

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Fritz Gisler
Director of Communications
870-932-1052
fgisler@jonesboro.org

Walk-On Items Mostly Financial in Nature

Jonesboro, AR -- Mayor Harold Perrin today provided information regarding City Council agenda items that have been 'walked on' at recent City Council meetings.

At the March 3, 2015 meeting of the Jonesboro City Council, Alderman Chris Moore expressed concern about the number and nature of items that were being 'walked on' to the agenda on the night of the meeting. A 'walk-on' item is an agenda item that is introduced at City Council meetings without being on the published agenda.

A review of City Council meetings from November 4, 2014 to February 19, 2015 showed that in that time period 22 items were added to the meeting agenda that were considered walk-on items. Of the 22 items discovered, it was the Administration's opinion that only five could have avoided being walk-on items. The remaining seventeen, or 77%, of the items had some aspect that required immediate attention from the Council. Seventeen of the 22 items originated from the Finance Committee.

Items that needed to be walked on included:

- Expenditures for emergency repairs to equipment
- Corrections for pending ordinances
- Meeting deadlines for grants and obligating funds
- Personnel actions

"I want to thank Alderman Moore for his concern regarding this matter," said Mayor Perrin. "By bringing this to our attention, we have identified an area we can improve for the citizens of Jonesboro. We will strive to reduce the number of walk-on items from the Administration in the future."

The Mayor went on to say that he believes holding two meetings a month of the Finance Committee should also help alleviate the number of walk-on items in the future. "I appreciate Alderman Darrel Dover, the Chair of the Finance Committee, for agreeing to hold two meetings each month. Most of our walk-on items are financial in nature. This will allow the Council more time to consider these important issues before voting on them."

(attached: "City Council Walkons.xlsx")

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