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Town of Jonesboro

Mayor Leslie Thompson P.O. Box 610

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**Minutes of the Town of Jonesboro BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

**Regular Meeting, Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 5:45 p.m.**

**Public Hearing:** the public hearing was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Mayor Leslie Thompson.`

**Roll call** established a quorum with the following members present: Johnson, Ginn, Siadek, Stringer, Flowers

Invocation: The meeting was started with invocation by Ginn.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Siadek

Ordinance 2021-010 Nuisance was read by the Mayor and the floor opened for discussion.

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Thompson.

**Public Comments:** Henry Bradley talked about spraying weeds on his property when he had not asked for that to be done. Company was not authorized to spray new areas and the area in question should have not been sprayed.

Wilda Smith of the Chamber of Commerce talked about upcoming events sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Jeff Glover with MGM Development talked about the 50 unit senior housing development they are trying to bring to Jonesboro. Zoning changes will be required in order to build the project in the proposed location. A public hearing will be held on tomorrow (10/13) on the re-zoning.

**Addendums to the agenda:**

The Town’s engineer Brad Graff requested to add a resolution 2021-17 to the agenda. It was added as item 10B. Motion to approve addition made by Flowers; seconded by Johnson, unanimously approved.

**Approval of September bills** - Ginn moved to approve, seconded by Stringer with unanimous council approval.

**Approval of September financials -** Ginn moved to accept the financials, seconded by Flowers – unanimous approval. Ginn questioned items on the financials such as insurance to cover damages to the building.

2021 Millage Resolution correction (Resolution 2021-018) Flowers moved to accept the resolution with indicated corrections. Second by Johnson, unanimous approval.

Nuisance Ordinance 2021-10: Stringer moved to adopt the ordinance, second by Johnson. After some discussion about specific wording and enforcement, Stringer suggested the item be tabled until the next meeting.

Introduction of Tax Collector pay ordinance 2021-022: Stringer moved to table this item pending Attorney General’s opinion of whether or not the position could be moved to the police department. Siadek seconded this motion and the vote was Yays: Johnson, Ginn, Siadek, Stringer; Nays: Flowers

Mayor’s recommendation for hiring Tax Clerk: this item was tabled in a motion by Stringer, seconded by Siadek; Voting Yay: Jonson, Ginn, Siadek, Johnson; Nay: Flowers

Mayor’s recommendation for hiring Town Clerk: After reading his recommendation as to why Ms. Janice Simmons should be appointed as Town Clerk, Flowers moved to appoint. This motion died for lack of a second.

**Grapple Truck:** The truck has been ordered and is ready for delivery. There are still some adjustments needed to the contract but the Mayor and City Attorney are working with the company to finalize this. There is some legal wording in the contract that concerns legal counsel thus he will not certify the contract unless changes are made. Mayor referenced that the wording which was added to the same contract in the Ruston agreement is the wording needed in Jonesboro’s agreement. He indicated that he would be willing to sign the contract if that exact wording was added to our contract and if authorized by council to do so. Flowers moved to approve this item to authorize Mayor to sign, Johnson seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

**Notice of successful bidders for surplus property:** Council was supplied a list of the successful bidders for the Town’s surplus property. Stringer moved to accept the bids, seconded by Flowers. Unanimous approval.

**Sales Tax Board appointment-** Stringer nominated Police Chief James Harris to replace Mayor Thompson on the Sales Tax Commission, seconded by Siadek. Voting Yay: Ginn, Siadek, Stringer, Flowers; Johnson abstained from voting.

**Zoning Commission appointment:** Mayor Thompson presented the names of Henry Bradley and David Hammock to serve on the Zoning Commission. Flowers moved to accept the nominations for appointment, seconded by Stringer. Approval was unanimous.

Alvin Jones – mobile home clarification- after presenting to the board that there needs to be an ordinance to address mobile homes, modular homes, trailers and anything in this category, Stringer moved to table this item and place it on the next agenda.

Department head reports: Police Chief Harris had Officer Johnson to serve the Mayor legal papers during the meeting. The notice was concerning the legal issue of having decals on public vehicles. Harris warned the Mayor in the public setting that he would have one week to comply with the law or Chief Harris would take action against the Mayor as required by law. The Fire and Public Works departments presented reports. Flowers moved to accept the department head reports as presented. Siadek seconded the motion, approval was unanimous.

Mandated Notification Louisiana Governmental Budget Association was given to all council members. The Town has received ARPA money which needs to be added to the budget thereby causing the need for amendment to the budget. Introduction of Ordinances 2021-023, 2021-024, 21-025, Budget Amendments were introduced. A public hearing will be held at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

Council’s comments were expressed by members desiring to do so.

Mayor had no comments.

A motion to adjourn was made by Flowers, seconded by Stringer, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

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Janice M. Simmons, Deputy Clerk Leslie C. Thompson, Mayor

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