

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL

October 7, 2019

The City Council of the City of Albemarle met in a regular session on Monday, October 7, 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 Lowder, Dexter Townsend and Chris Whitley. Absent, none.

Mayor Michael called the meeting to order.

Mayor Michael gave the invocation.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the September 16 regular session, September 16 closed session, and September 17 adjourn session minutes were approved as submitted.

Mayor Michael stated that we have two boy scouts that are brother and sister working on their eagle scout that are here tonight.

Ms. Smith came forward and introduced her son Michael and her daughter Jennifer and stated they are working on their citizen community badge for Boy Scouts. They are in troop #24 in Concord but they live in Stanly County. Her two kids are hoping to work on their eagle scout project together and this would be the first brother/sister team in the US to do so.

PUBLIC HEARING

Conditional Use Permit 19-05 – Day Care Center on Leonard Avenue

The Mayor and City Council held a Quasi-Judicial public hearing to consider a conditional use permit 19-05 - Day Care Center on Leonard Avenue. The Mayor stated that only those with standing such as the applicants, property owner, tenant or adjacent property owners should testify in this issue for or against.

Swear In

Mayor Michael swore in the following for testimony:

Kevin Robinson

Ms. Rikki Baldwin

Disclosures – Conflict of Interest – None

Introduction

Planning and Development Services Director Kevin Robinson stated that Arnette Wall has applied for a conditional use permit to allow a daycare center at the corner of Leonard Ave and Eastover Ave, 135 Leonard Ave. The property is zoned R-8. Daycares meeting the criteria of the zoning ordinance are allowed in R-8 with Council approval of a CUP.

Testimony

Ms. Baldwin came forward representing Ms. Wall and Ms. Cantrell. She stated that this is proposed for a daycare center to be located at 135 Leonard Avenue. This has previously been a daycare.

Other Parties – In the audience but did not speak

Mr. Robinson reviewed the staff analysis and applicant comments concerning the findings of fact below:

1. The use will not materially endanger the public health or safety if located where proposed and developed according to the plan as submitted and approved.
Applicant Response: All adjoining properties are residential, the property to the east is vacant, and daycare will not increase noise level or traffic. The use will be monitored by state, sanitation, and fire inspections.
Staff Response: Staff does not find the proposed residential use or density to be detrimental to similar surrounding residential uses
2. The use meets all required conditions and specifications.
Applicant Response: Yes. A floor plan is provided and a site plan sketch will be provided to ensure all development ordinances and laws.

Staff Response: Site plan sketch attached to application demonstrates that all zoning requirements for §92.075 (C) (1) have been met. Fencing requirements and possible future signage are compliant §92.017 and §92.031, respectively

3. The use will not substantially injure the value of adjoining or abutting property, or that the use is a public necessity.

Applicant Response: No. Our property is valued at 67,278 which exceeds all neighbor properties. So, the use will not negatively impact values.

On this, however the proposed prices for future homes in the subdivision are at or above the fair market value listed in Stanly County tax records for similar properties in the area.

Staff Response: Property value of the parcel indicate high valuation compared to adjoining properties.

4. The proposed use is in harmony with adjacent uses in terms of location, scale, site design, hours of operation and operating characteristics

Applicant Response: Hours of operation 7 am to 6 pm M-F, the building matches scale and material of others in the neighborhood and in harmony and respect of others.

Staff Response: The proposed use of a day care facility should be in general harmony with other residential uses in the area. Off street parking is noted on site plan and proposed hours of operation from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday should not negatively impact adjacent residential uses.

5. Be in general conformed with adopted plans

Applicant Response: Yes. The Albemarle Future Land Use 2028 designates the parcel as “neighborhood residential” near a neighborhood commercial center.

Staff Response: The 2028 Future Land Use Map designates the parcel as neighborhood residential and is located near a neighborhood commercial center.

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

Findings of Fact

1. The use will not materially endanger the public health or safety if located where proposed and developed according to the plan as submitted and approved.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved findings of fact #1.

2. The use meets all required conditions and specifications.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the findings of fact # 2.

3. The use will not substantially injury the value of adjoining or abutting property, or that the use is a public necessity.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hughes, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the findings of fact #3.

4. The proposed use is in harmony with adjacent uses in terms of location, scale, site design, hours of operation and operating characteristics.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the findings of fact #4.

5. Be in general conformance with adopted plans.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the findings of fact #5.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the Conditional Use Permit for a child day care at 135 Leonard Avenue concerning order below:

(Order # 19-05)

PUBLIC HEARING

Zoning Map Amendment 19-07. To Hear and Consider a request for rezoning 201 Old Charlotte Rd from LID to CBD

Applicant Jim Lowder has applied to have a portion of 201 Old Charlotte Rd, tax record 2949, rezoned from LID, light industrial to CBD, central business.

The proposed rezoning represents a split zoning of a larger property, however the property owner has provided a minor subdivision plat with the intent that staff would approve and it be recorded should Council approve the rezoning.

Comments

Planning and Development Services Director Kevin Robinson stated that currently the larger parcel is zoned entirely LID and the applicant wishes to use the building and property at the corner of S. First Street and Old Charlotte Road for retail uses which are not currently allowed in LID. This is to relocate a previous tenant for a beauty salon to a new location. The tax record will be subdivided creating a new parcel of .37 acre parcel with a building re-zoned to CBD. Requesting for new parcel to be re-zoned from LID to CBD as hair and beauty salon permitted use under CBD. This re-zoning is congruous with proposed use. No one spoke for or against this hearing.

The Planning Board unanimously approved this map amendment.

Mr. Robinson answered any questions that Council had.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council closed the public hearing.

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

Consistency Statement

The Albemarle City Council finds the action to amend the City's Zoning Map to include the rezoning of a .037 acre parcel at 201 South First St, shown on a plat by Dent Turner dated August 27th, 2019, for CBD Central Business District to be consistent with the adopted 2028 Land Use Plan. Council finds the central business district zoning on this parcel to reasonable and in the public interest.

(Ordinance 19-36 - To rezone 201 Old Charlotte Road from LID to CBD.)

PUBLIC HEARING

Consider Revision to the City Requirements for the Installation of Sidewalks

It was noted that City Council set this hearing to consider text changes. Council had discussed the possibility of amending the current policy to only require

sidewalk installation for existing facilities when the current footprint is changed. Council has also discussed the landscaping requirement and when it is triggered and there was discussion about leaving this requirement as is.

Comments

Planning and Development Services Director Kevin Robinson came forward and reviewed the changes to the text in the ordinance by removing boldfaced text as follows:

For the purpose of this section, development shall hereafter be used interchangeably to refer to the act of subdivision, construction of new buildings and parking lots, as well as the enlargement or expansion of existing structures requiring building permits and the enlargement, or expansion, or significant replacement or improvement of parking areas.

Mr. Robinson answered any questions that Council had. He also stated that there will be discussion on landscaping at the joint Planning Board and City Council meeting on Wednesday, October 16.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the public hearing was closed.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the following text amendments to allow fee in lieu of sidewalk installation.

(Ordinance 19-37 - City requirements for the installation of sidewalks.)

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

1. To move #18 New Business to be heard after the announced delegations.

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

ANNOUNCED DELEGATIONS

Mr. Khari Garvin, Executive Director, Save the Children Head Start Operations - To Request the use of the City Owned Facility at 405 Davis Street

Save the Children has been awarded the right to operate the Head Start program in Stanly County and Mr. Garvin came forward and stated they would like to use this City building for the program as was done with the previous operator of this program. It was noted that the draft agreement is identical to the agreement the City had with the previous operator of this program and tenant of our facility.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved an agreement for Save the Children Head Start Program use 405 Davis Street to operate their program for Stanly County.

Waste Management Updates / Loose Leaf Season

Ms. Marilyn Wells, Manager Community & Municipal Relations, Tim Owens, District Manager, and Amy Warren, Residential Route Manager for Albemarle came forward to provide Council with an update on the upcoming loose leaf season and any other questions Council had.

Ross Holshouser, Renee Keziah and Nyki Hardy met with Waste Management on Monday, September 9th to review, plan and organize. WM will provide advertising in the SNAP two weeks prior to the leaf season beginning. A leaf zone map and calendar will be provided in the advertisements as well as pushed out through the City's social media sites and utility bill stuffers.

Ms. Wells stated that Loose Leaf Season will begin Monday, October 21st and end Tuesday, March 31st. The ad ran in the Stanly News and Press on Sunday, October 6 and will run again next Sunday.

They answered any questions that Council had.

Mayor Michael thanked the Waste Management representatives for coming this evening.

Introduction of Facilitators for City Council Fall and Winter Strategic Budget Planning Sessions

As a part of improvements being made to budget planning, City Council will have a Fall and Winter Strategic Budget Planning Session that will be facilitated by the Centralina Council of Governments (CCOG). Our facilitators from CCOG, Geraldine Gardner and Emily Parker came forward and introduced themselves and provided an overview of the approach for the Fall Strategic Budget Planning Session.

Ms. Gardner and Ms. Parker introduced themselves to Council and stated they are looking forward to the City's budget sessions in November.

Mayor Michael thanked them both for coming this evening.

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.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved moving item #15: Resolution to designate Public Power Week, October 6-12, 2019 from the consent agenda and speaking about this separately.

CONSENT AGENDA

Close Highway 52 Rehabilitation Project Fund

The Highway 52 Rehabilitation Project is complete and we request residual funds be sent back to the Water/Sewer Fund reserves

Ordinance 19-38 - Police Headquarters Budget

This reflects money transferred from General Fund and the increased Loan Proceeds. The original ordinance was passed in February of 2018 but the bids came in

higher than originally anticipated. The loan has been processed and the City is in receipt of the funds

(Ordinance 19-38 – money transferred from General Fund and the increased Loan Proceeds.)

Ordinance 19-39 - Budget Amendment to Appropriate Incoming Revenues

Ordinance amending operating funds relating to a sponsorship for Parks & Recreation and the appropriation of grant funds for tasers for the Police Department

(Ordinance 19-39. Budget amendment to appropriate incoming revenues.)

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the consent agenda.

Resolution to Designate Public Power during Public Power Week, October 6-12, 2019)

It was noted that the Day of Caring will be Wednesday, October 9 from 8:30-1 pm and also on Friday, October 11 there will be a public power display in the lobby at City Hall with giveaways.

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

(Resolution 19-24. To designate NC Public Power Week)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Consider Ordinance 19-25 - Rezoning of 802 Salisbury Ave Tax Record 35723 from R-8 to GHBD

On September 3, 2019, City Council tabled a decision on this public hearing and asked that City staff look at other municipalities that allow auction houses in the R8 zoning, or by conditional use in the R8 zone.

Owner – Chuck Nance
Applicant – Robert Lee Hathcock

The proposed use would be an auction house.

Comments

Planning and Development Services Director Kevin Robinson stated that City Council held a public hearing and received input at their September 3 meeting and the public hearing was closed. Council requested the Planning staff research other municipalities to determine if it is customary for auction houses to be a permitted or conditional use in the R8 Residential District.

Mr. Robinson reviewed research and emails from several other jurisdictions concerning auction houses in their cities and counties to Council if they allow auction houses in residential neighborhoods in their City limits.

This request was denied unanimously by the Planning and Zoning Board at their July 2 meeting with a 7-0 vote.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the City Council **DENIED** Ordinance 19-25 and approved the following statement:

INCONSISTENCY STATEMENT

The Albemarle City Council finds the action to amend the City's Zoning Map 802 Salisbury Ave from zone R-8/ Two Family Residential District to GHBD/General Highway Business District to be inconsistent with the adopted 2028 Land Use Plan. The 2028 Land Use Plan calls for city Neighborhood Residential uses on the parcel of interest. The 2028 Land Use Plan objectives promotes protecting the integrity of established residential neighborhoods. Based on the aforementioned, not amending the City's Zoning Map would be reasonable and in the public interest.

**Ordinance 19-35 - To Amend the City Charter to Establish
Non-Partisan Elections for the Office of Mayor and City Council**

The procedure set in State Statute requires the Ordinance be adopted at a separate meeting from the public hearing. Mayor Michael stated that the public hearing was held at its last meeting on Monday, September 16.

Councilmember Whitley moved to approve Ordinance 19-35 to amend the City Charter to establish non-partisan elections for Mayor and Council. Councilmember Hughes seconded the motion. Voting for the motion were Councilmembers Aldridge, Hall, Hughes, and Whitley. Voting against the motion were Councilmembers Bramlett, Lowder, and Townsend. The motion carried with a 4-3 vote.

(Ordinance 19-35 – To establish nonpartisan elections for Mayor and Council)

NEW BUSINESS

1 Consider Fee Waiver and Street Closure for Monthly Cruise-

In

Tiffany's at the Boardroom is planning a monthly cruise-in to take place the 2nd Saturday of every month. Each month she will designate the proceeds to go to a non-profit organization. The request is for street closures and fee waivers. The first cruise-in will take place on November 9, 2019. The events will occur from 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm each month.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved amending the Street Closing and Special permit policies to no longer charge fees.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved fee waiver and street closure for Monthly Cruise-Ins that will begin November 9, 2019 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm each month on the 2nd Saturday of every month for the next 6 months.

2 Presentation on Downtown Walking Routes Project

Parks & Recreation Director Lisa Kiser, Public Works Director Ross Holshouser, and Planning and Development Services Kevin Robinson gave an overview

of the downtown walking routes project. Ms. Kiser gave an overview of the project with some history of the project, the City departments involved, and other organizations involved as the Stanly County YMCA and Vac & Dash. Also, she gave an overview of the walking route locations, examples of the sidewalk medallions, and examples of the information kiosk. A timeline was reviewed for the routes, sidewalks, and kiosk.

Ms. Kiser stated that the City will go ahead and start placing the medallions and the project should be complete by June 2020. She stated they have a \$15,000 grant to help offset the cost. There will be a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony when the project has been completed and we will also recognize our partners.

3 Lease Agreement for City of Albemarle Soccer Complex

The City leases property for the Albemarle Soccer Complex from Stanly Community College (SCC). The City constructed the fields and related facilities and our current lease is expired. This lease agreement modifies the previous lease terms to a month-to-month lease. The SCC Board is scheduled to review this lease at their October 10 meeting.

It was noted that the City's biggest concern is the uncertainty a month to month lease provides and the impact on our long-term plans. The City operates a large, county-wide soccer program and if we lost the use of our fields without significant time to find and/or construct another location, this would obviously cause significant issues. The City was also pursuing a renewal of another 20-lease as this provides stability and therefore other opportunities.

Parks and Recreation Director Lisa Kiser noted that the City was planning on pursuing a national soccer grant for the installation of an irrigation system and lights. The grant requires ownership or a 20-year lease of the fields in order to be considered for funding. If a month to month lease is what we can secure, this will allow the City to continue its soccer program at our soccer complex. However, we will more than likely need to begin looking at other potential locations that will allow for the investment and improvements we would like to make.

Ms. Kiser answered any questions that Council had.

Mayor Michael asked Ms. Kiser to investigate other locations and costs or land acquisitions.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a lease agreement with SCC for the City of Albemarle Soccer Complex with lease terms of a month-to-month lease.

4 Tanner Denton, Accounts Payable - To Discuss Incentives for the 19/20 Employee United Way Campaign

Tanner is the coordinator for our fundraising efforts and provided an overview of the upcoming campaign and requested a day of paid leave be provided to fair share givers as has been the custom in previous years. The City employee campaign is one of the largest for the United Way of Stanly County and there are many reasons for this, one of which is the incentive provide by the City Council.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved one day of paid leave for fair share givers in the 2019-20 Employee United Way Campaign.

5 Discussion of Signage for New Police Building

The City Manager noted that the City will need to determine the signage for the new Police Department. The first decision is regarding the digital display sign. If one is desired by Council, there are different styles and cost and this information was reviewed by Council.

The City will also need to decide if we will use the existing sign structure at the corner of West South Street and South First Street. If we are to use this sign and not remove it, there are various styles to choose from.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved relocating the historic four sided sign at the current Police Department location and use the words Albemarle Police with horizontal lettering and an amber color digital display sign on the monument sign at the corner of Fith and South Streets.

6 Consider Change Order for Police Headquarters Project

Council reviewed the change order to replace the elevator in the Police Headquarters Building in the amount of \$170,664.61. The existing elevator can be kept in service, but the concern is the cost of replacement parts, potentially fabricating new parts, and other code upgrades that would be required and how that would impact a finished building and space.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hughes, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a change order in the amount of \$170,664.61 to replace the elevator in the new Police Headquarters Building.

7 Introduction of Interim Fire Chief Ernie Hiers

Assistant City Manager Nyki Hardy introduced the City's new interim Fire Chief, Ernie Hiers. She stated that he started work on Monday, September 23. Mr. Hiers has 39 years of fire service including 31 years as Assistant or Fire Chief and 12 years as the Kannapolis Fire Chief.

Fire Chief Hiers thanked the City Manager for the confidence he placed in him and thanks to all the firefighters in Albemarle. He stated that the firefighters have been very cooperative and willing to offer him encouragement.

Mayor Michael thanked Fire Chief Hiers.

8 Update on Downtown Albemarle Autumn Extravaganza

Mayor Pro-Tem Martha Sue Hall and Parks and Recreation Director Lisa Kiser gave a brief update to Council on final preparations for the 1st Downtown Albemarle Autumn Extravaganza

October 24 Fall Festival 5-7 pm

October 25 Fright Night:

History Center Ghost Tours 6 pm

Jeepers Creepers Haunted Jaunt 5K 6:30 pm

Street Festival Saturday October 26

Farmer's Market and Craft Fair 8-12 noon

Movie at Central Auditorium 10 am \$3
Live Entertainment, Vendors, Crafts, Chainsaw Artist
Jeepers Creepers Meet & Greet, Hayrides, Inflatables & Food
Trucks Noon-6pm
Mister Please Band & Food & Drink 6-10 pm

9 Information - The City of Albemarle has been Awarded the GFOA Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting

On September 30, the Mayor received notification that the City of Albemarle qualifies for the Certificate of Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting from Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for fiscal year ended 2018 from the City qualified for GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in financial reporting. This is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting and it represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management and the second year the City has received this award.

10 Information - The City has been awarded a FEMA Grant for Replacement SCBA Equipment

The City has been awarded the AFG Grant through FEMA for the replacement of the Fire Department's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) equipment. The grant is in the amount of \$291,428.57 and requires only a 5% match from the City in the amount of \$14,571.43.

The City Manager noted that the grant was developed by former Fire Chief Oke, City Administration, and Keller Partners. The SCBA equipment has a life that cannot be exceeded and our current equipment is at the end of its useful life, meaning the City was going to have make provisions to replace the equipment anyway. It was budgeted for worst case scenario in FY 19/20, which would be if we did not receive the grant and had to purchase the equipment at our full cost. The funds in FY 19/20 budget for the first principal and interest payment are sufficient to now serve as the grant match.

Comments

Public Works Director Ross Holshouser gave an update on the Parking Plan in the vicinity of the new Pfeiffer building downtown per request by Assistant City Manager Nyki Hardy. He stated that this will affect the streets between Montgomery Avenue and Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd. The Public Works Department has purchased a grinder to remove the existing lines from the streets and the City is working with a contractor to do the painting. He also said they hope to complete this project by the end of 2019 or sooner if possible.

Mr. Holshouser stated that he will come back before Council in February 2020 for approval of the next stage and give an update.

Councilmember Hughes asked about the new door installation at Public Housing. Public Housing Director Cedric Baldwin stated that this is in progress and they are waiting on plans from the architect and they will go out for bid on the construction phase November 1, 2019.

Councilmember Hughes asked about the timeline of the resurfacing by NCDOT on East Main Street. Mayor Michael stated that we have not heard the timeline yet from NCDOT.

Councilmember Hall stated that the Uwharrie Players fall production starts this coming Thursday evening.

Councilmember Hall stated the Talent Company is utilizing one of the vacant buildings on West Main Street.

Councilmember Hall stated that the meeting for the homeless and addiction problems was held two weeks ago and around 35 people attended the meeting and 10 of those people were City employees. She stated that someone should look into using SCUSA from downtown Albemarle to NC DSS and back on a regular basis for those folks needing these type services.

Councilmember Hall stated the City needs to go ahead and name the Central School auditorium the Albemarle Auditorium and not wait on the money to be donated.

Councilmember Hall asked that this be placed in the bill stuffer, on social media, and on the City website with a special promotion offer during the holiday as a gift

giving idea concerning naming the auditorium. Also to bring this to a regular Council meeting for discussion.

Councilmember Hall spoke about Carolina Treetop Challenge (CTC) and their struggle during their first year in operation and that it will take time to build.

Councilmember Hall asked about the no smoking policy on any City property. Human Resource Director Dana Chaney stated that this will be a part of the overall wellness program. She also said that they are looking at BCBS and NCLM.

Councilmember Hall commented about the Lifescan that now would not be offered to City employees due to their issues of licensing in NC. Ms. Chaney stated that the employees will be receiving the results of the blood work they had done with LabCorp. Also, the City will be looking at the next legal steps and an alternative with another company that may offer this service.

Councilmember Whitley stated that he asked the RRRPO Director, Lee Snuggs to ask the SCUSA Director if the County would consider a fixed bus route in the future.

Councilmember Whitley congratulated the Police Dept. on a great Community Night Out on Saturday, October 5.

Councilmember Whitley mentioned that October is breast cancer awareness month.

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) – Legal and Real Estate.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, and unanimously carried, 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) – Legal and Real Estate and there is nothing to disclose at this time.

Mayor Michael asked if Council would like to honor a previous City Manager and Councilmember that was manager for 19 years and served on Council for 26 years. Council discussed several ways that they might honor Jack Neel and one would be to name Tuckertown Water Treatment Plant after him because he made that happen.

It was the consensus of City Council to consider what they would like to name after Mr. Neel. Each Councilmember will let the Mayor know their thoughts after having time to consider.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hughes, seconded by Councilmember Lowder, unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, October 16 at 6:30 pm at Rosebriar Restaurant for a joint meeting with the Planning Board.