

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF JONESBORO**

**TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018
5:30 PM**

The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Jonesboro duly convened in special session for a public hearing at their regular meeting place at the Jonesboro Town Hall, 128 Allen Avenue, Jonesboro, Louisiana on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor James E. Bradford called the meeting to order and took roll call. There were present: Alderman Nia Evans Johnson, Devin Flowers, Robbie Siadek, and Aaron Stringer. There were absent: Alderman Janet Martin. With four Aldermen present, a quorum was established.

Invocation was given by Flowers. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Siadek.

In opening remarks, Bradford explained the public hearing was for Ordinance 796, an ordinance regulating garbage, and Ordinance 797, an ordinance authorizing the sale of the surplus property through public sealed bids, with amendments.

Bradford read Ordinance 796 by title and opened the floor to public comments. Mr. Randy Layfield requested information on the time allotted for placement of trash receptacles; Bradford read the regulations from the ordinance verbatim. Ms. Deborah Fordham inquired about the penalty for not following the regulations set forth in the ordinance; she was informed that the penalty is a misdemeanor.

Bradford read Ordinance 797 by title and opened the floor to public comments. Layfield requested clarification on whether the awarded recipient of surplus property would be required to abate any nuisances on said property if a nuisance exists; Bradford stated once the sale is executed and if a nuisance exists, the new owner is required to abate any possible nuisance just like any other property owner.

With no further public comments, Flowers motioned to close and adjourn the public hearing; Stringer seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

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The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Jonesboro duly convened in regular session at their regular meeting place at the Jonesboro Town Hall, 128 Allen Avenue, Jonesboro, Louisiana on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor James E. Bradford called the meeting to order and took roll call. There were present: Alderman Nia Evans Johnson, Devin Flowers, Robbie Siadek, and Aaron Stringer. There were absent: Alderman Janet Martin. With four Aldermen present, a quorum was established.

Bradford stated that agenda items “5.b. Amendment to Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018” and “5.c. Introduction of Budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019” cannot be acted upon because they are under review by our accountant. Flowers motioned to delete items 5.b. and 5.c. from the agenda; Stringer seconded; the motion passed unanimously. Bradford requested that item “5.b. Surplus Property” be added in order to accept the bids on surplus properties. Flowers motioned to add item 5.b. to the agenda; Siadek seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Siadek motioned to approve the minutes for the public hearing and regular meeting for April 10, 2018; Evans seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Stringer motioned to adopt Ordinance 796, an ordinance on garbage receptacles; Siadek seconded the motion. Mr. James Ginn submitted public comment in favor of the ordinance and asked: (1) how will the Town inform the public about the ordinance, and (2) how does the Town plan to enforce it. Bradford stated that the ordinance is a part of the public record through the minutes and by advertising the ordinance in the legal advertisements as required by law. Ginn expressed discontentment by stating that people do not read the minutes or the legal advertisements. Evans expressed that the community should be invested in local government by reading the minutes and coming to meetings. Evans further stated that placing information about the new ordinance with the water utility bills would also be insufficient because people likely do not read those either. With no further comments, the motion to adopt the ordinance passed unanimously.

Stringer motioned to adopt Ordinance 797, an ordinance authorizing the sale of surplus property, with its amendments; Siadek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to introduce an ordinance to adopt the official Town logo was made by Evans; seconded by Siadek. The motion passed unanimously.

Siadek motioned to accept the bids of the highest bidder on surplus property; Evans seconded the motion. Flowers, Siadek, and Evans voted for the motion. Stringer voted against the motion. Bradford noted that the winning bidders would be notified by Ms. Alfreida Bell.

Flowers motioned to accept the resignations of Mr. Alan Smith, Mr. Thomas Holland, and Mr. Jonathan Stewart and the termination of Mr. Aaron Gray from the Jonesboro Police Department; Siadek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Siadek motioned to accept the bid and name the *Jackson Independent* as the Official Journal of Record for July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019; Flowers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Aldermen and Mayor gave general comments of gratitude to the audience for their attendance to the public hearing and regular meeting.

With no further business, Flowers motioned adjourn the meeting; Stringer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenisha Raybon-Smith, Clerk

Approve:

James E. Bradford, Mayor