



CITY OF JONESBORO
Special Called Meeting
1859 CITY CENTER WAY
February 17, 2023 – 6:00 PM

NOTE: As set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Jonesboro will assist citizens with special needs given proper notice to participate in any open meetings of the City of Jonesboro. Please contact the City Clerk's Office via telephone (770-478-3800) or email at rclark@jonesboroqa.com should you need assistance.

Agenda

- I. CALL TO ORDER - MAYOR PRO TEM TRACEY MESSICK**
- II. ROLL CALL - RICKY L. CLARK, JR., CITY MANAGER**
- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- IV. AGENDA ITEMS**
 1. Council to consider adoption of Ordinance #2023-002 regarding changing the City's Polling place for advanced voting and for the municipal election to the Jonesboro City Center located at 1859 City Center Way.
- V. ADJOURNMENT**

**CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA COUNCIL****Agenda Item Summary****Agenda Item #****4.1****- 1****COUNCIL MEETING DATE**

February 17, 2023

Requesting Agency (Initiator)

Office of the City Manager

Sponsor(s)**Requested Action** *(Identify appropriate Action or Motion, purpose, cost, timeframe, etc.)*

Council to consider adoption of Ordinance #2023-002 regarding changing the City's Polling place for advanced voting and for the municipal election to the Jonesboro City Center located at 1859 City Center Way.

Requirement for Board Action *(Cite specific Council policy, statute or code requirement)*

O.C.G.A. 21-2-265

Is this Item Goal Related? *(If yes, describe how this action meets the specific Board Focus Area or Goal)*

Yes

Community Planning, Neighborhood and Business Revitalization

Summary & Background*(First sentence includes Agency recommendation. Provide an executive summary of the action that gives an overview of the relevant details for the item.)*

As Staff begins preparing for the March Special Election and the November General Election, we are recommending relocating our Polling Place to our permanent facility, the Jonesboro City Center. With the limited building space owned by the City of Jonesboro, we decided to move the election to Lee Street Elementary.

In an effort to ensure continuity in our polling locations and to ensure that we never have to change it, we are seeking to relocate everything to the Jonesboro City Center inside the Community Room. The City Center has adequate space, suitable for our election, inside the Community Room. Voters would be directed to the front entrance of the Community Room, avoiding any security at the front doors of the City Center, and would also be directed out the side door of the Community Room, hence ensuring that there was never any feeling of suppression as the function of elections would operate separately from that of the City Center. Appropriate signage would be posted to ensure voters were fully aware of where to vote and how to enter the premises.

Also, in accordance with state law (also referenced in the ordinance), before this change is officially made, a notice will be published in the City's legal organ once a week for two weeks notifying of the proposed change.

Fiscal Impact*(Include projected cost, approved budget amount and account number, source of funds, and any future funding requirements.)*

N/A

Exhibits Attached *(Provide copies of originals, number exhibits consecutively, and label all exhibits in the upper right corner.)*

- Ord 2023-002 - Polling Place Change (Clean) final
- Polling Place Change 2023 - Tear Sheet 012523
- Polling Place Change 2023 - Tear Sheet 011823

FOLLOW-UP APPROVAL ACTION (City Clerk)**Typed Name and Title**

Ricky L. Clark, City Manager

Date

February, 17, 2023

Signature**City Clerk's Office**

Staff Recommendation *(Type Name, Title, Agency and Phone)*

Approval

**STATE OF GEORGIA
CITY OF JONESBORO**

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-002

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE IV (ELECTIONS), SECTION 2-121 (POLLING PLACE) OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO OFFICIALLY CHANGE THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION POLLING PLACE TO JONESBORO CITY CENTER; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN ADOPTION DATE; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro, Georgia (the “City”) is a municipal corporation created under the laws of the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the duly elected governing authority of the City is the Mayor and Council thereof; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-265 empowers the governing authority to select and fix the polling places of its elections; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desire to change its current polling place from Lee Street Elementary to the Jonesboro City Center; and

WHEREAS, after due consideration, the governing authority finds that Jonesboro City Center has adequate space, suitable and appropriate access for disabled voters, and the comfort and convenience of its electors and poll officers will be best served if the polling place for municipal elections is changed to Jonesboro City Center; and

WHEREAS, the City has complied with the notice requirement in O.C.G.A. § 21-2-265 by publishing a notice of the proposed polling place changes for two consecutive weeks in its legal organ; and

WHEREAS, said notices are attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that changing its municipal polling place to Jonesboro City Center will positively impact the public health, safety and general welfare of all persons within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council authorizes the City Manager to move forward with accomplishing all acts necessary to change the polling place from Lee Street Elementary to the Jonesboro City Center on behalf of the City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA and by the authority thereof:

Section 1. The Code of Ordinances, City of Jonesboro, Georgia is hereby amended by revising 2-121 (Polling Place), Article IV (Elections) to Chapter 2 (Administration), to be read and codified as follows:

“Sec. 2-121. Polling Place.

Jonesboro City Center, located at 1859 City Center Way, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236, shall be the polling place for all city elections.”

Section 2. The preamble of this Ordinance shall be considered to be and is hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein.

Section 3. (a) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that all sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are or were, upon their enactment, believed by the Mayor and Council to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.

(b) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance. It is hereby further declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, no section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance.

(c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the Mayor and Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of this Ordinance and that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, all remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Ordinance shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable, and of full force and effect.

Section 4. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed.

Section 5. The effective date of this Ordinance shall be the date of its adoption by the Mayor and Council unless otherwise stated herein.

Section 6. The Ordinance shall be codified in a manner consistent with the laws of the State of Georgia and the City of Jonesboro.

Section 7. It is the intention of the governing body, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made part of the Code of Ordinances, City of Jonesboro, Georgia and the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered to accomplish such intention.

SO ORDAINED this ____ day of _____, 2023.

CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA

TRACEY MESSICK, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

RICKY L. CLARK, JR., City Manager/Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney



EXHIBIT A

(See attached legal advertisements)

Tree flattens woman’s home, but not her spirit



By Sharon Dowdy Cruse
Staff Correspondent

The storm that blew through Butts County on Thursday, Jan. 12 sent a massive tree crashing down on Joanne Mathis’ home on Cherokee Drive near the Newton County line. When the storm clouds cleared, a white wooden cross and Christian flag in Mathis’ front yard were untouched.

When volunteers removed the tree from the single-wide trailer, they found a picture of an angel on the roof. The picture, which depicts an angel watching over two children, had hung in Mathis’ home.

“It had been ripped out of the frame, but was intact and laying on top of the house,” said Mathis’ daughter, Tonia Dalton.

Mathis says she was warned that she would experience a life-altering event.

“Three months ago, I was laying in bed and I heard a voice tell me, ‘There will be big changes that your faith will take you through.’ And, my best friend, who passed away last month, told me that the Lord said to tell me that I was going to go through a big trial, but my faith would take me through it,” Mathis said.

The 69-year-old had heard that bad weather was expected the day the tornadoes hit

Butts County, but she didn’t take the warning seriously. “I knew they had been saying there was bad weather coming, but they often say there’s gonna be bad weather and then it changes,” said Mathis who was busy washing dishes and doing household chores that afternoon. “I didn’t even have my TV or but I heard a small still voice tell me to turn the TV on.”

It was then that she discovered a tornado had hit in Locust Grove. Her daughter, Amanda Simpson, picked her up soon after and took her to safety before the tornado came through.

“The next day when I saw what the storm had done, I thought I would pass out,” said Mathis, who was the first to move into the neighborhood some 55 years ago. “I raised my kids and some of my grandkids here. It’s the memories that hurt the most.”

Mathis does not have homeowners insurance and is on a fixed income. Despite her loss, she is thankful to be alive, and she’s thankful for the love she has felt from strangers.

“All kinds of churches have been coming by and bringing things,” she said. “And, the Red Cross brought us meals. When you are in this position and people you have never seen before reach out to you that means everything.”

Mathis has applied for help through FEMA and her daughters have set up a GoFundMe site (<https://gofund.me/d1548dbc>) to help raise money to replace her home. Donations can also be sent to Mathis in care of 17 Cherokee Drive, Jackson.

She says in the future there will be very few trees in her landscape.

“The backyard is full of trees right now, but the ones that were all once in my neighborhood’s yard,” she said. “I have a hydrangea in a pot, and I would like to know where it ended up.”

NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION
POLLING PLACE CHANGE
CITY OF JONESBORO

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to O.C.G.A. 21-2-265, you are hereby notified of a proposed change in the Municipal Election Day polling location and advanced voting for those voters within the corporate city limits of the City of Jonesboro. The Elections Superintendent plans to relocate the voters effective for the next scheduled Special Election on March 21, 2023 and subsequently advanced voting to begin on February 27, 2023. The proposed change is as follows:

Election Day Precinct	
Old Voting Location	New Voting Location
Lee Street Elementary School 178 Lee Street Jonesboro, Georgia 30236	Jonesboro City Center 1859 City Center Way Jonesboro, Georgia 30236

Advanced Voting Location	
Old Voting Location	New Voting Location
Jonesboro City Hall 124 North Avenue Jonesboro, Georgia 30236	Jonesboro City Center 1859 City Center Way Jonesboro, Georgia 30236

The Jonesboro City Council will hold a public hearing on February 13, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. in the Chambers of the Jonesboro City Center located at 1859 City Center Way to hear any objections to this change. Objections must be filed in writing before the time of the hearing, or presented orally during the hearing.
Once adopted, the change will be effective beginning immediately. If you have any questions concerning this polling location change or your voter registration status, please call City Hall at 770-478-3800.

Ricky L. Clark, Jr., CMC
Elections Superintendent
City of Jonesboro

NOTICE FOR SETTING OF QUALIFYING FEES FOR
NOVEMBER 7, 2023, GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §21-2-131(a)(1)(A) notice is hereby given that the City of Forest Park, Georgia has adopted a Resolution setting the qualifying fees for the November 7, 2023, General Municipal Election, to elect three (3) City Councilmembers. The qualifying fee for the offices of City Councilmembers Ward 3, 4 and 5 is Four Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$432.00).

Qualifying dates will be announced later.

This 3rd day of January 2023.

S. Diane White
City Clerk

2023 Public Notice of General Election and
Qualifying Information

Notice is hereby given that the City of Riverdale, Georgia shall hold the 2023 Municipal General Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, from 7am 7pm. A Municipality shall fix and publish a qualifying fee for each office to be filed in upcoming election. Such fee shall be (3) three percent of the total gross salary of the office paid in the preceding calendar year including all supplements.

Office	Salary	FEE
Mayor, At Large (Incumbent) Evelyn Wynn-Dixon	\$18,400.00	(3%) \$552.00
Council Member, Ward 2 (Incumbent) Frank Cobbs Jr.	\$13,600.00	(3%) \$408.00
Council Member, Ward 4 (Incumbent) Kenny Ruffin	\$13,600.00	(3%) \$408.00

Qualifying for the election shall be held at City Hall, 7200 Church Street, Riverdale, Georgia beginning on Monday, August 21, 2023, through Wednesday, August 23, 2023, from 8:30 am 12:30 pm and from 1:30 pm 4:30pm.

Qualifications to hold public office in the City of Riverdale
Pursuant to the Riverdale City Charter the Qualifications of Mayor and Council members shall be as follows:

No person shall be eligible for the office of mayor or council of said city unless he/she shall have been a resident of said city for a period of one (1) year immediately preceding the time that he qualified to run for office; and

Shall have attained or passed his twenty first birthday (21); and

Shall be a qualified voter in municipal elections for officers of said city; and Not convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude, and entitled to register under the registration laws which may be in force at that time in said city; and

Not convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude, and entitled to register under the registration laws which may be in force at that time in said city; and

No person’s name shall be placed on the ballot as a candidate for mayor or council member unless such person shall have filed a Notice of Candidacy and shall have paid the qualifying fee to the Office of the City Clerk.

Attachment: Polling Place Change 2023 - Tear Sheet 012523 (3322 : Municipal Polling Place Change - 2023 Election)

Gas prices on the rise

From staff reports

ATLANTA — Gas price averages in the state have increased at the pump compared to a week ago. Georgia drivers are now paying an average price of \$3.06 per gallon for regular unleaded gasoline. Monday's state average is 25 cents more than a week ago, 24 cents more than a month ago, and 5 cents less than this time last year. It now costs \$45.90 to fill a 15-gallon tank of regular gasoline. Although gas prices increased this week, drivers are paying 75 cents less to fill-up at the pump compared to a year ago.

“Gas prices continue to rise across the U.S., but for the past 10 months Georgians were paying under \$3.00 a gallon for gas due to suspension of the state’s gas tax,” said Montrae Waiters, AAA-The Auto Club Group spokeswoman. “Now that the gas tax has been reinstated, pump prices have increased. Unfortunately,

we can’t predict how high gas prices will rise, however we are 24 cents less than the national average which sits at \$3.30.”

REGIONAL PRICES

Atlanta: \$3.05
Most expensive Georgia metro markets — Brunswick (\$3.16), Savannah (\$3.14) and Valdosta (\$3.13).
Least expensive Georgia metro markets — Catoo-sa-Dade-Walker (\$2.99), Warner Robins (\$2.98) and Rome (\$2.96).

GAS PRICE SURVEY METHODOLOGY

AAA updates fuel price averages daily at www.GasPrices.AAA.com. Every day up to 130,000 stations are surveyed based on credit card swipes and direct feeds in cooperation with the Oil Price Information Service and Wright Express for unmatched statistical reliability. All average retail prices in this report are for a gallon of regular, unleaded gasoline.



Special Photo: Jerry Jackson

The Clayton community celebrated the life of Martin Luther King Jr. with a Prayer Breakfast Saturday morning at Clayton State University.

Clayton Prayer Breakfast celebrates life of MLK Jr.



Sen. Gail Davenport spoke during the Prayer Breakfast held in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Saturday morning.



The honor guard was part of the opening ceremony at the Prayer Breakfast Saturday held in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.

By Heather Middleton
hmiddleton@news-daily.com

MORROW — A prayer breakfast was held in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Saturday morning.

The 32nd annual celebration featured Congressman Sanford Bishop as guest speaker. The event brought together numerous civic leaders, elected officials and residents to celebrate King’s life and achievements as a Civil Rights leader.

The event was hosted by the Concerned Black Citizens Coalition of Clayton County and held at Clayton State University.

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Ricky L. Clark, Jr., CMC
Elections Superintendent
City of Jonesboro

Special Photo

Special Photo

Orange Shrimp Quinoa Bowls

A bowl full of flavor

By Alice Queen
alice.queen@rockdalecitizen.com

If you’re looking for a dinner or lunch combination that

is wholesome, filling and, of course, easy, you’re not alone. Meal prepping is a popular trend for many people (an families) who are working on healthy eating habits but are constantly on the go.

No matter if you’re searching for a healthy family dinner, a quick lunch at home or an easy idea to meal prep for the week ahead, this Orange Shrimp Quinoa Bowl is perfect for seafood lovers who also enjoy a hint of spice. It’s fresh, healthy and full of delicious prepared shrimp and veggies including mushrooms, peppers and cucumbers.

The sauce is light and has a sweet yet spicy vibe. Everything rests over 1 cup of steamy quinoa — a filling base that also serves as an easy way to add some healthy grains to your diet. To make this quick and easy recipe, prepare the quinoa according to the package directions and set aside.

ORANGE SHRIMP QUINOA BOWLS
Serves: 2

- 1 cup quinoa
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1 tablespoon hot sauce
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 4 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- 1 tablespoon white miso
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 1/2 pounds shrimp, peeled, deveined and tails removed
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup mushrooms, sliced
- 1 red bell pepper, diced
- 1 cucumber, sliced into half moon
- 5 green onions, sliced
- 1 avocado, sliced
- 1 teaspoon sesame seeds
- 2 tablespoons cilantro, chopped

Cook quinoa according to package instructions. Set aside.

In medium bowl, whisk orange juice, hot sauce, honey, soy sauce, vegetable oil, lime juice and miso until combined. Pour one-quarter liquid into separate bowl. Set aside.

Add shrimp to remaining mixture and marinate 15 minutes.

Heat large skillet over medium heat with butter. Add shrimp, salt and pepper. Cook 2 minutes on each side until pink. Add mushrooms and cook until tender.

In two serving bowls, divide quinoa, bell pepper, cucumber, onions, avocado and shrimp. Sprinkle sesame seeds and cilantro over both bowls. Drizzle with reserved dressing.

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This 3rd day of January 2023.

S. Diane White
City Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

**CALL OF SPECIAL ELECTION
TO FILL UNEXPIRED TERM OF SHERIFF
CALL DATE: JANUARY 10, 2023**

**CALL OF SPECIAL ELECTION
TO PRESENT QUESTION TO VOTERS
CALL DATE: JANUARY 10, 2023**

TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF BOARD OF CLAYTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

Notice is hereby given that a Special Election shall be held on March 21, 2023, in the election precincts of Clayton of the County. A run-off, if needed, shall be held on April 18, 2023.

QUALIFYING: Qualifying for the special election for Sheriff shall be held at the Clayton County Board of Registration and Elections office which is temporarily located at 1285 Government Circle, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236. The dates and hours of qualifying shall be as follows:

Monday, January 23, 2023 – Thursday January 26, 2023: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday, January 27, 2023 9:00 a.m. – Noon.

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 is the last day to register to vote for all persons who are not registered to vote and who desire to vote in the Special Election.

Those residents qualified to vote at said election shall be determined in all respects in accordance with election laws of the State of Georgia. This notice is given pursuant to action of the Clayton County Board of Elections and Registration. For more information and updates regarding the Special Elections in Clayton County, please visit us at www.claytonelections.com.

**BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION
OF CLAYTON COUNTY**

Chair