



Town of Jonesboro

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

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

Minutes of February 13, 2024 Board of Alderman Meeting

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Mayor James Harris

Roll Call: A quorum was established with the following members present Devin Flowers, Robert Hunter and Robbie Siadek and James Ginn. Nia Johnson absent.

Invocation: Robbie Siadek

Pledge of Allegiance: Devin Flowers

Public Comments: None

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Siadek, seconded by Hunter, no discussion, motion passed.

Approval of Minutes: January 9, 2024, Motion by Flowers, seconded by Hunter, no discussion, motion passed.

Approval of Financials: motion to table as council awaits receipt of full financial packet Flowers, seconded by Siadek, no discussion, motion passed.

DRA Resolution 2024-001 (Appointing designated authority to administer grant): Mayor James Harris and Town Clerk, Tatjana Marsha were assigned as designated authority to administer grants and given the authority to perform certain duties and administration of said award for and on behalf of the Awardee approval motion Ginn, seconded by Siadek, no discussion, motion passed.

Zoning Board: Mobile Home Application 425 Third Street was accepted; Mobile Home met all criteria. Billboard on 104 Vinson was tabled to give Zoning Board opportunity to gather more information. Motion to table Flowers, Seconded by Hunter, motion passed.

Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Jackson Parish Hospital: Mayor informed council of the desire of JPH, and legal findings concluded that this endeavor needed more clarification. No representative from Jackson Parish Hospital was present.

Department Head Reports:

Public Works: Assistant Director Warren Bradley greeted the council and town stating that his department has been working on drainage and ditches on the south side of town. He stated that the weather has caused some of the pothole problems that they are working diligently to repair around town, they have roughly 5 leaks left to complete and that the PW Department is positioned to fix the leaks independently. Bradley also spoke on the street signs as well as speed limit signs, Councilmen Hunter requested update on Fire Hydrants for Rebecca Drive. Director Karl Johnson greeted the council and town informing them that we are anticipating a much higher water grade than we have earned in recent years.

Fire Department: Chief Aaron Blalock submitted his printed report to the mayor and council in his stead.

Police Department: Assistant Chief Warren Johnson JR. spoke of voluntary Resignation of Employee. M. Nash, Dispatch ceased communication with superiors at PD concerning employment status. Motioned by Flowers, Seconded by Hunter, Motion Passed. Chief Johnson and the PD have received 200 plus calls and made 11 arrests.

Approval of Department Head Reports: Motioned by Flowers, Seconded by Siadek, Motion passed.

Council Comments

Flowers: Thanked community for coming and extended invitation for all constituents as well as council to continue in unity.

Hunter: Thanked Everyone for coming, "I'm Still Excited", reminded us of his vow to serve District C with excellence and awareness, thanked everyone for their dedication, requested that we continue in prayer for our city as well as the council.

Siadek: Thanked everyone for coming, acknowledged, and expressed thanks for the hard work of the Police, Fire, Public Works Departments.

Ginn: Thanks to the Public Works department for their labor on the wells, Mr. Bradley for their hard work on the drainage issues intown, thanked Fire and Police for their continued service, and concluded with a special word of thanks to the staff of city hall for patience with our citizens in correcting the water bill printing.

Mayors Comments: Mayor Harris Spoke of the 6 grants won by and under this administration, DRA, FFA-Apron Grant, DOTD Main Street Grant, Keep Louisiana Beautiful Grant, Jackson Parish Hospital Well & the Water Shed Grant . City experiences major reductions in bills and maintenance by acquiring new vehicles for Public Works as well as Police Department resulting in the cancellation of \$17k maintenance on older and hazardous vehicles through the enterprise lease program, moving the town from a 30 % rate to mid-70% billing rate, transitioned city hall from an outdated water billing system into a new system that has remote capabilities as well as real time updates, reduced workforce as well as overtime by creating weekend shifts for Public Works Department, Civil rights park has been established while currently receiving donations to continue park building and beatification. Engaging and Educating city employees for the purpose of creating a more proficient, professional, and productive staff – Police Department has 5 post certified officers and 3 homicide death investigators, fire station is UpToDate on P.I.A.L. standards. The Town of Jonesboro is on an upward progression far beyond the scope of imagination. The future is looking bright for Jonesboro, Louisiana.

Adjournment: Motioned by Flowers, Seconded by Hunter, Motion Passed Meeting Adjourned.