

# ***CITY OF JONESBORO***

## **MEETING AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2020**

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER** - Mayor Ken Blandford
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A. Approval of September 08, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
  - B. Approval of September 08, 2020 Closed Session Minutes
- 4. GUESTS**
- 5. TREASURER'S REPORT** - Shelly Pender
- 6. ZONING REPORT** - John Pickel
- 7. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT** - David Wilkins
- 8. CITY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** - Billy Alsip
- 9. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT** - Tim Denny
- 10. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT** - Tim Bowen
- 11. BUSINESS**
  - A. Approval of Bills for Payment
- 12. OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. T & I Office Equipment Bid
- 13. NEW BUSINESS**
  - A.
- 14. MAYOR'S REPORT** - Ken Blandford
- 15. CLOSED SESSION**
- 16. ADJOURNMENT**

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**September 08, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Jonesboro City Council convened for the regular meeting on September 08, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Jonesboro City Hall with Mayor Ken Blandford presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Alderman present at roll call were Bart Hileman, Brandi Boyd, Steve Haldeman, Beverly Schaefer, Mike Stegle, and Ken Carlson. Others present were City Attorney Tim Denny, Police Chief David Wilkins, Zoning- John Pickel, City Clerk Barbara Casper, and City Superintendent Billy Alsip. Absent was Fire Chief Tim Bowen, and City Treasurer Shelly Pender.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Alderman Steve Haldeman, made a motion, seconded by Alderman Mike Stegle, approving the August 17, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes. All approved. Motion carried.  
Alderman Brandi Boyd made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Haldeman, approving the Closed Session Minutes from August 17, 2020 meeting. All approved. Motion carried.

**GUESTS**

Jacob Carter and Rebecca Carter, 318 S. Locust Street, were scheduled to attend but were not present.

**REPORT**

Zoning- John Pickel had nothing to report.

Police Chief David Wilkins had nothing to report at this time.

City Superintendent Billy Alsip had nothing to report.

City Attorney Tim Denny explained the process for passing the resolution and ordinance for closing the alley requested in the Carver addition within the City of Jonesboro.

**BUSINESS**

Alderman Steve Haldeman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Brandi Boyd, approving the bills as presented. All approved. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Alderman Ken Carlson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Haldeman accepting Resolution 2020-R03 - Vacating Certain Alleys Located North of the Perpendicular of Market Street in James & Daniel Carver's Addition to Jonesboro Between Lots 2 & 3, Lots 10 & 11, Lots 14 & 15, and lots 22 & 23 in the City of Jonesboro. All approved. Roll call taken: Brandi Boyd Yea Bart Hileman Yea Beverly Schaefer Yea Steve Haldeman Yea Mike Stegle Yea Ken Carlson Yea  
Motion carried with six Yea votes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman Mike Stegle made a motion, seconded by Alderman Bart Hileman accepting Resolution 2020-R04 - MFT Contract for 2020. All approved. Roll call taken:  
Brandi Boyd Yea Bart Hileman Yea Beverly Schaefer Yea  
Steve Haldeman Yea Mike Stegle Yea Ken Carlson Yea

Motion carried with six Yea votes.

The T & I Office Equipment bid of \$4,000.00 for a Savin C3503spf Color Multi functional Unit was discussed. Alderman Ken Carlson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Beverly Schaefer to purchase the Savin Multi functional Unit. Clerk Casper asked where the funds were coming from. After much discussion Alderman Ken Carlson and Alderman Beverly Schaefer rescinded their motion and second. It was decided to table a decision until the finances could be checked out.

Clerk Casper talked about the hand-held used for reading the utility meters. One of the hand-held meter's is not working properly. The handheld was sent off for repair but the company claims they could not find anything wrong with it, so they cleaned it. The meter reader tried to use it this month to read meters and it was doing the same thing as last month. The hand-helds are getting outdated and there may be a problem to repair them. The Ionware Company sent a bid of \$4,058.48 for one with a day of training included in the bid. The City of Jonesboro has two hand-helds and the new one and old one are not compatible with each other. So that means going down to one or buying two. The bid for two is \$6,816.96. After some discussion Alderman Mike Stegle made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Haldeman authorizing the purchase of two new hand-helds at a cost of \$6,816.96 with the funds to be split 50/50 between the Gas and Water Sewer Departments. All approved. Roll call taken; Brandi Boyd Yea  
Bart Hileman Yea Beverly Schaefer Yea Steve Haldeman Yea  
Mike Stegle Yea Ken Carlson Yea  
Motion carried with six Yea votes.

Clerk Casper asked if a stipend of \$35.00 could be paid to Assistant City Superintendent Mike Ellis for the use of his personal cell phone during this Covid-19 pandemic. The employees are hesitant about passing around the City on call phone at this time. Alderman Mike Stegle recommended paying the stipend until the end of the year and revisit again in January 2021. Alderman Beverly Schaefer made a motion, seconded by Alderman Steve Haldeman authorizing the \$35.00 stipend to Mike Ellis through the end of this year.

Mayor Blandford asked for a motion to go into a closed session to discuss threatened litigations and personnel.

Alderman Brandi Boyd at 7:37 p.m. made a motion, seconded by Alderman Beverly Schaefer to go into a closed session to discuss threatened litigations and personnel. All approved

Alderman Mike Stegle at 7:55 p.m. made a motion to return to open session, with a second coming from Alderman Steve Haldeman. All approved.

Alderman Steve Haldeman made a motion to accept Brent Sim's resignation from the Jonesboro Police Department, effective September 21, 2020, with a second coming from Alderman Bart Hileman. All approved. Motion carried.

Police Chief David Wilkins presented a recommendation to hire B J Hale at \$19.00 per hour as a police officer effective immediately. After some discussion, Alderman Bart Hileman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Beverly Schaefer to hire B J Hale as a full time police officer effective immediately. All approved. Roll call taken; Brandi Boyd Yea  
Bart Hileman Yea Beverly Schaefer Yea Steve Haldeman Yea  
Mike Stegle Yea Ken Carlson Yea  
Motion carried with six Yea votes.

Alderman Steve Haldeman attended a Union County Board meeting with concerns with animal control. Haldeman reported he had heard the Animal Control Officer Dirk had resigned. Alderman Steve Haldeman wanted to apologize to the Council for losing his temper with the Union County dispatcher this past weekend. There was another incident with the dogs and he called Union County Sheriff's Office and the dispatcher went back and forth on the phone with Haldeman. Officer Brent Sims showed up and issued a ticket to the owner of the dogs. Brett Roberts and Steve Haldeman had prepared a written statement on the incident for Police Chief David Wilkins.

Alderman Steve Haldeman shared, the Jonesboro Library will be holding a yard sale in the

parking lot next to the post office during the River to River yard Sale, October 9, 10, and 10. The Colorfest has been cancelled for this year.

Clerk Casper asked if any of the Alderman would be interested in meeting with Maury Basse and being interviewed for a WIBH radio segment after a Jonesboro Council meeting. Mayor Blandford asked if Alderman Steve Haldeman would be interested in doing this. Alderman Brandi Boyd stated they could all take turns if needed.

Clerk Casper was happy to share the \$20,000.00 loan from the Gas department to the General fund had been paid back in full.

The Census will be setting up in a couple of parking spaces September 17, 2020 from 11 to 12 to help fill out the Census forms for anyone needing help.

Alderman Ken Carlson reported that currently Jonesboro is .4 behind Anna and second best in Union County.

Alderman Mike Stegle had a complaint from his neighbor on animal control. The neighbor had a stray dog wondering around in their yard and neighborhood for a couple of days and called animal control. They did describe the animal and its collar, but was told there was nothing animal control could do if they did not have a picture of the animal. The City of Jonesboro is paying for services they are not receiving.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

After all business was discussed, Alderman Mike Stegle, made a motion to adjourn this meeting with a second coming from Alderman Brandi Boyd, therefore Mayor Ken Blandford adjourned this session of the Jonesboro City Council.

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Barbara Casper, City Clerk