

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL

April 18, 2011

The City Council of the City of Albemarle met in a regular session on Monday April 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall. Mayor Elbert L. "Whit" Whitley, Jr. presided, and the following Councilmembers were present, to-wit: Martha Sue Hall, Judy Holcomb, Jeanette M. Napier, Jack F. Neel, Dexter Townsend and T. Ed Underwood. Absent, Troy E. Alexander.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Underwood and unanimously carried, the minutes of April 4 regular session were approved as submitted.

Ms. Gina Martin, Chairman of the Albemarle Downtown Development Corporation came before Council to provide an update and to express appreciation for the City's support for downtown revitalization.

Ms. Martin stated that she is the chairman of the ADDC Board and is speaking on behalf of the board tonight. She thanked City Council for all the support they have given to the ADDC Board during the past year. She also mentioned some of the main projects they have been a part of including:

- 1) Cycle NC
- 2) Fall Festival
- 3) Uwharrie Storytelling at Market Station (October)
- 4) Downtown Christmas (December)
- 5) Stanly County Christmas Parade as of this past year
- 6) Winter Wine Festival at Market Station (February)
- 7) Outdoorsman Bonanza (March)
- 8) Farmer's Market
- 9) Beach Blast (will take a break this year)

Ms. Martin stated that she would like to mention some items that are in need of repair at Market Station and the old mill that have been assessed by a task force. A handout to Council explained the items needing repair at both locations giving estimates of repair for each. She stated that ADDC Director Kathy Almond has been in contact with Stanly County Manager Andy Lucas and has asked the County to support

some of the costs hopefully in the amount of around \$12,000. The ADDC supported around \$10,000 of the costs just this past year.

Ms. Martin stated how grateful she is for the City Council and asked that they give thoughtful consideration of the items in need of repair during their final budget work sessions.

Mr. Toby Brundage came before City Council to request a City of Albemarle Peddler License. Council received a copy of Mr. Brundage's application and background check.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Holcomb, seconded by Councilmember Townsend and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a peddler license for Toby Brundage with an understanding he is to talk with the City Parks and Recreation Department on special events in City parks.

Mayor Whitley stated that City Council has a copy of the monthly departmental reports in their agenda packets and asked if there were any questions.

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

(Ordinance 11-07. To amend the code of ordinances by revising Chapter 31, Section 999.)

(Ordinance 11-08. To amend the code of ordinances by revising Chapter 31, Section 25-14 Permit Fee Schedule by removing from code of ordinance in its entirety.)

The Mayor and City Council received an update on complaints regarding drug use, violence and loitering in the South Albemarle community.

Mayor Whitley stated that we are hoping to have a meeting with Council, concerned residents of the South Albemarle community, City police, representatives from

probation and parole and the district attorney's office, along with Representatives, Kissell and Burr, and Senator Purcell. There is concern that judges should not be involved due to the ethics and conflicts that could occur in future cases. CEO Ronnie Michael with the Police department has been involved in setting up a meeting for May 20 at 2pm at City Hall. The representatives will hopefully aid in helping to acquire grant money for the extra police force needed. The comments made by the South Albemarle community at the April 4 meeting will be given to the officials that attend this meeting. Presently, the police force has increased its manpower in the South Albemarle community.

Councilmember Hall gave information for Council's benefit on conditions of probation as set out in NC General Statutes 15A-1343 as it addresses warrantless searches.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a meeting on May 20 at 2pm at City Hall with Council, concerned citizens of the South Albemarle community, the probation office, City police, district attorney's office, Representative Kissell, Representative Burr, and Senator Purcell.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Holcomb, seconded by Councilmember Napier, and unanimously carried, an Ordinance entitled (Ordinance 11-09) "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALBEMARLE, NORTH CAROLINA, AMENDING CHAPTER 77 OF THE CITY OF ALBEMARLE CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION XXXI – TRAFFIC SCHEDULE, ADDING NO PARKING ZONES THERETO FOR A PORTION OF AREY AND LEONARD AVENUES." passed first reading.

The Mayor and City Council received an update on the City's curbside recycling partnership with Green Pieces Recycling. At the first of the year the City approved a partnership for curbside recycling in Albemarle. An update on the curbside collection and other activities was provided. The City has a partnership with Green Pieces Recycling to provide curbside recycling services in Albemarle and is no cost to the City or against its tax base. Only those who participate in this program pay for the service.

Assistant City Manager Michael Ferris came forward and stated Green Pieces has seen a 10% increase in curbside recycling inside Albemarle and also reported receiving request for recycling services on streets that previously had little or no participation in recycling. Green Pieces is currently collecting over 3 tons of recyclable materials weekly in Albemarle. Mr. Ferris stated that the next phase of the program

would be to offer a drop-off recycling event. He said they would like to hold the first event in the City Hall parking lot on Saturday, May 21 from 8:00-12:00 noon.

Steve Megson with Green Pieces Recycling came before Council and stated the recycling volume is continuing to increase in the City. He stated the drop-off collection event is something that we would like to do quarterly. Residents will be able to drop off magazines, plastic, phone books, etc.

Mayor Whitley has what other items would residents be able to drop off. Mr. Megson stated that all types of paper products, junk mail, catalogs, plastics, glass, aluminum and steel cans, etc;

Upon questioning by Councilmember Hall, Mr. Megson stated that there is approximately 40 lbs of recyclable materials picked up from a family of 4 monthly.

Mayor Whitley stated that this has taken a large burden off of the City and he thanked Mr. Megson and Assistant City Manager Michael Ferris on this endeavor.

The Mayor and City Council considered a resolution establishing Fire Protection and Prevention Permit Fees. The City Manager noted that the ordinance adopted on first reading on April 4 allows the City Council to adopt these fees by resolution. This resolution is a culmination of the discussion that Chief Oke had with City Council during the FY 2010-2011 budget deliberations. This represents the first revisions to this fee schedule in many years.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Underwood and unanimously carried, the following Resolution was duly adopted:

(Resolution 11-11. To establish a new fire protection and prevention permit fee schedule by resolution replacing Chapter 31.25-14.)

The Mayor and City Council reviewed the Public Housing FY2011 Agency Plan update. The Department of Public Housing FY2011 Annual agency plan and board resolution requires City Council approval before submission to HUD. As noted, on April 4th the Dept of Housing staff provided City Council the 2011 agency plan updates so that City Council would have time to review the updates before the required public hearing that was held on April 6, 2011 at the public housing offices on South Bell & Elizabeth Avenue. There were no changes made to the agency plan and with City Council's

authorization, the Mayor will need to sign the resolution so that the plan can be submitted to HUD by National Facilities Consultants Inc.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Townsend, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the Public Housing FY2011 Agency Plan update.

(Resolution 11-12. Public Housing FY2011 Annual Agency Plan Update.)

The Mayor and City Council received a status report on the Concord Kannapolis Albemarle water line project. City Manager Raymond Allen stated that he and Interim Public Utilities Director Judy Redwine attended a meeting in Concord last week to discuss the status of the project. Mr. Allen anticipates that right of way acquisition will begin shortly after the start of the new fiscal year, with construction estimated to begin in approximately 12-18 months. The City Manager stated Concord is having its financial planners investigate whether it would be beneficial to pursue financing as a group or if the three entities should pursue this on their own. The City's share of the construction project is 25%, which is estimated at approximately \$5 million. Revenues from, sales to Concord and Kannapolis would begin at approximately \$1.2 million per year and increase over time as usage and rates increase.

The Mayor and City Council considered a request to declare surplus AHS 2009 State Football Championship Signs. The City Manager noted that it is recommended that Council consider declaring these signs surplus and donate one to Albemarle High School and authorize staff to sell the other signs through competitive bidding to offset the cost of the new signs which was \$682.81. The new supplementary signs showing the multiple championship years have been received by the City and Public Works plans to install these signs next week.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Neel, seconded by Councilmember Hall and unanimously carried, the City Council declared surplus AHS 2009 State Football Championship signs and to donate one to Albemarle High School and authorize staff to sell the other signs through competitive bidding to offset the cost of the new signs which was \$682.81.

The Mayor and City Council considered a request to use the former Jesse F. Niven Army Reserve Center for reunion for 227th Unit. The City Manager noted that this request is for a one day use of the Assembly Hall and restroom facilities from Mr. James Jackson who was a member of the 227th. He is helping to coordinate a reunion of the unit members and has asked if the City will allow the unit to hold this one day event in May. Also, he anticipates that it will last from approximately 9 am to 5 pm. They will be using the Assembly Hall, which is the large room with garage doors behind the main building. The City Manager has discussed this with Parks and Recreation Director Toby Thorpe, and does not see any problems in allowing this to take place unless City Council has any objections.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Underwood and unanimously carried, the City Council approved a request of a one day use of the Assembly Hall and restroom facilities of the former Jesse F. Niven Army Reserve Center for a reunion of the 227th Unit sometime in May from 9 am to 5 pm.

The Mayor and City Council were provided with information concerning an Arbor Day Ceremony being held on April 19, 2011 at Noon. This will take place at Phase II of the Roger F. Snyder Greenway and Salisbury Avenue.

The Mayor and City Council were reminded that City Offices will be closed on Friday, April 22, 2011. City Offices will be closed in observance of the Good Friday holiday.

Councilmember Hall stated that she would like to remind everyone about the Household Hazardous Waste event on April 30 at the Agri-Civic Center.

Councilmember Neel stated that there is pavement that needs repairing on Montgomery Avenue before the Moss Springs intersection on the north side.

City Manager Raymond Allen stated that he had received information today about ElectriCities Annual Conference in Asheville from August 25-27. Hotel

reservations can be made for Councilmembers wanting to attend. Mayor Whitley, Councilmembers Hall, Holcomb, Neel, Townsend and Underwood confirmed their attendance.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Neel, seconded by Councilmember Underwood and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.