

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL

February 4, 2013

The City Council of the City of Albemarle met in a regular session on Monday, February 4, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall. Mayor Elbert L. “Whit” Whitley, Jr. presided, and the following Councilmembers were present, to-wit: Troy E. Alexander, Martha Sue Hall, Judy U. Holcomb, Ronnie Michael, Jack F. Neel, Dexter Townsend, and T. Ed Underwood Absent, none.

The Mayor and City Council participated in Youth In Government Day. The City Manager noted that the Albemarle Optimists Club coordinates Youth In Government day in which 8th grade students from Albemarle Middle School learn about municipal government. These students spent the morning learning about municipal government including shadowing the department director to which they were assigned. The Mayor and City Council students participated in a mock Council meeting conducted by Assistant City Manager Michael Ferris.

Participants:

City Council:

Mayor- Ian Cox
City Council-Caroline Brown
Emory Cagle
Riley Graeff
Montaysia Bruton
Will Herman
Yasmeen Hill
Tyler Glover

City Manager-Taya Joseph
Fire Chief-William Oke
Police Chief-Mason McGowen
Parks and Recreation Director-Jacobi Emery
Personnel Director-Jadea Emery
Public Utilities Director-Noah Dunn
Finance Director-Miles Shen
Police Chief-Tyshianna Bruton

The Mayor delivered the invocation.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Holcomb, seconded by Councilmember Underwood, and unanimously carried, the minutes of January 21 regular session and January 28 adjourned session minutes were approved as submitted.

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

Upon a motion by Councilmember Michael, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously carried, the following Ordinances passed second reading and were duly adopted:

(Ordinance 13-03. To appropriate Fund Balance to pay for the Fire Trucks received this current fiscal year.)

(Ordinance 13-05. To appropriate reimbursed funds for COA officers.)

The Mayor and City Council reviewed a revised draft of the proposed Stanly County Animal Control Ordinance. The City Manager noted that earlier this week Assistant City Manager Michael Ferris, Planning and Community Development Director Keith Wolf, Major Danny Bowen, Captain David Dulin and he met with Officer Dean Lambert of Stanly County Animal Control to review this draft ordinance.

Councilmember Hall asked that no decision be made on this by City Council until after Stanly County acts on their ordinances so the City can adopt an ordinance similar to what the County puts into place. Council continued open discussion on some items in the ordinance that if approved will change.

Councilmember Hall stated that Commissioner Peter Ascitutto is a Board of Health member and attends those meetings. Mr. Ascitutto asked that the County Commissioners approve the Animal Control Ordinance or let the Board of Health know what changes they would like to have in the ordinance.

The Mayor and City Council considered an amendment to LKC I/I Engineering Agreement. City Council received a memo, map, and revised agreement with LKC Engineering from Public Utilities Director Ellen Huntley. She stated that LKC Engineering is recommending that we replace the two 24 inch lines shown on the attached map rather than combining them into one 36 inch line.

Mr. Adam Kiker with LKC Engineering came before Council and he and Ms. Huntley answered any questions that Council had.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Townsend and unanimously carried, the City Council approved an amendment to LKC I/I Engineering Agreement, recommending that we replace the two 24 inch lines shown on the attached map rather than combining them into one 36 inch line.

The Mayor and City Council discussed an appointment for an expiring term of Mr. Jeffrey Flake on the Albemarle ABC Board which expires in March, 2013. The City Manager noted that there are no term limits on the ABC Board, so he is eligible for reappointment at City Council's discretion. City Council received a roster of the current board along with a list of volunteers who have expressed interest in serving on this board.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Michael and unanimously carried, the City Council approved reappointing Jeffrey Flake to the ABC Board with a term expiring March 2016.

The Mayor and City Council received an update on a mobile application for the City of Albemarle from Assistant City Manager Michael Ferris pursuant to a request from Councilmember Townsend.

Mr. Ferris came before City Council and stated that staff has been looking at smart phones and tablet based application options for the City. There was one that staff was interested in during the time intern student Nasser Rahimzede was here and researching this.

Information Services Director Owen Squires and Mr. Ferris have an interest in a company that provides website services called CivicPlus. It also provides for online video streaming which the City has an interest in incorporating, along with surveys, forms, and public text alerts. In the current fiscal year, we may be able to move forward with this solution. Each year the cost would be around \$12,000 for a full year. This would be prorated for the current year.

Councilmember Michael suggested that a RFP (Request for Proposal) be issued for this in order to give local vendors an opportunity.

Councilmember Holcomb requested that Council receive a document showing the City app needs and the features and costs to operate at the Saturday, February 9 City Council Budget Retreat.

The Mayor and City Council considered attendance at the NC League of Municipalities Town Hall Day on March 27. The City Manager encouraged as many members of City Council as possible to consider attending this year. He noted that municipalities face many challenges with the General Assembly and it is important for members to see that local elected officials are engaged. Mayor Whitley and Councilmembers Alexander, Hall, Michael, and Neel, confirmed their attendance.

The Mayor and City Council reviewed dates for Mayor/City Council Budget Work Sessions. The budget work sessions are scheduled for the afternoons of February 26 and 28. It was discovered that the Stanly County COG has a meeting scheduled for the 26th, and Councilmember Hall has a conflict for the 28th and has asked that City Council consider moving this date. The City Manager recommends if City Council chooses to move these meetings, Feb. 21 and 25; or Feb. 25 and 27 are recommended.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Michael, seconded by Councilmember Michael and unanimously carried, the City Council approved rescheduling the budget work sessions until Thursday, February 21 and Monday, February 25.

The Mayor and City Council reviewed a draft letter of appreciation to the Economic Development Task Force members. Per City Council's request, the City Manager drafted a letter for Council review to be sent to the ED Task Force members.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Holcomb, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a letter of appreciation to the Economic Development Task Force members.

The Mayor and City Council received information concerning additional distributions in the amount of \$20,000 in January from the ABC System Distributions.

Councilmember Holcomb asked that a thank-you letter be sent to the ABC Board.

The Mayor and City Council received information concerning bringing in their code books for an update.

Mayor Whitley asked that Police Chief Halliburton come forward and comment on the computer programs for gaming machines that were changed.

Chief Halliburton stated that in Davidson County after testimony, a judge opted to reject the lawsuit by an internet sweepstakes business, clearing the way for enforcement on a ban of internet sweepstakes operations. The judge's decision also dissolved a temporary restraining order issued Jan. 22 that allowed the plaintiffs to continue business while working toward compliance with state law.

Councilmember Townsend asked for an update on the CKA water line project. Public Utilities Director Ellen Huntley stated that WK Dickson missed the planning for the NCDOT NC Hwy 49 widening project for 2014 for the Concord, Kannapolis, and Albemarle water line design. The widening of NC Hwy 49 being done by NCDOT at Mount Pleasant is threatening to cause delays of up

to 6 months. Upon questioning, Ms Huntley stated that the water line would be completed and activated by 2015 and repayment would start 6 months after that time frame.

Councilmember Hall thanked Councilmembers Alexander and Neel, and the City Manager for attending the NCLM Goals Conference several weeks ago.

Ms. Hall also stated that at the Goals Conference, the NCLM approved "their list of the top 25 Goals for the 2013 General Assembly". One of which belonged to Councilmember Ronnie Michael and his suggestion dealing with bids.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Holcomb and unanimously carried, the City Council adjourned to Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 8 am at City Hall for a City Council Budget Retreat.