

**CITY OF JONESBORO
MEETING WITH CLAYTON COUNTY
COMMISSIONER
JANUARY 19, 2006 1:30PM**

The City of Jonesboro Mayor and Council held a meeting with Clayton County Commissioner Eldrin Bell on Thursday, January 19, 2006 at 1:30pm. The meeting was held at the Clayton County Administration Building located at 112 Smith Street, Jonesboro, Georgia and was open to the public.

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

 City Attorney Ross Burris

Mayor Day thanked Commissioner Bell for meeting with the council and for his comments at the January 9th Council Meeting.

Commissioner Bell addressed the council and introduced the following Department Heads: Finance Director Dan Martin; Planning and Zoning Coordinator Dawn Dickerson; Director of Transportation and Development Wayne Patterson; and Fire Chief Alex Cohilas; all were present to address any concerns or questions the council may have. Commissioner Bell voiced his concerns and encouraged the council to reconsider their decision to eliminate the Streetscape and Parking Deck Projects. Timing is critical on these important issues and if the 1.8 million dollars is returned it not only affects Jonesboro, but all of Clayton County and the surrounding area. Once returned it would make it more difficult for the city and possibly the county to receive grant money in the future. He reiterated that in the spirit of cooperation the city and county have always worked together to promote tourism and development and he would like to see this continue. Each department head gave an overview of how the county and cities have worked together on different projects and the cost the city saved by Clayton County doing the work, such as road improvement, LCI Grants, SPLOST programs, sidewalk improvement, etc. Chief Cohilas presented a power point presentation on the ISO ratings.

Councilman Mann voiced concern regarding project costs and not knowing how much more cost, the city will incur. T&D Director Wayne Patterson agreed with Councilman Mann and explained that projects are planned up to 12- 25 months down the road and bids are received; but the cost of materials goes up. All anyone can do is make the best estimate they can and build in a cost increase of the overall project. He reiterated what Commissioner Bell stated that once you return grant money it is extremely difficult to receive grant monies in the future. Discussion was held regarding the Right of Way cost of \$150,000. In

Mayor Day called the meeting to order.

Streetscape Project: Mayor Day asked for council comment regarding the Streetscape Project. Mayor Day read a statement to the public asking for council support for the Streetscape Project (statement attached). Discussion was held regarding the cost of the project, starting project in small phases, not doing both sides of Main Street at the same time and what has been done up to this point. Councilwoman Meadows made a motion to restore the \$675,000 to the 2006 Budget for the Streetscape Project. Councilwoman Wenz seconded. Councilmen Yonce, Wiggins, Mann and Maddox opposed the motion. Councilwomen Wenz and Meadows voted in favor of the motion. The motion did not carry.

Councilman Maddox made a motion that the city put \$300,000 in the 2006 Budget for the Streetscape Project and if more funds are needed further down the road, it will be reviewed at that time. Councilman Wiggins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Parking Deck Project: Mayor Day asked for comments regarding the Parking Deck Project. Councilman Maddox reviewed AJC article about parking deck. Councilman Wiggins stated there are over 700 parking spaces available for parking at this time. Mayor Day read statement to council (statement attached). Mayor Day called for a motion. Councilwoman Wenz made a motion to restore the matching funds of \$100,000 to the 2006 Budget for the Parking Deck Project. Councilwoman Meadows seconded the motion. Councilmen Maddox, Mann, Wiggins and Yonce opposed the motion. Councilwomen Wenz and Meadows voted in favor of the motion. The motion did not carry.

Executive Session: Mayor Day requested a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilman Maddox made the motion to go into Executive Session. Councilman Mann seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Maddox made a motion to resume the Called Meeting. Councilwoman Wenz seconded. The motion carried unanimously and the Called Meeting resumed.

Mayor Day asked for any other business from the council. Councilman Wiggins asked for clarification on fund balance. Finance Officer Stacey Inglis will get back to the council with that information. Mayor Day asked for council volunteers to get training and work on the Right-of-Way issues. Mayor Day asked council to volunteer their time on the row issue, Councilmen Mann and Wiggins and Mayor Day volunteered for the Right of Way Committee. Councilman Yonce asked about downtown parking, it is currently available on Mill Street lot and the status of the sewage problem at 313 Fayetteville Road. Mayor Day will get a questionnaire to council to get some feedback and update the council at the next meeting and 313 Fayetteville Road has been turned over to the health department.

There being no further comments, Councilman Yonce made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Mann seconded. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Joy Day

Joan Jones, City Clerk