



Mayor James “Spike” Harris
Ph: 318-259-2385
Fax: 318-259-4177

P.O. Box 610
128 Allen Avenue
Jonesboro, Louisiana 71251

Minutes for Public Meeting January 13, 2026

Public Hearing: The public hearing meeting started at 5:30 p.m. Harris spoke on the importance of the adoption of Ordinance 2025-014. No discussion was had by the public.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor James “Spike” Harris.
2. **Roll Call:** A quorum was established with the following members at 6:00 p.m.
 - Alderman Nia Evans (Alderman at Large)**
 - Alderman Tracy Ginn (District A)**
 - Alderman Robbie Siadek (District B)**
 - Alderman Robert Hunter (District C)**
 - Alderman Devin Flowers (District D)**
3. **Invocation:** The invocation was given by; Alderman Siadek.
4. **Pledge:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by; Alderman Siadek.
5. **Approval of Agenda:** Mayor Harris asked for a motion to amend agenda. A motion was made by Siadek; seconded by Ginn. All in favor, motion passed.
6. **Public Comments:** No public comments.
7. **Approval of Minutes for December 9:** Amendment for minutes addressed by Siadek to change Alderman comments section from ‘Street Lights’ to ‘Christmas Lights’. A motion was made by Flowers; Seconded by Siadek. All in favor, motion passed.
8. **Approval of Financials:** A motion was made by Evans; Second by Ginn. All in favor, motion passed.
9. **To Adopt Ordinance 2025-014 Amending Ch. 32 of the Town of Jonesboro Code of Ordinances to add Sec. 32-105 RTO Est. Fees for Tampering with Water Meters.** A motion was made by Siadek; Second by Ginn. **Discussion:** held by Harris and Flowers about ticketing and fines. The issue being people turning water back on at the meter and damaging the meters. Locks have been cut and broken. Metal boxes will be constructed for tampered meters after they shut off. Harris advised that ticketing will be done by Public Works/Compliance and the Police Department. All in favor, motion passed.

- 10. To Adopt the Revision of the Town of Jonesboro Employee Handbook:** A motion was made by Evans; Second by Ginn. **Discussion:** The handbook needs to be updated to include a section on Cybersecurity. Harris announced there will be a training held Friday, January 16, 2026, to train all TOJ employees on the specifics of the handbook and a safety training given by Public Works and the Police Department. Attendees will sign document of participation to be included in employee file. All in favor, motion passed.
- 11. To Appoint a Water and Sewer Operator: Discussion:** Harris stated there was a complaint made to the Ethics board about Karl Johnson working for TOJ. Harris clarified that Johnson's Water and Wastewater LLC has always been a contractor for TOJ and never an employee. Karl brings TOJ a Level 4 & 3 operator license. Harris proposed to move Karl Johnson as Operator. His involvement has been an integral part in bringing grant funding into the town and putting the water and sewage departments together.
- 12. To Appoint a Public Works Director:** Harris stated he would like to appoint Warren 'Woogie' Bradley as Public Works Director. He has been running the department unofficially and has brought the town a long way and stated, 'The Public Works Director is probably the most important position in the town besides the Clerk.' Motion to appoint made by Siadek, seconded by Ginn. All in favor, motion passed.
- 13. To Appoint Signatory for Monthly Bills Paid and Approved:** James Ginn was the appointed signatory. The Council Choice presented the nomination of Tracy Ginn. No other nominations were presented. A motion to appoint Tracy Ginn as Signatory for TOJ by Evans, seconded by Siadek. All in favor, passed.
- 14. Public Records Request:** Devin Flowers filed a Public Records request from 2023 – present. Harris stated this request would require 'astronomical' amounts of data and time to prepare that would require overtime pay as to not disrupt the daily operations of TOJ. This would require payment of these services at \$500.00 requiring half up front and half at the time of delivery of findings. Harris instructed Flowers that at any time he could come to the city hall and go through the financial records himself.
- 15. Department Head Report:**
- A. **Police Department:** At the time of the meeting, Chief Smith stated he could not present numbers as he has been working on a shooting investigation. Harris advised that the State will not give money to fix the old Police Department building and that a new building would be constructed instead.
 - B. **Compliance:** Austin Ballott invited LRWA Deputy Director, Rusty Reeves to speak to the council about TOJ water. TOJ water grade is the best in 3 years. Mr. Reeves spoke about water quality: 'If you don't have the money, you can't keep it up.' He supported this statement by saying that everyone must do their share. The implementation of new meters has impacted on the conservation of water and chemicals. He advised to use the grant money wisely. He stressed the importance of a strict disconnect policy.

- C. **Public Works:** Warren Bradley thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity as the Public Works Director. He stated that you are only as good as the people you surround yourself with. Bradley stated how thankful he is to have the team he has. 26 leaks were fixed, 7 sewer issues fixed, 21 sewer lines blown out. They are still removing Christmas lights, and the streetlights have been turned back on. He asked the public to report any lights they see that need to be replaced to him at Public Works. Alderman Hunter asked where we are on drainage after a hard rain. Bradley responded that we are working on a grant to clean out ditches in response to the one by the park that rose into someone's property. Bradley responded that the biggest issue is leaves piled in the ditch which will be removed with an excavator. Leaves should be bagged and not burned in the ditches to avoid flooding.
- D. **Fire Department:** Fire Chief stated that there were 89 calls, 64 being within the city limits. He spoke on the historic PIAL Rating improvement to Class 2, going into effect February 1. People would begin to see a reduction in insurance rates. Chief asked about hydrants. Information is passed on to Public Works after the Fire Department identifies a broken hydrant. Work will begin on replacing broken fire hydrants which is expensive to do and it is a slow process. All red-top hydrants must be replaced, yellow-tops will be repaired.

16. Approval of Department Head Reports: A motion was made by Flowers; Second by Siadek. All in favor. Motion passed.

17. Alderman Comments:

- A. Ginn: Thanked the TOJ for all the positive things we are doing. We are only on the 13th day of the year, and we are off to an amazing start. She stated that we play a part as citizens to promote and help each other make it all come together and is excited for the new year.
- B. Siadek: He thanked Mr. Bradley for being the Public Works Director and Tracy Ginn for taking over the signatory position. He thanked the Police Department and Fire Department for their work and that everything we do is a team effort. And to all the ladies and guys in the office that make this a team.
- C. Hunter: Thanked everyone for coming.
- D. Flowers: Thanked everyone for coming out and Happy New Year. I want to thank LaToya and Catrice for getting my water bill straight because I was about to go off.
- E. Evans: Thanked everyone for coming out and supporting us. It's better than it used to be and we don't want to go back to that. Congratulated Mr. Bradley on his new role and gave appreciation for the Police and Fire departments and all their energy put in to be better. Also thanked them for supporting the council and all we learned to work together and continue to move forward.

18. Mayor's Comments: Invited everyone to attend the Financial Literacy Class following meeting. He also stated that the auditors will be present at the February meeting for comments on the audit. He stated the auditors will be attending the future meetings. He

said the Jackson Parish Police Jury has awarded the town 50k to clean up the rodeo and they gave 40k to fix broken sidewalks. We have been waiting on that since 2023 and have finally been awarded. And Happy New Year.

19. Adjournment: A motion made by Flowers; Second by Siadek. All in favor. Motion passed.

Catrice Hudson
Town Clerk

Mayor James “Spike” Harris