

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

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

Minutes for October 14, 2025, Board of Alderman Regular Meeting

- 1. Public Hearing: The public hearing was called at 6:00 p.m.; no discussion from the public.
- 2. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor James "Spike" Harris.
- 3. Roll Call: A quorum was established with the following members at 6:00 p.m.

Alderman Tracy Ginn (District A)

Alderman Robbie Siadek (District B)

Alderman Robert Hunter (District C),

Alderman Nia Evans (Alderman at Large).

Absent: Alderman Devin Flowers (District D)

- 4. **Invocation**: The invocation was given by the Compliance Officer Austin Ballot.
- 5. **Pledge**: The Pledge of Allegiance led by Ezzard Bradford.
- 6. **Public Comments**: Terry Henderson spoke about her concern of the fire hydrant on Cedar Street and commented about her effort to collaborate with compliance to tear down the damaged house in her neighborhood.
- 7. **Approval of Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mayor Harris. Motion made by Ginn and seconded by Siadek. No Discussion. Motion Passed.
- 8. Approval of Minutes: Mayor Harris asked for a motion to approve the minutes for:
 - A. September 9, 2025 (Regular Meeting): Motion made by Evans. Seconded by Ginn. No Discussion.
 All in Favor. Motion Passed.
 - B. September 30, 2025 (Special Call Meeting): Motion made by Ginn. Seconded by Siadek. No Discussion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

- Approval of Financials for August 2025: Mayor Harris asked for a motion to approve financials for August 2025.
 Motion made by Ginn. Seconded by Evans. Ginn asked if Bosch was paid in full. Bosch and Statham have been paid in full. All in Favor. Motion Passed.
- 10. To Adopt Resolution 2025-13 Declaring the Intention to Issue Taxable Sewer Revenue Bond: Mayor Harris asked for a motion to adopt resolution 2025-13. Motion made by Siadek. Seconded by Evans. Hardy Andrews explained the process of the grant. A total of 4.5 million, with 2.6 million being the grant to utilize and 1.9 million with .95% interest over 22 years to be restored to receive the bond.
- 11. To Amend an Ordinance (2025-010) to Repeal and Amend Section 20-55 of Jonesboro's Noxious Grass

 Ordinance: Mayor Harris asked for a motion to amend ordinance 2025-10. Motion made by Siadek. Seconded by

 Evans. All in Favor. Motion Passed.
- 12. To Adopt Surplus Property Ordinance 2025-011 for Fourth Street: Mayor Harris asked for a motion to adopt ordinance 2025-011. Motion made by Ginn. Seconded by Siadek. A discussion was held by Ballot. All in Favor. Motion Passed.
- 13. To Introduce an Ordinance 2025-012 Approving DEQ & Water Sector Sewer Project: Mayor Harris asked for a motion to introduce ordinance 2025-012. No discussion was made. Motion made by Evans. Seconded by Ginn. No discussion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.
- 14. To Introduce an Ordinance 2025-013 for Utility Rate Increase: Mayor Harris asked for a motion to introduce ordinance 2025-013. Motion made by Ginn. Seconded by Siadek. Alderman Hunter posed the question on which utility is the focus point. Henry Shuler explained that sewage is the focus point, with the rates increasing from 12.00 per minimum of 2 thousand gallons to 18.00 per minimum of 2-thousand-gallon base. All in Favor. Motion Passed.
- 15. To Discuss the Family Services Kinship Program with Kreesha Bennett: A PowerPoint was presented to support and express their values and connections for foster care children and foster parent's hosting opportunities.
- 16. Discuss Condemnation of Properties: Introduced by Mayor Harris.
 - A. Vote on Parcel #00950006482 (Beech Springs Rd.): Motion made by Ginn. Seconded by Siadek.
 Discussion by resident, Terry Henderson, who expressed that she was persistent with meeting with

- the Compliance Officer about the condemned property. Ballott says it will be torn down within the next 30 days. Pictures were presented in support of the condemnation. All in Favor. Motion passed.
- B. To Vote on 119 Harlan Street: Motion made by Siadek. Seconded by Ginn. Discussion by Ballot was held to show concern and support for condemning the property. Pictures were presented to support the presentation. All in Favor. Motion passed.

17. Department Head Reports:

- A. Police Department: Absent pertaining to an emergency call.
- **B.** Compliance: Ballot said 4 properties have been safely condemned. The properties were added to the list and a priority to be safely condemned by the latest December. Ginn and Siadek inquired about the old movie theatre, having concern about its safety in the downtown area during its busiest season.
- C. Public Works: Ezzard Bradford says 1,910 meters have been installed. Three hundred meters needs to be removed from empty lots and abandoned homes. There was a total of 32 leaks fixed since the last report.
- D. Fire Department: Fire Chief, Aaron Blalock, confirmed there were 79 calls (60 inside city limits and 19 outside city limits) total since the last report. Alderman Hunter asked about a fire hydrant that needs to be replaced. Blalock answered that the fire hydrant is a priority to be replaced.
- 18. Approval of Department Head Reports: Mayor Harris asked for a motion to approve department head reports.
 Motion made by Evans. Seconded by Siadek. No Discussion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

19. Alderman Comments:

- **A.** Ginn: Expressed her excitement, paying off bills will free the town and "2026 is going to be an amazing year. Thank you to Austin Ballott and citizens for supporting."
- B. Hunter: "Thank you for all coming to the meeting."
- **C.** Evans: She thanked citizen, Terry Henderson, for keeping the council "on their toes." Thanks everyone for coming out and communicating the town can and will move forward.
- **D.** Siadek: Says that the central principle is to improve the town.

- E. Mayor's Comments: Thank the council for being present and showcase of the return of the fair and events that unite the town. Mayor Harris asked for a motion to amend the agenda to approve altering the next council meeting date from Nov. 11th to Nov 18th, 2025. A motion made by Evans. Seconded by Siadek. No Discussion. All in Favor. Motion Passed. A motion made by Evans. Seconded by Hunter. No Discussion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.
- 20. Adjournment: Motion made by Evans. Seconded by Hunter. No discussion. All in favor. Motion Passed.

Catrice Hudson	James "Spike" Harris
Town Clerk	Mayor