

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL

August 5, 2019

The City Council of the City of Albemarle met in a regular session on Monday, August 5, 2019, 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, Martha Sue Hall, Martha E. Hughes, Shirley Lowder, Dexter Townsend and Chris Whitley. Absent, none.

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Mayor Michael called the meeting to order.

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Mayor Michael gave the invocation.

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**Presentation of Resolution Honoring 100-Years of the Goody Shop**

Mayor presented Mr. Hugh Wainright, owner of the Goody Shop with a resolution celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

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Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the July 8 regular session, July 8 closed session, July 29 called session, and July 29 closed session minutes were approved as submitted and to add comments requested by Councilmember Townsend below.

Councilmember Townsend asked that comments he made concerning Ordinance 19-22, the annexation of 12.41 acres on Morgan Road at the July 8 meeting be added to that set of minutes

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**Public Hearing - Consider Ordinance 19-25 - Rezoning of 802 Salisbury Ave Tax Record 35723 from R-8 to GHBD**

Request from Robert Lee Hathcock, applicant, and Chucky L Nance, owner for City Council to conduct a public hearing and consider the requested rezoning of a 0.72 acre parcel located at 802 Salisbury Rd from R-8 Two Family Residential to GHBD General Highway Business District. The proposed use would be an auction house.

The Mayor stated that the applicant has requested a continuance of this hearing until Tuesday, September 3 at 7pm. He asked if anyone was present to speak for or against this hearing. No one came forward to speak concerning the hearing.

It was the consensus of the City Council to hold over the public hearing and consideration of the matter at the request of the applicant’s representative until the Tuesday, September 3 meeting at 7 pm.

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**Public Hearing**

**Consider Ordinance 19-27 - Text Amendments to Chapter 81: Animals and Fowl**

Planning and Development Services Director Kevin Robinson said that this hearing is continued from the July 8 regular session meeting. He reviewed with Council the changes that had been made.

**81.01 Running at Large** - no change

**81.02 Defecating on private property** - renumbered

**81.03 Defecating on private property** – renumbered

**81.04 Conditions to keeping horses** – renumbered, (A) It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or allow to be kept, harbor or allow to be harbored, maintain or allow to be maintained more than one (1) horse, mule, jackass, or jenny, or any combination thereof, on less than two (2) acres of land per animal within a single lot or combination of contiguous lots under single ownership or use within the jurisdictional limits of the city; provided. Provided further however, that the offspring of any mare or jenny kept harbored or maintained in the jurisdictional limits of the city may remain with such mare or jenny until weaned. All areas shall be fenced to adequately contain animals at all times.

**81.05 Conditions to keeping cattle** – renumbered, left largely the same since 400’ separation from homes makes keeping cows difficult in most places in the city, moved

cattle in public property section and added here.... seems kind of outdated and doesn't need its own section, but left it in just cover our bases.

**81.06 Conditions to keeping fowl or rabbits** – renumbered, made its own section, kept limits to 4 rabbits, specified yard location, reduced setbacks to 20 since 30 isn't practical on many residential properties, removed pen size requirements and removed all other animal care and husbandry requirements instead broadly that they be kept clean and default to County Health Dept.

**81.07 Conditions to keeping chickens or fowl** - renumbered, made its own section, limited fowl to 1 per 2,000 sq. ft., 20 max per property (<20 allows pens to be regulated per state statute), 2 acres for 1<sup>st</sup> rooster when complying with noise ordinance (consistent with proposed Stanly county ordinance and provides some flexibility) and ½ acre per each additional, specified yard location for enclosures and added in screening, reduced setbacks to 20 since 30 isn't practical on many residential properties, kept pen size requirements per animal and removed all other animal care and husbandry requirements instead broadly that they be kept clean and default to County Health Dept.

**81.08 Male goats prohibited** – moved and renumbered

**81.09 Swine prohibited** – moved and renumbered, allowed 1 mini pig no more than 24" in height when kept as a domestic pet

**81.10 Rats, flies, odor in enclosure** – renumbered, removed fowl or rabbits and made applicable broadly to all animal enclosures from a nuisance enforcement perspective

**81.11 Slaughtering and processing of animals** – new section added, with the exception of the infrequent cleaning and processing of wild game during its permitted season, the on-site slaughtering, cleaning and processing of large and medium animals and livestock, including animals larger than typical rabbits and fowl and the on-site sale or commercial preparation of animal meats or other bi-products is prohibited unless permissible as specifically provided in zoning land use ordinances. In no case shall any of the aforementioned exceptions occur in any fashion that is observable in any sense from the public right-of-way or neighboring properties. All of the aforementioned activities shall be conducted in a humane and sanitary fashion, with all bi-products disposed of promptly or otherwise stored so as not emit noxious odors, promote infestation, disease, or attraction of wild animals, vermin or other pests and to clarify that on-site slaughter and/or sale is not allowed unless zoned appropriately

**81.12 Removal of carcasses** - renumbered

**81.13 Enforcement of provisions for animals, generally** – renumbered, broadened the definition of PDS Department enforcement from rabbits and fowl to all of the above since no one is otherwise assigned and it falls to us by default. Left a clause for those who would supersede us such as health department, added in a standard violation and compliance clause

**81.14 RESERVED** – added

Mr. Robinson answered any questions that Council had.

## Comments

Heather Cummings, 928 Lauras Lane, came forward stating her concerns with chapter 81.06 dealing with the limit or number of rabbits allowed per resident. She stated that this limit should pertain only to the number of rabbits kept outside. Also, she is concerned with Chapter 81.11 dealing with the slaughtering and processing of animals. She asked that Council allow this on residents own property inside kitchens and basements, making sure slaughter area is enclosed.

Michael Lambert, 105 Royal Avenue, handed out to Council photos of horses being kept next door to his home. There are 2 horses occupying a  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres lot with hardly any grass and their enclosure is small. He stated that he read where there should be 2 acres per horse with 70% of grass for them. Also, he is concerned with the odor coming from this property and there have been incidents where they get free from inside the fence to other properties and into the streets.

Jim Runyon, 2604 Oaklawn Court, stated that Stanly Community College will soon be back in for the fall semester which will mean increased traffic flow and someone may hit one of these animals if they continue to escape the fence.

Mr. Robinson reviewed 81.06 and 81.11 showing what other counties/cities allow. He answered any questions that Council had and stated UNC-School of Government is okay with our wording of the ordinance.

Sarah Pion, 1106 Pee Dee Avenue, stated that she feels the part of the ordinance concerning pigs is appropriate.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved closing the public hearing.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved accepting 81.06 as presented.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved accepting 81.11 as presented.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved changing 81.04 requiring 2 acres of pasture and areas fenced to adequately contain the animals.

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

(Ordinance 19-27)

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**Agenda Adjustments:**

Mayor Michael noted the following agenda adjustments:

1. Move New Business items 22-25 to the Consent Agenda

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the above agenda adjustments.

2. Add consideration of resolution for Non Partisan for Council review to end of business items
3. Add consideration of resolution concerning 803 Old Charlotte Road to end of business items

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the above agenda adjustments.

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**ANNOUNCED DELETATIONS**

**Ms. Emily Shaw, Albemarle High School - To Discuss  
Albemarle High School**

Ms. Shaw came forward and informed Council of their FY 2019-20 school year plans. She stated that she has a full and qualified staff at AHS with the lowest teacher turnover in the Stanly County School System. She listed classes offered students and certifications that are available for junior and seniors, having hot spots available for all students, aid with preparing students for the ACT, and partnership with the Upward Bound summer program.

Ms. Shaw encouraged volunteer hours in the schools for anyone that can. Also, there will be a JV and Varsity football team this year. She asked that Council come visit AHS and support the school, teachers, and funding.

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**Mr. Greg Underwood and Mr. Josh Amick - To Speak  
Concerning Homeless in Downtown**

Council reviewed photos supplied by Mr. Underwood and Mr. Amick and their comments. Mr. Underwood listed instances where the Albemarle Police Department was called concerning homeless asking patrons to borrow money, homeless sleeping outside near their businesses, trash/debris left from the night before at their businesses.

Mr. Underwood stated that they are asking for help from Council to help control these type issues and that something has to be done to help control this. The homeless need incentives to stop taking drugs and go back to work. There are some homeless living in tenths with some on the sidewalks.

Mayor Michael stated to Mr. Underwood and Mr. Amick, to offer the homeless a job and maybe they will move on and continue to call the police.

Councilmember Hall stated that we need to ask the County about the money they received for the opioid crisis.

Mr. Underwood said that we need to start early in educating school age children and scare them away from doing these type of things.

Police Chief Dulin recommended that we educate the public not to give the homeless money and maybe they would move on. It was noted that when looking at other cities, a lot of cities had a day shelter getting them off the streets as well as a night shelter.

Mr. Underwood and Mr. Amick were instructed to sign a designation of agent form with the Albemarle Police Department to permit the Police take action against those who are on their business properties without the property owner's consent.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

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

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## **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.

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## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Approve Powell Bill Reimbursement Agreement**

This allows NCDOT to expedite work and billing if and when the City requests work be performed by NCDOT on City owned streets. It has no impact on the City's Powell Bill allocation. With the exception of Albemarle, all municipalities in Stanly County have this agreement in place with NCDOT

### **Consider Donation to Stanly County Schools**

The City's intent to make this donation was approved at the last meeting and advertised in the July 14 edition of the Stanly News & Press. If Council wishes to proceed with the donation, Council would approve the Resolution reviewed.

(Resolution 19-16. To approve donating to Stanly County Schools surplus fire gear to be used at AHS)

### **Annual Report on Sale of Surplus Property**

Sale of Surplus Property for fiscal year 2018-2019 with a report of all items sold in the previous fiscal year and the sales results.

### **Ordinance 19-29 - To Amend Police Budget**

The Police Department ordered a vehicle in 2019 fiscal year; it was not received until July which is in new fiscal year. Therefore, we must amend the 2020 budget using unspent funds from 2019

(Ordinance 19-29 – To Amend the City of Albemarle Budget in the Police Department for a Vehicle Purchase)

## **Consider Road Closure for the Annual Children's Fall Festival**

Downtown Albemarle will hold its annual children's fall festival on Thursday, October 24th from 5pm - 7pm. This event is also part of the 3-day Downtown Albemarle Autumn Extravaganza.

The following streets are requested to be closed for pedestrian safety:

- \* First St - from South St to North St.
- \* Second St - from South St to North St.
- \* Main St. from Depot St to 3rd St.

## **Project Ordinance 19-28 - To Amend the Inflow & Infiltration Phase 2**

City Council has previously provided approval of the changes to the loan application and the adoption of the Ordinance changes the project budget.

(Ordinance 19-28 - To Amend the Inflow & Infiltration Phase 2 Project Budget.)

## **Consider Road Closure for Downtown Autumn Extravaganza**

City of Albemarle is planning the first Downtown Albemarle Autumn Extravaganza. This is a three day event that will take place October 24 - 26.

This request is for street closures on Saturday, October 26th from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Closures requested:

- \* 2nd St - from Main St to Montgomery Ave.
- \* Montgomery Ave - from 2nd St to 3rd St.
- \* 3rd St - from Montgomery to North St.
- \* North ST - from 2nd St to 3rd St.

## **Consider Fee Waiver for Lake Tillery Wings Motorcycle Ride Fee waiver of \$25 for permit**



Lake Tillery Wings will be holding a motorcycle ride to collect school supplies for Stanly County youth. The ride will go from RPM Cycles to West Stanly Baptist Church. The event date is Saturday, August 10th from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. The group is asking for a fee waiver for this event.

**Consider Road Closures and Fee Waiver for Sugar Hill Reunion**

The community known as Sugar Hill is planning a reunion/block party for Saturday and Sunday August 10 and 11 from 10:00 am - 10:00 pm. Fee waiver request of \$50 Street closing

The group is requesting fee waiver and the following road closures:

- \* TE White Sr Dr from Adelaide Street to Elizabeth Avenue
- \* Ruby Street at TE White Sr. Dr.
- \* Hillside Lane at Armfield Avenue

**Consider Fee Waiver for YMCA Strong Communities 5K Street closure and \$50 fee waiver**

Consider fee waiver and road closure for annual YMCA Strong Communities 5K. Event will be held on August 17, 2019 from 7:30 am - 9:30 am.

Requesting to close CB Crook Drive from First St. to Second St.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the consent agenda as submitted approving all street closures and fee waivers for each event submitted.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Consider Ordinance 19-26 - Text Amendments to Subdivision and Zoning Regulations to allow for Fee in Lieu of Sidewalk Installation (Commercial Property Only Proposal)**

It was noted that the public hearing was closed on this issue at the July 8

regular session, but the matter was continued for Council to text amendments to subdivision and zoning regulations allowing for a fee in lieu of sidewalk for commercial property only. The Planning Board heard and unanimously voted to recommend for approval of this ordinance to Council at its June 6th meeting. Council reviewed the full ordinance text, a mark-up text, staff notes, statements of (in) consistency for adoption of the text amendment, and a PowerPoint presentation. Council also reviewed a proposed Pedestrian Improvements District Map for approval as outlined in the new ordinance section 92.092.

Comments

Director of Planning and Development services Kevin Robinson reviewed amendments being considered to Sections 91.10 and 91.12 of Subdivision chapter and addition of Section 92.092 of the Zoning Regulations chapter.

He answered any questions that Council had.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the Pedestrian Improvement Zones Map.

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

(Ordinance 19-26 – To consider amendments to Sections 91.10 and 01.12 for the Subdivision Regulations Chapter and addition of section 92.092 of the Zoning Regulations chapter of the City ordinance.)

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**New Business**

**1) Consider Approval of the School Resource Officer Agreement**

The Stanly County Board of Education would like to have a written form of agreement with the City of Albemarle about the School Resource Officers and their job functions. Two major components are that the agreement establishes written expectations and responsibilities of both parties, formalizing much of what has been practice in the past. Secondly, the school system continues to pay 50% of the cost of salaries and benefits and supplies and materials for officers the City of Albemarle provides.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the school resource officer agreement with the Stanly County Board of Education.

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## **2) Jay Voyles, Development Coordination Specialist - To Provide an Update on 2020 Census Preparation Activities**

This is an overview of what has taken place and where the City is headed with our Census 2020 preparation and activities. Development Coordinator Jay Voyles is the point of contact for the upcoming 2020 Census and the City Manager is working with Jay as he held this responsibility for the 2010 Census. While most of the focus is on the actual count, there is work that has taken place over the last few months and will continue to take pace to ensure we get the best count possible

Mr. Voyles gave a brief update on where the City of Albemarle stands regarding preparation for the 2020 Census. He said the City has participated in all census sponsored programs such as the local update of census addresses, the boundary and annexation survey, American community survey and the new construction program. Staff is making sure the Census has all of the updated information they need to get the best participation for 2020. We have also partnered with our regional census bureau partner in order to incorporate the lessons learned from the 2010 Census and how we can better reach certain communities for the highest participation. Also, staff has teamed up with Stanly County to form a complete count committee. This committee is comprised of leaders in the local community that plan and execute education an outreach programs so that the public is well informed of the importance of participating in the 2020 Census.

Upon questioning by Councilmember Hughes, Mr. Voyles said the Census can be answered online and is this is new for 2020. The Census can be answered online after receiving the invitation code to send your online response. Upon questioning by Councilmember Hall, Mr. Voyles stated the Census workers know to visit local group home facilities, homeless facilities, and other various locations where homeless people tend to congregate to make sure homeless population is counted.

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## **3) Consider Proposals for Construction Materials Testing and Special Inspections for the Police Headquarters Project**

Council reviewed three proposals received for the special inspections needed for the Police Headquarters construction and renovation project. The City is required to hire for these services, so it is not a part of the scope of work of Edifice, our construction manager at risk. The work is performed directly for the City to ensure the quality, safety, and soundness in the following areas:

- Subgrade evaluations,
- Engineered fill testing,
- Foundation bearing materials evaluation,
- Reinforced concrete sampling, testing, and observations,
- Structural masonry evaluations,
- Structural steel field connections evaluations,
- Sprayed-on fire resistive materials evaluations,
- Wood construction evaluations,
- Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS) evaluations.

The proposals were solicited and originally received by our architectural firm Creech & Associates to ensure they meet the scope of the needed work and have also been reviewed Edifice. The low cost proposal was submitted by S&ME in the amount of \$27,992.50 and it is recommended the project be awarded to S&ME.

The loan amount recently approved by the LGC and received from Pinnacle Bank includes funds sufficient to cover these costs.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved bid proposal submitted by S & ME, Inc. in the amount of \$27,982.60.

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#### **4 Update on Council's Citizen Special Event Committee Activities**

Mayor Pro Tem Hall is one of the elected officials on this committee and asked this item be placed on the agenda for an update. Staff members Lisa Kiser, Joy Almond and Brent Kirven have worked hard to move this committee forward. Lisa Kiser and Mayor Pro Tem Hall will present the update.

Parks and Recreation Director Lisa Kiser came before Council and gave a PowerPoint presentation concerning events being planned by the committee. She noted that Councilmember Aldridge, Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall (Chair), and Councilmember Townsend are members of the committee as well as some of the City

staff, and community volunteers. Councilmember Hall stated that their next meeting is Tuesday, August 20.

Ms. Kiser noted the City has partnerships with Ten days of Uwharrie from October 18-28 and to see more information, go to [NCOutdoorFestival.com](http://NCOutdoorFestival.com) and Uwharrie Brew & Que on October 26 from 4-8 pm and also go to [StanlyChamber.org](http://StanlyChamber.org). She also listed other downtown events for September – December 2019.

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**5 Consider Resolution to Hire Cranfill, Sumner and Hartzog to Petition the NC Supreme Court in the Matter of City of Albemarle versus Chucky Nance, et al.**

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

(Resolution 19-17. To hire Cranfill, Sumner, and Hartzog to petition the NC Supreme Court in the matter of City of Albemarle versus Chucky Nance, et al.)

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**6 Consider Adoption of the FY 20 Budget Schedule**

The City Manager noted that during this most recent budget and planning season, staff wants to start earlier in the year with these processes. In that same vein, we have also added a Fall Strategic Planning Workshop per City Council's desire to have First Tryon provide two presentations with one being earlier in the fiscal year. All workshops highlighted in yellow are outside the normal City Council schedule and Council will need to consider and set these dates. Each workshop can be two-day sessions, if necessary.

We request that City Council select two dates, among the options provided, for each of the following meetings:

- Fall Strategic Planning Workshop (November 2019)
- Winter Strategic Planning Workshop (February 2020)
- City Council Budget Workshop (May 2020)

The City Manager also requested that City Council consider setting an earlier start time for these workshops than the typical start time of 5:30 pm. We ask that City Council consider setting one of the following start times for the workshops: 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, or 4:30 pm.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the dates of Tuesday, November 19 and Wednesday, November 20 beginning each day at 4 pm at City Hall for the Fall Strategic Planning Workshop.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hughes, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the dates of Tuesday, February 11 and Tuesday, February 18 beginning each day at 4 pm at City Hall for the Winter Strategic Planning Workshop.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the dates of Monday, May 11 and Thursday, May 14 beginning each day at 4 pm at City Hall for the City Council Budget Workshop.

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## **7 Quarterly Business Update**

Planning and Development Services Director Kevin Robinson stated that he will have this report update for April-June 2019 at the first meeting in September.

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## **8 Schedule Date for Commercial Maintenance Ordinance Workshop**

Council is requested to consider scheduling a date for a public workshop to consider the commercial maintenance ordinance which staff submitted for review in April. Staff already has Continuing Education Workshops scheduled for the boards on Tuesday September 10 at 6pm and Tuesday November 12 at 6pm. The Planning Dinner Meeting is not scheduled yet, but would typically be Wed October 16th at 6pm. These may be options Council will want to consider.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved Tuesday, September 17 at 6pm for the Commercial Maintenance Code Workshop.

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**9 Consider Meeting to Discuss Current and Past City Activities with Pfeiffer Project**

Some on Council have mentioned wanting a separate meeting to provide a refresher on previous activities regarding this endeavor as well as to discuss future activities and issues. The dates of August 19, 21, 26 and 28 were suggested for this meeting.

It was the consensus of City Council to meet on Monday, August 19 at 7pm at the City Hall contingent on Councilmember Bramlett speaking with Pfeiffer University President Scott Bullard.

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**10 Consider Moving the First Meeting in September Due to the Labor Day Holiday**

The City Manager noted that City Council traditionally reschedules the meeting to the next day, which in this case is Tuesday, September 3. This would also be the first meeting back on the regular 7:00 p.m. meeting schedule, unless Council decided to make a change to the standard meeting time.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Hall, unanimously carried, the City Council approved rescheduling the Monday, September 2 regular session meeting until Tuesday, September 3 at 7 pm due to the Labor Day holiday.

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**11 Information - CMPD 2020 RNC Request**

Police Chief Dulin to make City Council aware of a recent communication from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD). CMPD has reached out to APD requesting workforce resources to assist with public safety during the 2020 Republican National Convention (RNC). APD assisted with the 2012 Democratic National Convention (DNC) and sent 5 police officers to assist with public safety. APD's plan is to send 5 police officers for the 2020 RNC. No action is required.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, unanimously carried, the City Council approved Charlotte Mecklenburg 2020 Republican National Convention request.

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**Comments**

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, unanimously carried, the City Council approved the following resolution:

(Resolution 19-18. To authorize the City Attorney to obtain a court order to terminate the nuisances existing at 503 Old Charlotte Road)

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Councilmember Aldridge moved to set public hearing for to consider a Charter change to non-partisan election for consideration for Monday, September 16 at 7 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hall. Voting for the motion were Councilmembers Aldridge, Hall, Hughes, Lowder, Townsend, and Whitley. Voting against the motion was Councilmember Bramlett. The motion carried with a 6-1 vote.

( Resolution 19-19 - To set a public hearing for September 17 to consider a Charter change to provide that the Mayor and the members of Council be elected using the non-partisan plurality method beginning with the next scheduled regular municipal election.)

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Upon questioning, Mayor Michael stated that opportunity zones cannot be changed and are established by federal legislation.

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Mayor Michael stated that Saints Delight Church is hosting a retirement celebration for Bishop Richardson on Saturday, November 2 at 4pm. It was noted that tickets are available.

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The City Manager stated that the Stanly County COG meeting will be held Tuesday, August 27 at 6:30 pm in Richfield and asked who would be attending. The Mayor and Councilmembers Bramlett, Hall, Lowder, Townsend, and Whitley affirmed their attendance.

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Councilmember Townsend requested that NCDOT be asked to place directional signage at the NC 24-27 and Henson Street location.

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Councilmember Whitley asked about the live webinar concerning ethics for local government for the re-elected or newly elected councilmembers. The City Manager stated that he had checked previously with no answer but call back and check this week.

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Councilmember Hall stated locations of excessive grass as 626 North Second Street and the lot beyond Attorney David Beaver's office. The City Manager noted he has already reported this location.

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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. 160A-318.11 N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (3) (4)(5) & (6) – Consult with the City Attorney, Economic Development, Real Estate, and Personnel.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council returned to open session. Mayor Michael announced that a closed session was held Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (3) (4) (5) & (6) – Consult with the City Attorney, Economic Development, Real Estate, and Personnel and there was nothing to report at this time.

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Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned until Tuesday, August 6, 2019, at 6:00 pm for a work session meeting in the Raymond I. Allen Room.