



Mayor James “Spike” Harris
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Minutes for Public Meeting December 9, 2025

- 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 Flowers.
- 4. Pledge:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Hunter
- 5. Public Comments:** Patricia Flowers commented on concerns on how the water bill is calculated. Mayor addressed her concerns stating a work order will be entered to check for a leak. Discussed other possibilities of a leaky faucet. She was advised to come into the town hall and follow up on the matter.
Steve McKay, CPA performing audit of TOJ, spoke on the current timeline for the audit report and will present all findings at the next Town Hall meeting.
- 6. Approval of Agenda:** Mayor Harris asked for a motion to amend agenda. A motion was made by Siadek; Seconded by Evans. All in favor, motion passed. **Amend the Agenda:** (9a) Chief Smith requests a motion to amend the agenda to vote for police department to hire a part-time officer. Motion made by Siadek; Second by Evans. All in favor, motion passed.
- 7. Approval of Minutes, including adding item 9a:** A motion was made by Ginn; Seconded by Siadek. No discussion. All in favor, motion passed.
- 8. Approval of Financials for October 2025:** A motion was made by Siadek; Seconded by Ginn. No discussions. All in favor, motion passed.
- 9. To introduce 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:** The motion to introduce was made by Evans; Seconded by Ginn. Discussion: Specifics of the ordinance: only

town employees can touch a water meter. Fines will be assessed for any non-town person tampering with a meter. All in favor, motion passed.

9a. Chief Israel Smith spoke on hiring a part time officer: He would like a part time officer to train. Part time benefit: no need to insure/ longer time to send to academy and evaluate skills for fit in police department. Introduce Caleb Lacey as candidate. He has been riding with officers for one month and has proven his desire and ability. The motion was made by Flowers, seconded by Siadek. All in favor, motion approved.

10. Department Head Report:

- A. **Police Department:** Chief Smith spoke on the need for more officers. Per AL example, there should be 2 officials for 1000 citizens. Currently TOJ has 6 full-time and 3 part-time officers. To be fully sustainable, TOJ would need 9 full-time officers.
- B. **Compliance:** Austin Ballott spoke on 7 dangerous buildings removed with notice of cost given to owners. Discussed adopting Civic Plus as town alert system.
- C. **Public Works:** Warren Bradley reported that 32 potholes have been fixed, 8 streetlights fixed. Approval on block grant to begin as early as February. Working to locate collapsed sewer mains.
- D. **Fire Department:** Fire Chief left report with council as he was in training at the same time.

11. Approval of Department Head Reports: A motion was made by Flowers; Seconded by Evans. All in favor. Motion passed.

12. Alderman Comments:

- A. Alderman Ginn: Thanked Chief Smith for working to fill in the gaps with lack of officers. Addressed the need to hire more officers.
- B. Alderman Siadek: He thanked Public Works for all they have worked through getting new meters installed. Recognized the streetlights look fantastic this year.
- C. Alderman Hunter: Outstanding year regardless of issues. Thanked new auditors for teaching TOJ better ways. Revenues picking up and we are moving in a great direction.
- D. Alderman Flowers: Thanked everyone for coming out and overcoming great challenges over the year. It is a blessed night.
- E. Alderman Evans: Thanked the Police department for showing up for us even shorthanded, and we will budget what we can do. Thanked the older people for coming out and Austin for cleaning up the town.

13. Mayor's Comments: Mayor Harris spoke on the rodeo coming next year, invitation to TOJ Christmas party 12/20/25 at 7pm. Mayor Harris stated that the Public Hearing for the meeting will be held on January 13, 2026, at 5:30 pm.

14. Adjournment: A motion made by Evans; Second by Flowers. All in favor. Motion passed.

Catrice Hudson

Mayor James "Spike" Harris