

**CITY OF JONESBORO  
COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 9, 2006**

The City of Jonesboro Mayor and Council held their monthly meeting on Monday, January 9, 2006 at 7:00pm. The meeting was held at 170 South Main Street.

Members Present: Councilman Luther Maddox

Councilman Clarence Mann

Councilwoman Donna Meadows

Councilman Bobby Wiggins

Councilwoman Linda Wenz

Councilman Rick Yonce

Mayor Joy Day

Staff Present: Finance Officer Stacey Inglis

DDA Director Kathryn Lookofsky

City Manager Jon Walker

Public Works Director Sam Durrance

Interim Police Chief Jim Roberts

City Attorney Winkle and Kendall

**Minutes Approved:** Mayor Day asked for any changes to each of the December Minutes; December 15<sup>th</sup>, December 20<sup>th</sup>, December 21<sup>st</sup>, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, and December 29<sup>th</sup>. There being no changes or comments Mayor Day asked for a motion to approve these minutes as presented. Councilwoman Wenz motion to approve December Minutes as presented. Councilwoman Meadows seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Home Occupation:** Juan Souder of 213 West Mill Street requested a home occupation to operate his courier service. He will use his home as his office. No materials to be stored. Councilwoman Meadows made a motion to approve this home occupation for Mr. Souder. Councilman Maddox seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Rezone Request:** City Manager Jon Walker reviewed the staff report regarding the rezone request for the following properties from R-4 Residential to RA Residential Attached Residential District: **116 Spring Street, 173, 177, 181, 183, 185 and 187 North Main Street.** The staff report and the Historic Preservation Committee report both recommend denial of this request as it does not comply with current zoning and development regulations. Don Stallings, the agent for the project development requested a 30 day extension so that he can address the concerns outlined in the staff report. He stated the development would have strict covenants, residents would be 55 years of age or older. He stated he did not receive the staff report in time to make any changes. Mayor Day confirmed with Mr. Stallings that he received a copy of the zoning and development regulations prior to submitting this request.

**Public Hearing:** Mayor Day opened the floor for public comment regarding this rezone request. Many citizens spoke of their objection to this development project citing 26 homes is too much density, concern about property values, questioned utilities, asked how covenants are enforced and asked the council to deny this rezoning request. Mayor Day made a public comment stating this request is not compatible with the future land use, she questioned the placement of egress and decel lanes. Don Stallings was given the opportunity to respond. He stated the cost of the units (between \$130 and \$150K) would not affect the surrounding homes, there is a need for senior citizen living quarters, that good neighbors make for good covenants and asked again for a thirty day extension. Mayor Day asked for any further comments, there being no comments, Mayor Day closed the public hearing regarding this rezone request and called for a motion. Councilman Maddox made a motion to deny this rezone request. Councilman Yonce seconded. The motion carried with Councilman Wiggins abstaining as this would affect members of his family.

**Burn Victim Can Recycling:** Councilman Wiggins made a motion to place the Burn Victim can recycling bin on the east side of the parking lot at the fire department. Councilman Yonce seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Parade Permit:** Mr. Herman Turner requested council to waive the \$500 parade permit fee for the Martin Luther King Parade set for January 16, 2006. Councilman Mann asked who would be responsible for clean up following the parade, Mr. Turner stated he would. Councilman Yonce recommended the fee be reduced to \$250.00. Councilwoman Wenz agreed stating the city still incurs a cost to assist in the parade. Councilman Maddox made motion to waive the Parade Permit Fee of \$500.00. Councilman Mann seconded. Council members Maddox, Mann, Meadows voting in favor with Council members Yonce, Wiggins and Wenz opposing. The motion carried with Mayor Day breaking the tie in favor of the motion.

**Ethics Committee:** Mayor Day nominated Yvette McDonald to serve on the City of Ethics Committee and requested a motion. Councilwoman Wenz made a motion to approve the appointment of Yvette McDonald to the Ethics Committee. Councilwoman Meadows seconded. The motion did not carry. Council members Yonce, Mann, Maddox and Wiggins opposed. Mayor Day will bring another appointee to the next meeting. Mayor Day asked if council had an appointee. Councilman Maddox made a motion to appoint Lillie Suder to the Ethics Committee. Councilman Mann seconded the motion. The motion carried with Council members Yonce, Maddox, Wiggins and Mann in favor and Council members Meadows and Wenz opposing. Mayor Day welcomed Ms. Suder to the Ethics Committee.

**Parking Signs:** Mayor Day reviewed the parking decision made at the December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding Trifles and Treasures and asked the council for their recommendation regarding downtown parking. Councilman Wiggins made a motion for any retail business that locates within the city, upon their request, be allowed two dedicated parking spaces in front of their retail business adding this is retroactive. Councilman Maddox seconded. The motion carried with Councilwoman Wenz opposing.

**Amendment to July 2005 Minutes:** Councilwoman Wenz made a motion to approve the amendment to the July 2005 Council Minutes to reflect the adoption of the Intergovernmental Agreement with Clayton County Water Authority and to include Councilwoman Meadows as being present at this meeting. Councilwoman Meadows seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Appointment to DDA:** Mayor Day thanked Robert Hepler for his interest in working with the Downtown Development Authority and asked if the council had any other nominees. Councilman Wiggins made a motion to appoint Robert Hepler to the Downtown Development Authority. Councilwoman Wenz seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Appointment of Mayor ProTem:** Mayor Day opened the floor for nominations for the position of Mayor ProTem. Councilman Maddox nominated Rick Yonce, Councilwoman Wenz nominated Luther Maddox. Councilman Maddox made a motion to close the nomination. Councilman Mann seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mayor Day asked for all in favor of Rick Yonce to raise their right hand. Mayor Day asked for all in favor of Luther Maddox to raise their right hand. Rick Yonce was elected Mayor ProTem with Council members Maddox, Wiggins, Mann and Meadows voting in favor of Councilman Yonce and Councilwoman Wenz voting for Luther Maddox.

**Budget Adjustment:** Mayor Day reviewed Councilman Yonce requests for Budget Adjustments. Councilman Maddox made a motion to adjust line item Consulting Engineer 52-1250 as presented. Councilman Yonce seconded. The motion carried with Council members Mann, Maddox, Wiggins and Yonce in favor, Councilwoman Wenz opposing and Councilwoman Meadows abstaining.

Councilman Yonce motioned to adjust line item 58-1220 Leased Vehicle moving \$5500 to contingency and leaving \$2000 for Van Rental if necessary. Councilman Maddox seconded. The motion carried with Council members Meadows, Maddox, Mann, Wiggins, Yonce in favor and Councilwoman Wenz opposing.

Councilman Maddox made a motion on line item 342-39-1210 under Capital Improvements for the Parking Deck to return the \$100,000 to reserves. Councilman Wiggins seconded. Discussion was held regarding the return of the \$400,000 of grant money and doing away with the parking deck. The motion carried with Council members Yonce, Wiggins, Mann and Maddox in favor and Council members Wenz and Meadows opposing.

Mayor Day asked for a motion regarding line item 343-39-210 the Streetscape Project. Councilwoman Meadows made a motion that we continue with the Streetscape. Councilwoman Wenz seconded. Under discussion Councilman Yonce reasoned this money be put back into reserve funds because about a year ago he asked for money from the reserved to keep the fire department and it was denied. He was concerned that monies have not been put into reserves. Mayor Day stated the city will be returning 1 million dollars to the ARC and returning \$800,000 of SPLOST monies if we do away with this project. The Streetscape is for everyone in city. The motion to keep the Streetscape did not carry as Council members Yonce, Maddox, Wiggins and Mann opposed the motion and Council members Meadows and Wenz voting in favor of the motion. In connection with this, Mayor Day explained for book keeping purposes we need to delete Special Projects and General Funds; line item 38-9100 Revenue Schedule and line item 9100-61-1000. Councilman Maddox made a motion to delete these two items and return funds to reserves. Councilman Mann seconded. The motion carried with Councilwoman Wenz opposing.

**Executive Session:** Councilman Maddox made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Councilman Yonce seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Maddox made a motion to resume the regular meeting. Councilman Mann

seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Regular session resumed.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mayor Day appointed Council members Luther Maddox and Clarence Mann to the Garbage Committee; Mayor Pro Tem Rick Yonce appointed as city representative to the Clayton County Municipal Association and Councilwoman Linda Wenz appointed city representative to the Clayton County Water Authority. Mayor Day stated our total fund balance as of 1/9/06 is \$2,883,195.27, in 2005 we added \$344,735.00 to fund balance which is revenues over expenditures. Many citizens voiced their concerns on various topics; the division of Jonesboro, its citizens and council, property values decreasing, Robertson Sanitation billing, natural growth/natural attrition of Jonesboro, the disappointment of losing the Streetscape and how appalling this was done to say "Getcha Back" Abb Dickson as Chairman of the Downtown Development Authority asked the council to reconsider their decision.

Councilman Maddox requested discussion of Wallis Street construction traffic to be on the February Agenda. There being no further business Councilman Yonce motioned to adjourn. Councilman Maddox seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

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Mayor Joy Day

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Joan Jones, City Clerk