investments, L.L.C. for tax parcel number 05-242D-A-006, 10.45 acres for the purposes of a funeral home. Mayor Day stated that the property has been posted and a legal ad has been published.

Public Comments: Mary Huie Jolly stated that her family is opposed to the annexation. Mayor Day advised that Ms. Jolly that the parcel in question only touches her property in a small place, stating that is actually between her house and the next property. Ms. Jolly asked the Mayor if she was aware that the D.O.T is going to widen Highway 54. Ms. Jolly also stated that she is working with Historical Jonesboro regarding this site. Ms. Jolly stated that Civil War artifacts have been recovered from the land and that the property is very important and should be studied. Ms. Jolly also stated that most of the city is commercial and that this land should be preserved. Mayor Day showed Ms. Jolly a map so that she would be certain about the location of the parcel to be annexed. Ms. Jolly stated that there are underground springs and wetlands on the property that her Mother deeded to the County and that she is concerned that they are on this parcel too. Ms. Jolly stated that there is a public fishing lake on the property that has been there since 1956. Councilmember Sebo stated that if the TIA SPLOST passes, will the D.O.T. take any of the property in this area. Mayor Day stated that only the curve in the road would be straightened out. Councilmember Sebo asked if Mr. Moore was aware of the D.O.T. project. Mayor Day answered yes, and that the Funeral Home will be set further back. Ms. Jolly stated that she is trying to get the D.O.T. to rethink this

widening project. Councilmember Segner asked Mayor Day to give more explanation to the citizens. Mayor Day stated that the D.O.T. is widening the intersection at the QuikTrip located at Tara Blvd. and Highway 19/41. Councilmember Mann asked the Mayor to clarify if she said that the D.O.T. had three sections and that he had heard it was going to cross over to Jodeco Road. Mayor Day advised that there will be three phases in the TIA project. Jon Crane encouraged the council to annex the property as opposed to having the county get the opportunity to make this decision. Councilmember Wiggins stated that he did not think we could annex and rezone. Mayor Day affirmed that the city can rezone and annex at the same time, having to annex first, then rezone. Mayor Day also stated that the city has received no response from the county. Steve Suty stated that he is the gardener at the fish pond and that he is concerned what else may be allowed to go in there too. Mayor Day stated that only the funeral Home was going in. Mr. Suty asked why the sign was posted at the wrong location of the property. Mr. Nettleton stated that he had difficulty locating the exact place where it should go. Bill Wells stated that he is concerned others powers coming in and walking over people. Mr. Wells stated that the state and the county does not care about the city and encouraged the council to look out for the citizens of the city.

- Discussed Rezone request made by Mr. Robbie Moore representing Weisbaden Investments, L.L.C. for tax parcel number 05-242D-A-006, 10.45 acres for the purposes of a funeral home. Mayor Day stated that it is currently not zoned for a Funeral Home as it stands with Clayton County, but is permitted under C2 zoning at the City of Jonesboro. The County has a certain number of days to answer us on this issue. Councilmember Mann asked the Mayor if she thinks that the persons who are interested in annexing went to the County first. Mayor Day stated that she did not know. Councilmember Sebo stated that most people prefer to be in the city instead of the county. Mayor Day stated that it was two parcels originally and was quitclaim deeded to one parcel. Councilmember Segner asked who filed the quitclaim deed. Mayor Day stated that she did not remember but the information is at City Hall. Robbie Moore said that they did not petition the county.

Public Comments: Carl Helton stated that he is concerned about run off from a large parking lot and concerned that the Funeral Home may come back later and want to add a crematory. Mary Huie Jolly stated that she does not see the point of doing things that don't get used. Barbara Emert stated that she had missed most of the conversation regarding the role of Historical District and that she is opposed to annexation because we need to preserve any remnants of the battlefield.

- Discussed EarthLink, AT & T and Cbeyond bids for telephone and internet services.

Public Comments: Councilmember Segner asked if we had any information regarding this issue. Councilmember Wiggins stated that Ms. Truhan preferred Cbeyond. Mayor Day stated that she has an email from Cbeyond stating that they will give us \$1000 for signing with them. Councilmember Segner asked David Harbin who has thirty years of experience to speak about this issue. Mr. Harbin advised that money wise there is not much difference, they are basically the same

product. The City is now using DSL for internet and a T1 connection would have a higher bit rate. It will upload faster and that will help with sending information to the State. Councilmember Segner stated that T1 cost more so looking down the road, we could always upgrade at a later date. Councilmember Sebo asked what the cost would be if we upgraded later. Mr. Harbin said it is usually just the upgrade fee. Councilmember Segner stated that T1 3.0 cost \$1158 a month for the Police Department and City Hall and the 1.5 would cost \$758 a month for the Police Department and City Hall. Councilmember Sebo asked if there was a possibility that in the future the website would require more than 3.0. Mr. Harbin answered that maybe 3.0 at City Hall and 1.5 at the Police Department. Councilmember Segner stated that all of the equipment is digital so it will not require the purchasing of more equipment.

- Discussed C.D.B.G. award of \$200,000 for Carriage Lane/Key Street storm drain and street improvements, and SPLOST funds are needed to supplement project. Mayor Day stated that the sidewalks would connect from Jodeco Road to Key Street and that there would be curbing to help with the drainage. Mayor Day advised the citizens that the City does not have the power to pick the projects but that this one is available to us. Our Engineer gave us an estimate of \$253, 835 for the project, engineering cost would be around \$45,518 for a total of \$299,353. The city's funding would be anywhere up to \$99,000 and that there is a \$1,000,000 CD in SPLOST funds that is more than enough to cover this project. Councilmember Wiggins asked if it was possible to add the bricks to the sidewalks so they would match with the rest of the city. Mayor Day added that it would be nice to do that. Mayor Day stated that this project will make a beautiful connector for walking and take care of the road issues. The city engineer, Mr. Newsome will have plans to funnel the water.

Public Comments: None.

- Discussed Sprint versus Verizon bids for Cellular use. Mayor Day stated that Chief Allen would give further discussion on this topic at next week's Council Meeting. Mayor Day expressed concern that Sprint is changing service on some of their towers and that Clayton County has switched their plans to Verizon so that if we go the same way it will easier to communicate. Councilmember Segner asked if there was a possibility that the Council members could get phones. Mayor Day stated that she would look into it.

Public Comments: None.

Mayor Day asked if there were any other issues for discussion. Discussion ensued. Mr. Nettleton stated that the air conditioner is frozen at City Hall and the main unit only runs three fourths of the time and is slowly dying. Mr. Nettleton stated that he has been putting bandaids on it for a long time but needs to be replaced. The unit is in the basement and is sitting on blocks in the dirt which creates a moisture problem. We just replaced the hot water heater because of the same problem. Councilmember Segner asked how often the filters are changed. Mr. Nettleton answered that he replaces them twice a year. He also stated that when he has to add Freon, it is \$400 a gallon. Mr. Nettleton stated that he would get three bids and discuss at the next

meeting. Councilmember Wiggins asked if it would make sense to move the unit. Mr. Nettleton stated that it would be better for the long haul but it would be very expensive to move all of the duct work. Councilmember Segner inquired about a split system with box outside. Councilmember Segner asked if there is water under City Hall and Mr. Nettleton stated yes and when it gets too deep, the pump will clog.

Councilmember Sebo reminded the citizens about the Jazz Festival on May 19th, 2012 at Lee Street Park. The concert is free and will be held from 6-10pm. This is a family event, Chastain Park style. Councilmember Sebo explained the options for pre-ordering food.

Nancy Carr reminded the citizens about the Neighborhood Watch cookout at Battleground Park on May 21st, 2012 at 6:30pm.

Mayor Day adjourned the meeting.

JOY B. DAY – MAYOR

PAT DANIEL – ASSISTANT CITY CLERK