

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL

July 10, 2017

The City Council of the City of Albemarle met in a regular session on Monday, July 10, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor G. R. Michael presided, and the following Councilmembers were present, to-wit: Bill Aldridge, Chris Bramlett, Benton Dry II, Martha Sue Hall, Martha E. Hughes, Dexter Townsend and Chris Whitley. Absent, none.

Mayor Michael called the meeting to order.

Mayor Michael gave the invocation.

The Mayor presented a Resolution of Support to Denico Autry currently playing with NFL team, the Oakland Raiders and past Albemarle High School football player for his service. He held a free football camp on June 24, 2017 at Albemarle High School for over 100 players.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the City Council adopted the following Resolution:

(17-24 - To honor Denico Autry)

Mayor Michael presented a City of Albemarle retirement certificate to Jeffrey L. Dick with his last day with the City being June 15. He retired after 25.25 with the City and last held the position of Treatment Plant Supervisor. Jeff worked his entire career in the Water Treatment Plants Division of the Public Utilities Department.

The Mayor and City Council recognized City Departments that have received N. C. Department of Labor Awards for Outstanding Work in Accident Prevention

The City was recently presented these awards at a North Carolina Department of Labor Luncheon. Attending the luncheon on behalf of the City were Michael Ferris, Robert Whitley, Judy Redwine, Mike Leonas, Lisa Kiser, Danny Bowen and Tony Russell. Human Resources Director Robert Whitley serves as the City's Safety Director. Awards as follows:

First Year Silver Award – Fire Department

First Year Silver Award – Police Department

Second Consecutive Year Silver Award – City of Albemarle

Second Consecutive Year Silver Award – Public Utilities Department

Second Consecutive Year Gold Award – Parks & Recreation Department

Sixth Consecutive Year Gold Award – Administration, Development Services & Housing

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the June 12 regular session, June 12 closed session, June 13 adjourned session and June 13 closed session minutes were approved as submitted.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the agenda adjustments as stated:

New Business Item #18 moved forward and the proclamation presented next for National Park and Recreation Month - July 2017.

The Mayor and City Council considered a proclamation declaring July as National Park and Recreation Month.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a proclamation declaring July as National Park and Recreation Month.

(Proclamation)

The Mayor and City Council discussed the donation of new signage at the EE Waddell Center.

Public Housing Director Cedric Baldwin and Ms. Shanta Watkins with the Albemarle Police Department came before Council and spoke on behalf of the Friends of the EE Waddell Community Center. Friends of the EE Waddell Community Center have held several fundraisers, with the goal of raising money to assist with needs such as a sign at the Center. The changeable face sign will be a nice addition to the Waddell Center as it will help publicize community events and activities taking place there. Ms. Watkins stated that the Friend of the EE Waddell Community Center are handling the cost and installation of the sign. They asked that Council consider the City handling the electrical costs.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hughes, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the City handling the electrical costs for the new sign at the EE Waddell Community Center.

The Mayor and City Council discussed the Police Headquarters Renovation Project.

Mr. David Creech, Creech & Associates came before City Council to discuss the renovation project for the building located at 155 West South Street. Mr. Creech introduced himself and provided a little background regarding his firm. Mr. Creech was the lead architect on the City Hall project. He presented a proposal letter to the City addressing contract basic design services for architectural, structural, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical engineering, a timeline and the firm's fees.

The timeline for the review of qualification statements and selection of a CM at Risk firm is tentative as follows:

- RFQ release date July 10, 2017
- Pre-submittal Site Meeting July 18, 2017 10:00 AM
- Deadline for All Questions July 20, 2017
- Addendum Issued (if needed) July 21, 2017
- Proposal Submittal Deadline July 27, 2017 5:00 PM
- Recommendation to Council/Proposed Contract August 7, 2017
- Recommended Firm Council Presentation August 7, 2017

Mr. Creech answered any questions that Council had.

Councilmember Bramlett came into the meeting at this time.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved entering into a contract with Creech & Associates for the Police Renovation project located at 155 West South Street and authorized staff to send out an RFQ to potential a Construction Manager at Risk contractor for this project.

Katie Furr, Main Street Manager, ADDC Board Chair, Nancy Lipe, and Kelley Lowder, DDC Board Member and Chair of the Promotions Committee came before Council to deliver the Annual Main Street Report with an overview and highlight the accomplishments from last year's Plan of Work as well as this year's Plan of Work objectives,

Mr. Lipe came forward and stated that Council had received a copy of their presentation items, plan of work FY 2016-17, and plan of work FY 2017-18. She also stated that Albemarle is a designated NC Main Street Community that uses the National Main Street Center's Four-Point Approach including Organization, Promotion, Design, and Economic Development to implement a downtown revitalization initiative.

Ms. Lipe stated that the Promotion Committee is continuing three fundraising events to meet financial objectives and raised almost \$96,000 to a budget of \$87,000. She spoke about the Design Committee and the improvements to ADDC properties and Economic Vitality with money awarded in the amount of \$2,500 in façade and sign grants. She also reviewed some of the current fiscal year's plan of work and the upcoming year plan of work schedule.

Councilmember Dry came into the meeting at this time.

ADDC Promotions Committee Chair, Kelley Lowder came forward and spoke about the promotions and activities being considered for Beach Blast this year and some of the cost involved.

It was the consensus of City Council to apply the \$9,000 already put aside in the budget for the downtown to go towards these costs for Beach Blast this year.

The Mayor stated that Council had a copy of the monthly departmental reports for May in their agenda packets and asked if anyone had any questions.

The Mayor stated that Council had a copy of the municipal calendar in their agenda packets and asked if anyone had any questions.

Councilmember Hall stated there are two changes that need to be made to the municipal calendar:

Change date for ElectriCities Annual Conference to August 10-12
Add date for NCLM Annual Meeting in Greenville, NC September 20-23

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Bramlett, and unanimously carried, City Council approved appointing Councilmember Townsend to the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB).

The Mayor and City Council considered appointments to City Boards and Commissions.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, City Council approved appointments to the Historic Resources Commission.

New Appointment
David Scarboro (3 yr. term, expiring term July 2020) for Ritchie Hearne

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hughes, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, City Council approved appointments to the Historic Resources Commission.

New Appointment
Lynn Plummer, II (Unexpired term, expiring July 2018) for Rob McIntyre

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, City Council approved excusing Councilmember Bramlett from voting on the next appointment for the HRC.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Dry, and unanimously carried, City Council approved appointments to the Historic Resources Commission.

New Appointment

Pat Bramlett (Unexpired term, expiring July 2018) for Conrad Carter

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, City Council approved the reappointments for alternates 1, 2, and 3 to the Zoning Board of Adjustment as follows:

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, City Council approved the order of appointments for alternates 1, 2, and 3 to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

New Appoint

Chad Atwater (unexpired term, expiring July 2019) Alternate 1

Michele Cummings (unexpired term, expiring July 2018) Alternate 2

David Rudisill (unexpired term, expiring July 2018) Alternate 3

The Mayor and City Council considered setting a public hearing for Text Amendment TA-17-004 concerning the City land use ordinance allowing adult daycare establishment as a conditional use in the R-10 zoning district

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, City Council set a public hearing for Monday, August 7 at 6 pm to consider Text Amendment TA 17-004 concerning the City land use ordinance allowing adult daycare establishment as a conditional use in the R-10 zoning district.

The Mayor and City Council considered setting a public hearing for proposed Map Amendment MA-17-002. Map amendment proposed by applicant would rezone 3 properties on Blanche St. from R-10 and NBD district to HID. These properties are list as tax #'s 24201, 5597, 24166.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, City Council set a public hearing for Monday, August 7 at 6 pm to consider for proposed Map Amendment MA-17-002.

The Mayor and City Council considered setting a public hearing concerning the annexation of property for a new Corporate Park. Council should consider annexing the recently purchased corporate park property off of Hwy 52 Business and Henson Rd. These 2 properties, tax #'s 32787 & 4737 total 282 acres

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, City Council set a public hearing for Monday, August 7 at 6 pm to consider the annexation of property for a new Corporate Park.

The Mayor and City Council considered setting a public hearing for proposed Map Amendment MA-17-003. Following annexation, Council should consider zoning the recently purchased corporate park property off of Hwy 52 Business and Henson Rd. These 2 properties, tax #'s 32787 & 4737 total 282 acres and are zoned by Stanly County for manufacturing and industry. Planning Board unanimously recommended these properties be zoned HID, for high intensity industrial uses

Upon a motion by Councilmember Dry, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, City Council set a public hearing for Monday, August 7 at ~~7~~ 6 pm for proposed Map Amendment MA-17-003.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Whitley, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the following ordinance:

(Ordinance 17-16. To amend the annual operating budget.)

The Mayor and City Council discussed the enacted Senate Bill 155 (Brunch Bill). On June 29, 2017, the N.C. General Assembly passed legislation authorizing Cities the power to adopt local ordinances to allow alcohol sales beginning at 10 a.m. on Sundays. The bill came into effect immediately and Council discussed consideration of said ordinance for the City of Albemarle. No formal action is being requested of Council

at this time. This would allow serving alcohol on Sunday beginning at 10 am instead of 12 noon.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Dry, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved drafting an ordinance for consideration by Council concerning Senate 155 (Brunch Bill) and also a second ordinance concerning the sale of alcohol on streets and sidewalks downtown.

Councilmember Townsend stated that he was disappointed with comments recently from a State representative concerning sidewalk construction on Leonard Avenue. The representative said that common sense should have been used in the construction of these sidewalks and complained about mail boxes, utility poles, and fire hydrants in the walk area. Councilmember Townsend stated that the City constructed the sidewalks to NCDOT standards. He also said that maybe the State representative should speak with NCDOT about their sidewalk standards.

Mayor Michael stated that the sidewalk plans were approved by NCDOT and was passed in the State budget.

Councilmember Townsend made a comment concerning a local business that was featured on WBTV News. The Amazing Blazing Fire Truck owned by Maos and Tyreka Baldwin.

Councilmember Hughes stated that she had spoken with Eddie Wall today and he noted that on Friday, August 11 at Albemarle High School there would be a flag football game. She asked that Council be a part of this and try to attend the game.

Councilmember Aldridge expressed support for Councilmember Townsend's concerns about sidewalk construction on Leonard Avenue. He stated that he took offense to the representative's comments.

Councilmember Hall asked that staff make it easier and more user friendly for volunteers to use and locate volunteer applications and information about City boards on the City website.

Councilmember Hall stated that she would like to bring up again the possibility of residents using golf carts in the City. She asked that Council consider and discuss this. She asked also that Police Chief Bowen research this and bring back before Council at a later meeting.

Councilmember Hall stated that someone asked her about the possibility of closing Ninth Street from Pee Dee Avenue to Yadkin Street on Friday, August 18 from 7-10 pm concerning the Dancing with the Stars Event.

It was the consensus of City Council for the requester to fill out a Special Events application and come before City Council on Monday, August 7 at 6pm concerning the closing of Ninth Street from Pee Dee Avenue to Yadkin Street on Friday, August 18 from 7-10 pm concerning the Dancing with the Stars Event.

Councilmember Dry stated that a few weeks ago on June 24 there was a water line break near Happy Hollow on Second Street. This happened around 3:30 a.m. and was corrected before 12 noon. He thanked the water and sewer division with Public Utilities.

Councilmember Bramlett also expressed support for Councilmember Townsend's concerns from the state representative's statement concerning the sidewalk construction on Leonard Avenue. He stated that he had the same concerns about this as he did about the County Commissioners on changing the allocation of property taxes.

The City Manager stated that before the sidewalks were built, a child was killed on a bike along Leonard Avenue. We wanted to make the street safer for pedestrians by adding the sidewalks. If the City had relocated the power lines or had gotten additional right of way farther off the street, it could have tripled the cost. The sidewalks were built according to NCDOT standards.

Councilmember Bramlett gave dates and program information for programs the Stanly County Museum would be sponsoring.

- Thursday, June 29 - How places in Stanly County got their names
- Thursday, July 20 - The History of radio in Stanly County
- Friday, August 4 - Friday Night Football (The Toby Webb years)

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council appointed Councilmember Hughes as acting clerk for a part of the closed session concerning personnel.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Dry, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council adjourned to a Closed Session Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-318.11 (3)(4)(5)(6) - To consult with City Attorney, Economic Development, Real Estate, and Personnel.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Dry, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council reconvened to open session. Mayor Michael announced that a closed session was held Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-318.11 (3) (4) (5) (6) - To consult with City Attorney, Economic Development, Real Estate, and Personnel.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Bramlett, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council approved contracting with Attorney Paul Whitfield with Paul Whitfield & Associates.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council approved a moratorium until Monday, August 7 on gaming violations and for an ordinance to be drafted exempting 3 or less adult gaming machines per gaming business in the Shopping Center District (SCD) and Mixed Use Shopping Center District (MUSC) and that a public hearing will be set for Monday, August 7 at 6 pm.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hughes, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, to adjourn until Monday, August 7 at 6:00 pm for a regular session meeting.