CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

JANUARY 06, 2025 AT 6:00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 1859 CITY CENTER WAY, JONESBORO, GA 30236

MINUTES

I. CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Sartor called the meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

- Mayor Donya L. Sartor
- Mayor Pro-Tem Tracey Messick
- Councilmember Alfred Dixon
- Councilmember Don Dixon
- Councilmember Bobby Lester
- Councilmember Asjah Miller
- Councilmember Billy Powell
- City Manager, ChaQuias Miller-Thornton
- City Attorney, David Dreyer
- Interim City Clerk, Shandrella Jewett
- Chief of Police, Todd Coyt

III. INVOCATION

A. Invocation by Dr. Reginald P. Garmon, Pastor at Word of Faith Love Center

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A. Council to consider the approval of the Agenda.

A motion was made to adopt the agenda with the following amendments.

Old Business - The letter B. was added. Council to discuss appointments to the Ethics Committee.

Other Business, Letter A. - Pending litigation was stricken from the Executive Session language.

RESULTS: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Messick**

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS (PLEASE LIMIT COMMENTS TO THREE (3) MINUTES)

None

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Public Hearing regarding Conditional Use Permit Application 25-CUP-001 by owner/applicant Voyles Property, Inc./Isaac Jones, IV. Location: 282 N. Main Street, Jonesboro, Georgia.

Isaac Jones (Applicant) and Brittney Jackson provided information regarding the Conditional Use Permit Application 25-CUP-001.

Public Hearing Opened

No one came forth to speak

Public Hearing Closed

VII. PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Sartor shared a presentation titled "Why HOPE Matters!"

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Council to consider the purchase of an Electric Vehicle for use in the City's Police Department.

City Manager Miller-Thornton led the discussion.

On December 16, 2024, Council asked Assistant Police Chief Dunlap to provide additional information regarding electric vehicles. City Manager Miller-Thornton provided the updated information. Also, she spoke regarding the request for a F-150 Super Crew Lighting ($68,870.00) or Electric Vehicle Interceptor.

The item was added to the Consent Agenda.

B. Council to consider the appointments to the Ethics Committee.

Councilmember Powell recommended Council move forward with appointing members of the Ethics Committee. He asked if an alternate could be chosen as well.

Attorney Dreyer recommended a Caucus Meeting. He said, "there would be a reading of the people that have applied and any other names that are brought forward by members of the Council." Also, he stated, "there would be some discussion and a consensus or majority vote on who the two names would be."

The four applicants are: Marcia Thomas-Williams, Lt. Chelsey Curney, Arlene Charles, and Larry Jones.

City Attorney Dreyer provided clarification regarding the following:

- A person cannot serve on the DDA and the Ethics Committee.
- The Mayor can chair the meeting.
- The Mayor can appoint her applicant at any time.
- The Mayor and Council do not have to pick from the list of people that have applied.

City Manager Miller-Thornton stated, "she recalls the last conversation regarding Councilmember Powell wanting to leave the application process open-ended without having a due date.

The Caucus Meeting will be held on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Council to consider Annual Appointments.

City Manager Miller-Thornton led the discussion. She spoke regarding Article III, Sec. 3.10(b) Administrative and Service Departments of the City's Charter.

Based on the above Charter Section, all department directors should be appointed annually except for the following: City Manager, Chief of Police, Police Officer, Building Inspector, Code Enforcement Officer, Municipal Court Judge, Solicitor, and other officers that the city creates by ordinance (for example: the Finance Officer).

These officers are instead subject to the terms of employment agreements. Therefore, none of these positions are subject to annual appointments by the City Council and therefore have not been presented for consideration for annual appointments.

Appointments of the Public Works Director and the Community Development Director are not considered officers by charter or ordinance and therefore are directors of city departments and would come before Council annually for appointment.

The City has historically appointed the Municipal Judge annually. However, State Law provides the Judge serve two (2) year terms. A draft employment agreement has been presented to Judge Keith Wood and will be reviewed and returned by January 13, 2025. This will be in line with State Regulation.

B. Council to consider the appointment of the Mayor Pro-Tem for 2025.

City Manager Miller-Thornton led the discussion and spoke regarding City Charter Sec. 2.28. Mayor Sartor emphasized that whoever becomes the Mayor Pro-Tem would need to be available before meetings and be available via email and text messaging.

Mayor Sartor nominated Councilmember Don Dixon, but he declined the nomination.

Mayor Sartor nominated Councilmember Alfred Dixon, but he declined the nomination.

Discussion: Mayor Sartor stated, it is not a rule or law that we rotate the appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem."

A motion was made by Mayor Sartor to nominate Councilmember Miller.

Councilmember Miller accepted the nomination.

RESULTS:	**Motion Did Not Pass (4 to 2)**
MOVER:	**Mayor Sartor**
SECONDER:	**Councilmember A. Dixon**
AYES:	**Councilmembers A. Dixon and Miller**
NAYS:	**Mayor Pro-Tem Messick; Councilmembers D. Dixon, Lester, and Powell**

A motion was made by Councilmember Powell to nominate Tracey Messick.

RESULTS:	**Approved (4 to 2)**
MOVER:	**Councilmember Powell**
SECONDED:	**Councilmember D. Dixon**
AYES:	**Mayor Pro-Tem Messick; Councilmembers D. Dixon, Lester, and Powell**
NAYS:	**Councilmembers A. Dixon and Miller**

Tracey Messick was selected as the Mayor Pro-Tem for 2025.

C. Council to consider appointment of the Accident Review Committee Members for 2025. Term to expire on January 1, 2026 - Councilmember Don Dixon, City Manager ChaQuias M.

Thornton, Police Major Christopher Cato, Public Work Interim Director Marcus Heard, and City Clerk (to serve as secretary of the Committee).

Mayor Sartor asked Council if anyone else wanted to be on the Accident Review Committee. No one responded.

This item was added to the Consent Agenda.

D. Council to consider approval of Conditional Use Permit Application 25-CUP-001 by owner/applicant Voyles Property, Inc./Isaac Jones, IV. Location: 282 N. Main Street, Jonesboro, Georgia.

This item was added to the 01/13/25 Regular Council Meeting Agenda for voting purposes.

E. Council to consider a Non-Exclusive Agreement between the City of Jonesboro and JusticeOne Solutions, Inc. to use certain software programs and related materials for the designated processing system.

This item was added to the Consent Agenda.

F. Council to consider approval and adoption of Resolution 2025-001 of the City of Jonesboro to Call and Authorize the 2025 Municipal General Election; To Fix and Publish the Qualifying Fee; And For Other Purposes.

This item was added to the Consent Agenda.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel-related matters.

At 7:33 p.m., a motion was made to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

RESULTS: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Miller**
SECONDER: **Councilmember D. Dixon**

A motion was made to reconvene to Work Session.

RESULTS: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember D. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Miller**

1. Council to consider approval regarding the appointment of Shandrella Jewett as the Interim City Clerk.

RESULTS: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember A. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Lester**

2. Council to consider approval regarding the appointment of Marcus Heard as the Public Works Director.

RESULTS: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember D. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Messick**

3. Council to consider approval regarding the salary of the Interim City Clerk, Shandrella Jewett at $81,000.00.

RESULTS: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Mayor Pro-Tem Messick**

SECONDER: **Councilmember Miller**

4. Council to consider approval regarding the salary of the Director of Public Works, Marcus Heard at $100,000.00.

RESULTS: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember D. Dixon**
SECONDER: **Councilmember Lester**

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

RESULTS: **Approved (Vote was unanimous)**
MOVER: **Councilmember Powell**
SECONDER: **Councilmember D. Dixon**

Dr. Donya L. Sartor, Mayor

Shandrella Jewett, Interim City Clerk