

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL
February 4, 2019

The City Council of the City of Albemarle met in a regular session on Monday, February 4, 2019, at 7:00 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, Martha Sue Hall, Martha E. Hughes, Shirley D. Lowder, Dexter Townsend and Chris Whitley. Absent, none.

Mayor Michael gave the invocation.

East Albemarle Elementary School Reading Presentation

Ms. Krista McGuire and 4 of her students from Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 5th grades came forward and read their answer to the following question: What big challenge/problems do you see in your community and what can you do to solve it.

Mayor Michael thanked everyone for coming and Council made photos with the students.

Presentation of City Retirement Certificates

Mayor Michael presented the following certificates:

Scottie Poplin - Scottie Retired as a Senior Electric Line Technician in Public Utilities after 29.167 years of service with the City.

John H. Griffin - John retired as a Police Captain after 28.75 of service with the City.

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

Announced Delegation

Mr. Brandon David Burleson - To Request a Peddler License.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a peddler license for Brandon D. Burleson for an ice cream cart.

Mr. Scott Mauldin - To Request Special Event Permit for Cross Fit Albemarle.

CrossFit Albemarle requested a Special Event Permit for the event "To the Hill and Back". This is a fitness competition to be held at Market Station. Requesting West Main St. to be closed from Railroad St. to east of 1st St. (First St will not be blocked at the intersection at W. Main St.) The street closing request is from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm pm on April 14. Mr. Mauldin noted that hey will hire off duty officers if they need to and they will man both ends of the street closing for safety the entire event. They will get approval from NCDOT.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved an event permit for Cross Fit Albemarle for a fitness competition closing the requested street as presented.

Municipal Calendar

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

New Business

1. Ordinance 19-04 - Budget Amendment to Appropriate Funds for Sewer Rehabilitation.

At the last meeting of City Council, it was agreed to budget an estimated \$100,000 for the replacement and repair of 700 feet of sewer line from Highway 24/27 to 1040 Coble Avenue. This amendment appropriates the funds.

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

(Ordinance 19-04. Budget Amendment to appropriate funds for sewer rehabilitation.)

2 Consider the Unsealing of Closed Session Minutes

Council reviewed sections of closed session minutes related to the issue of moving to non-partisan elections. If these are to be shared as part of the public hearing on February 18, they will need to be unsealed by vote of City Council.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the unsealing of the following sets of closed session minutes to be shared as part of the public hearing on February 18 related to the issue of moving to non-partisan elections.

June 16, 2014
July 7, 2014
July 21, 2014

3) Quarterly Business Report

Planning and Development Services Director Kevin Robinson came forward and handed out to Council a report by quarter for 2017 of new and existing businesses. He reviewed new businesses, businesses that had moved, businesses with change of ownership, and any new businesses per quarter and the number of new jobs created for each. Mr. Robinson noted that there had been a 21.3% job growth from 2017-2018.

2017				
New Jobs	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4
	65	83	25	147

4) Consider Appointment to Historic Resources Commission

Staff has received an application from Marvin Smith to fill one of two seats available for appointment. Zelma Eudy has submitted her resignation. Roger Martin has said he wishes to step down several months ago, but has been staying on to help with maintaining a full board. It is recommended that one of these seats be filled.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved appointing Marvin Smith to fill the unexpired term of Zelma Eudy expiring 7/1/2019.

Comments

The City Manager stated that the next Stanly County COG meeting will be held Tuesday, February 26 in Oakboro at 6:30 pm. He asked what Councilmembers will be able to attend. The Mayor and all Councilmembers but Townsend confirmed their attendance.

The City Manager asked that everyone that would like to ride together, meet at City Hall in the parking lot that evening at 6 pm.

Mayor Michael stated that we need to delay the public hearing for Monday, February 18 to close a portion of the unopened street right away for Spaulding Street. The City Attorney said that the notice must be published four consecutive weeks before the hearing. Also, before the notice can even run, a survey has to be completed of this property. We are waiting to see if we receive any upset bids on the property we declared Surplus before the survey is done. The potential buyer doesn't want to survey the street right away they want closed if someone else submits it upset bid to buy the land they want.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved cancelling the public hearing for Monday, February 18 at 7 pm to a later meeting due to the public notice time frame and survey. This public hearing will be scheduled at a later meeting.

Councilmember Townsend asked the following to come forward from Leadership Stanly and introduce themselves:

Jeremy Forsythe- Camp Barnhardt Ranger
Marietta Abernathy- Carolina Healthcare -Stanly
Jessica Downing- First Bank
Tiffany Dahl- Tiffany's at the Boardroom
Jeremy Hathcock- Preformed Line Products

Councilmember Hughes gave a shout out to East Albemarle Elementary School for having Councilmembers come in to the school and read to their students last Friday.

Councilmember Hughes stated that this was a great moment today with the start of the Pfeiffer grading and glad it is finally here.

Councilmember Hughes asked that someone from Windstream come and speak at a Council meeting once the broadband is in place.

Councilmember Aldridge mentioned the Fellowship of the Idiot Run on Saturday February 9 and that it is a 19.7-Mile run that takes runners from the YMCA to the top of Morrow Mountain and back to the YMCA.

Mayor Michael stated that we have video footage covering the Pfeiffer deconstruction of the old museum up to today's beginning grading of the land. IS Director Owen Squires came forward and stated you can see live video and the Pfeiffer Site - Pre-Construction & Architect's Drawings on the City website by clicking on Departments and then clicking on Pfeiffer University Project in the first column under Economic Development at the bottom of the page. The groundbreaking for this project was Thursday, January 17 at 10 am

Councilmember Bramlett stated that this marks the beginning of the future for Albemarle. We cannot yet see students living and going to college in downtown Albemarle as they will for the two Masters programs coming to this building. Albemarle will become an academic community.

Mayor Michael stated that they have started removing sidewalks and have placed a fence around the entire property today.

Councilmember Bramlett stated that Mr. Bill Mullinex passed away today and he will be sorely missed. His family will receive friends on Thursday February 7 between 4:30-8pm at Stanly Funeral Home. His funeral will be on Friday, February 8 at Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church at 11 am.

Councilmember Whitley stated that the longtime Executive Director of the Rocky River RPO resigned and Lee Snuggs took her place as of January 28. He hopes he will come and be introduced at the next Stanly County COG meeting in Oakboro on Tuesday, February 26.

Councilmember Hall verified Council's tour of the US Hwy. 52 Water Treatment Plant for Wednesday, April 3. She asked that this be added to Council's calendar.

Councilmember Hall also asked that any training sessions that is offered by Planning and Development Services also be added to Council's calendar.

Councilmember Hall thanked everyone for attending the Let's Connect broadband event on Monday, January 28 and that it was a great program.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council adjourned to a Closed Session Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (3) (5) (6) - To Consult with the City Attorney, Real Estate and Personnel.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, seconded by Councilmember Bramlett, the Mayor and City Council reconvened to open session. Mayor Michael stated that a closed session was held Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (3) (5) (6) - To Consult with the City Attorney, Real Estate and Personnel and there was nothing to report at this time.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council authorized the City Attorney to file civil action against 503 Old Charlotte road for non-compliance of fire code, land use, and criminal activity.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned until Monday, February 11 at 5:30 in the Raymond I. Allen Room at City Hall for a Strategic Planning Session.