

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL  
February 3, 2014

The City Council of the City of Albemarle met in a regular session on Monday, February 3, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Ronnie Michael presided, and the following Councilmembers were present, to-wit: Troy E. Alexander, Benton H. Dry, II, Martha Sue Hall, Martha E. Hughes, Dexter Townsend and Christopher Whitley. Absent, none.

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Mayor Michael gave the invocation.

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The Honorable Kevin Bridges, Superior Court Judge, came forth to deliver the oath of office to Councilmember Bill Aldridge.

(Oaths and Signatures)

Councilmember Aldridge thanked his family and friend for their support and pledged to do the best he can for the citizens of District 3 and for all the citizens of Albemarle.

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The Mayor and City Council presented the following City Retirement Certificates:

Pennie D. Rabon, Public Utilities Department – 13.5 years  
Richard W. Talbert, Fire Department – 30.33 years

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Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Alexander and unanimously carried, the minutes of the January 22 regular session were approved as submitted and January 22 closed session minutes were approved as corrected.

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

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The Mayor and City Council considered appointments to the Rocky River Rural Planning Organization. Councilmember Hall and Mayor Michael have indicated their intent to step down as delegate and alternate respectively for the City to the TAC.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously carried, the City Council approved Chris Whitley as the delegate and Bill Aldridge as the alternate for the City TAC for the Rocky River Rural Planning Organization effective April 1, 2014.

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The Mayor and City Council discussed a proposal regarding a community video program. Amy Curran of CGI Communications had advised the City Manager that they can defer our filming to fall or late 2014 if that is what City Council would like to do.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a community video program after the branding initiative is complete in late 2014.

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The Mayor and City Council considered setting a public hearing for a map amendment for the Water Treatment Plant property at 2510 US 52 Highway North (Tax Record 31862) from R-10/Single-Family Residential, GHBD/General Highway Business District, and LID/Light Industrial District to HID/Heavy Industrial District that was recommended for approval on January 28, 2014 by the Planning Board.

It was noted that the proposed zoning will reflect the current use of the property and allow for upgrading of current facilities in the future. It was noted that the City would like to consolidate the zoning for all of the wastewater treatment plant property and for the US 52 water treatment plant property to one zoning classification.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Dry and unanimously carried, the City Council set a public

hearing for Monday, March 17 to consider a map amendment for the Water Treatment Plant property at 2510 US 52 Highway North (Tax Record 31862) from R-10/Single-Family Residential, GHBD/General Highway Business District, and LID/Light Industrial District to HID/Heavy Industrial District.

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The Mayor and City Council considered setting a public hearing for a map amendment for the Waste Water Treatment Plant property at 1040 Coble Avenue (Tax Record 34194) from R-10/Single-Family Residential and LID/Light Industrial District to HID/Heavy Industrial District that was recommended for approval on January 28, 2014 by the Planning Board. The proposed zoning will reflect the current use of the property and allow for upgrading of current facilities in the future.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously carried, the City Council set a public hearing for Monday, March 17 to consider a map amendment for the Waste Water Treatment Plant property at 1040 Coble Avenue (Tax Record 34194) from R-10/Single-Family Residential and LID/Light Industrial District to HID/Heavy Industrial District.

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The Mayor and City Council considered a street closure request for the annual Albemarle Parks and Recreation Mini-Medley Relay Race which will be held on Saturday, March 22 in the Central Elementary School area. Streets along the running route will need to be closed to traffic from 8:30 am to 11:30 am on that day. Council reviewed a request memo (including route map) and parade permit application.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a street closure request for the annual Albemarle Parks and Recreation Mini-Medley Relay Race which will be held on Saturday, March 22 in the Central Elementary School area. Streets along the running route will need to be closed to traffic from 8:30 am to 11:30 am on that day.

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The Mayor and City Council considered the nomination for the SCUSA Transportation Advisory Committee. Council received information on the SCUSA Advisory Committee (purpose and conflict of interest policy) provided by Transportation Director Gwen Hinson. She has asked the City Council to nominate one of its members to serve on this committee which meets on a quarterly basis at 12:00 at the Commons with lunch provided.

Terms are for a two year period. Councilmember Holcomb previously served on this committee and her term ended on December 31, 2013, so the new term is January 1, 2014 and will run through December 31, 2015.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley and unanimously carried, the City Council appointed Councilmember Dry to the SCUSA Advisory Committee with new term starting January 1, 2014 and will run through December 31, 2015.

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The Mayor and City Council reviewed a draft letter to NC Department of Transportation regarding local transportation priorities. Pursuant to City Council's request, the City Manager drafted a letter in conjunction with the public comment period that is now open.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a letter to the NC Department of Transportation regarding local transportation priorities for Albemarle.

Councilmember Hall requested a copy of the letter be sent to the Rural Planning Organization office.

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The Mayor and City Council discussed a draft letter to the State Legislative delegation in regards to the ethics requirements for rural transportation planning organizations. The City Council asked that the City Manager draft a letter regarding the SEI requirement due to its reporting requirements for family members. In looking at the form, the City Manager noted that it states it is only applicable to members of the representative's household, which is different from our previous understanding.

It was by Council consensus to defer sending this letter to the State Legislation delegation until after the Monday, February 17, 2014 meeting.

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The Mayor and City Council discussed attendance at the National League of Cities Congressional Conference in Washington, D.C. from March 8-12, 2014. The City Manager noted that the City has traditionally sent two or three board members to this conference. Councilmember Hall has already registered for this.

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The Mayor and City Council discussed a schedule for a group photograph for Mayor and City which will go on the City's website. Councilmember Townsend has requested that we use Janie Mann for this, who is the photographer we have used for the last couple of Council photos.

The Mayor stated that the next two meetings ahead, we will have someone absent at Council meetings. The next meeting where everyone will be here is Monday, March 17. Council agreed to be at City Hall at 6:30 for photos before the meeting using Janie Mann for the photographer.

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The Mayor and City Council received information concerning the Time Warner Cable channel lineup changes. The City Manager noted that municipalities no longer have any regulatory authority over cable television due to actions by the FCC and the NC General Assembly. However, cable companies are required to notify local governments of changes in rates and channel lineups.

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The Mayor and City Council were reminded that the Stanly County Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 5 at 6:00 pm at Stanly Regional Medical Center.

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City Council was reminded of the Council orientation that will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 11 and 12 beginning at 8:30 am each day.

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Mayor Michael gave Council several meeting dates coming up this year to place on their calendar.

Town Hall Day – June 4  
ElectriCities – August 7-9 @ Pinehurst  
NCLM – October 12-14 @ Greensboro

Mayor Michael stated that he and the new members attended the Essentials of Municipal Government this past week-end and it was very enlightened.

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Councilmember Hall stated that she almost hit someone three times this past week at the crossing in front of Stanly Regional Medical Center as she was heading south on Second Street. She said that you cannot see people as they are crossing there if you are going south.

Mayor Michael stated that there is a utility pole that blocks them. He asked Council to consider sending a letter to SRMC asking that they inform their employees to come all the way to the edge of the curb to be seen before crossing.

The Mayor asked that the City Manager send a letter to Stanly Regional Medical Center concerning this issue.

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Councilmember Whitley stated that the Essentials of Municipal Government class was excellent in giving tools and resources for us to use and contact information for questions we may have.

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Councilmember Dry thanked the City Water/Sewer Systems Division employees for all their hard work last week with the storm.

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The City Manager stated that the Water/Sewer Systems Division had their hands full with temperatures up and down near zero causing line breaks lately.

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Councilmember Alexander mentioned a line break on Tenth Street and how quickly it was handled by the Water/Sewer Systems Division.

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Councilmember Townsend welcomed the Bill Aldridge as the new District 3 Councilmember.

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Councilmember Hughes also thanked the city crews for such quick response due to line breaks.

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Ms. Hughes also welcomed the Bill Aldridge as the new District 3 Councilmember.

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Councilmember Aldridge reiterated what Councilmember Whitley stated about the Essentials of Municipal Government class and he thanked Council for all their words of wisdom and their encouragement, guidance, and direction.

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Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Dry and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council adjourned to a Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11 (a) 3 and 6 to discuss ongoing litigation in Pope v. City and to discuss personnel matters.

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Upon a motion by Councilmember Dry, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council reconvened to open session. Mayor Michael announced that a closed session was held pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11 (a) 3 and 6 to discuss ongoing litigation in

Pope v. City and to discuss personnel matters and there is nothing to report at this time.

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Mr. Peter Ascitutto, representing the Uwharrie Running Club came before City Council to request a street closing for the Beach Blast 5K on May 10, 2014 closing Depot Street between North and Main Street and Depot Street between Main Street and Parking Lot behind Playhouse and First Street between South and Main Street for the Start of the Race.

Mr. Ascitutto has already paid the \$50 street closure fee for this event and is contacting NCDOT concerning requirements of special events street closures.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a street closing for the Beach Blast 5K on May 10, 2014, closing Depot Street between North and Main Street and Depot Street between Main Street and Parking Lot behind Playhouse and Second Street between South and Main Street for the start of the race as amended.

Hours of Event – 8:00 am -9:00am  
Hours of Street Closure – 6:00 am – 9:00 am

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Mr. Peter Ascitutto, representing the Albemarle Downtown Business Association came before City Council to request a street closing for the Beach Blast Block Party on Saturday, May 3, 2014. Closing 1st and 2nd Streets from North Street to South Street and Main Street from Third Street to Depot Street.

Mr. Ascitutto has already paid the \$50 street closure fee for this event and is contacting NCDOT concerning requirements of special events street closures.

Hours of Event - 2:00 pm-11:00pm  
Hours of Street Closure - same

Upon a motion by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a street closing for the Beach Blast Block Party on Saturday, May 3, 2014. Closing 1st and 2nd Streets from North Street to South Street and Main Street from Third Street to



Depot Street.

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Upon a motion by Councilmember Dry, seconded by Councilmember Hughes and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned until Monday, February 17, 2014 at 7:00 pm.