

ADJOURNED MEETING CITY COUNCIL  
April 17, 2019

The City Council of the City of Albemarle met in an adjourned session on Wednesday, April 17, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the Rosebriar Restaurant. Mayor Ronnie Michael presided and the following Councilmembers were present, to wit: Bill Aldridge, Chris Bramlett, Shirley Lowder, Martha E. Hughes, Dexter Townsend, and Chris Whitley. Absent, Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall.

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The City Council held a meeting with the members of the Planning and Zoning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment to discuss matters of common interest.

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Mayor Michael brought the meeting to order.

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**Albemarle Non-Residential Building Maintenance Standards**

The City Manager stated that the Planning and Development Services Director Kevin Robinson is away at a conference and he is handing out a copy of a PowerPoint presentation concerning non-residential building and vacant property maintenance standards for review. Also a handout of proposed ordinance language for board consideration.

The presentation contains the UNC-School of Government recommendations, lists of prioritization scheme for unused, blighted or slightly commercial properties, legal basis for enforcement allowing municipalities to choose what is the best route for the. Also, a chart of prioritization levels showing information on each concerning regulation/order, NCGS authority, statutory standards, recoup costs for the following levels:

- Green – good condition but vacant properties
- Yellow – vacant, visible deficiencies, but not dangerous properties
- Red – dangerous properties, but can be repaired
- Blue/Black – building in need of demolition/removal or urgent care

There was a discussion period and any questions were answered by the City Manager.

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**Discussion: Domestic animals and livestock**

Senior Planner Nasser Rahimzadeh came forward and stated that Sarah Pion came before City Council in early March requesting that the City consider allowing pot belly pigs inside the City limits with whatever restrictions they saw fit. Mr. Rahimzadeh reviewed with the City Council and the Planning Board a chart showing Albemarle, Stanly County and four other cities and if they do/do not allow these type swine and any restrictions that they may have.

The Mayor thanked the Planning and Development Services Department for all their hard work on the commercial maintenance code info and the information from the other cities concerning allowing bot belly pigs inside city limits.

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Mayor Michael asked that Council remain for a few minutes to cover several issues.

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The Mayor stated that the property the County donated to the City has to be surveyed. They asked if the City would pay for this survey. This is the alleyway that runs beside the former Belk building downtown.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, and unanimously carried, the City Council agreed to pay for the survey for the donated property by the County that runs beside the former Belk building downtown.

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The City Council discussed legal services as it relates to the upcoming FY 19/20 Budget. It was the consensus of City Council to continue to monitor and possibly consider changes for FY 20/21.

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The Mayor asked for confirmation for anyone able to attend the 2019 ElectriCities Annual Conference in Williamsburg, VA for August 12-14. He said that registration is now open.

The Mayor and Councilmembers Hughes and Whitley confirmed their confirmation.

Councilmember Lowder and Townsend stated that they will let the City Manager know.

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The Mayor mentioned that the bids have been taken for the new police building. Council had originally stated that the \$600,000 borrowed from fund balance would be placed back in fund balance. He asked Council if they still want to replace this money. The Mayor said that prices of construction are up now due to the economy.

It was the consensus of Council to not place the \$600,000 back into fund balance that was previous removed.

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The Mayor stated that Carolina Treetop Challenge at Rock Creek Park is on its final road to opening and should be open by Memorial Day week-end with final approval from Stanly County Inspections.

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Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Bramlett, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.