

REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL
December 5, 2016

The City Council of the City of Albemarle met in a regular session on Monday, December 5, 2016, 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: Mayor Pro Tem Martha Sue Hall, Bill Aldridge, Chris Bramlett, Benton Dry II, Martha E. Hughes, Dexter Townsend and Chris Whitley. Absent, none.

Mayor Michael gave the invocation.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the November 21, 2016 regular session minutes were approved as submitted.

Mr. Chris Pato, 110 Vanderbuilt Circle, Locust, NC came before Council requesting that Harvest Church be able to use Central School Apartments auditorium for their church services on Sunday for around eight months until they complete the building of their church.

Mayor Michael stated that the City has spoken with LandMark and they have no issues with a church using the auditorium for services. Council discussed the fee for the use of the auditorium on Sunday for services. Upon questioning, Ms. Pato stated that the church could use the auditorium on Wednesday evenings also if it was a possibility. Mr. Pato stated that they would like to use the auditorium on Sundays from 8-1pm and Wednesday evenings from 6-9:30 pm if possible.

It was further determined that a fee for Sundays only would be a cost of \$250 each Sunday or if also using the auditorium on Wednesday evenings it would be \$400 each week for both days as of January 2017.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the City Council agreed to enter into an agreement with Harvest Church for the use of the Central School Apartments Auditorium for church services for Harvest Church on Sunday 8-1pm

and Wednesday evenings from 6-9:30 pm on a month to month basis with either party giving a 30 day notice to end agreement.

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

The Mayor and City Council were reminded that updates to the Code of Ordinances are requested to bring their code book to Ms. Bowers to be updated.

The Mayor and City Council considered the purchase of 1.49-acres adjoining the City of Albemarle Landfill. This purchase would allow the City to own fee simple the land that has been utilized as the Landfill entrance, which previous access to the Landfill has been across this property through an easement only. An offer has been made to the property owners of \$4,500 for the entire parcel and has been verbally accepted. If City Council authorizes the purchase staff will proceed with the property closing and payment.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Dry, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the purchase of 1.49-acres adjoining the City of Albemarle Landfill in the amount of \$4,500 and authorized the property closing and payment to be made to the seller.

The Mayor and City Council considered approval of temporary construction easements and permanent easements associated with the Landfill Force Main Project. It was noted that offers have been made to the affected property owners and verbal acceptance has been received. Landfill Superintendent Darren Preslar has compiled a listing of all the owners and the amounts and Council received this information. If approved, the City Attorney will draft the final documents for filing, recording and payments

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Whitley, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved temporary construction easements and permanent easements associated with the Landfill Force Main Project and

authorized the City Attorney to draft the final documents for filing, recording and payments for the following:

Permanent Easement – Lutheran Services -	\$3,000
Permanent Easement – PAS, LLC - Donation	
Construction Easement – Joshua Page & Amanda Page	150
Construction Easement – Jays Seafood Restaurant	50
Construction Easement – William Bowers	25
Construction Easement – William Bowers	25
Fee Simple – Linda Britt & Spouse, Cathy Page & Spouse, Donna Townsend & Spouse – 1.49 acres for	4,500

	7,750

Upon a motion by Councilmember Dry, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the following Ordinance:

(Ordinance 16-51. To Amend the Landfill Budget to Appropriate Funds received from a White Goods Overrun Grant.)

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

(Resolution 16-19. To appoint the Police Chief as the ABC Commission Local Designee.)

The Mayor and City Council considered approval of the 2016/2017 Budget Preparation Schedule.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved the 2016/2017 Budget Preparation Schedule including the beginning time of 6 pm for the budget work sessions on January 5, February 7, 9 and May 4, 8.

The Mayor and City Council were reminded of the Christmas Parade on Monday December 12 beginning at 5:30 pm. It was noted that Public Works will have a vehicle ready for the Mayor and Council to ride in. The City Manager said the Parade line up was finalized earlier today and the vehicle Council will ride in will be directly across from First Citizens Bank.

The Mayor and City Council were reminded of the 2016 Employee Christmas Luncheon which will be held on Wednesday, December 14 from 11:30 -1:30 at the EE Waddell Community Center. The Mayor and Council are invited and have typically helped serve the employees.

The City Manager asked Human Resources Director Robert Whitley to review the employee voluntary dental program. Mr. Whitley came forward and handed out to Council the dental cost analysis of the current plan with Guardian and renewal options with Guardian as well as alternate options with Ameritas, Aetna, and Delta Dental.

Mr. Whitley recommended the Ameritas option with the same deductible, annual maximum, diagnostic and preventative, etc. as employees have now with Guardian but the best price comparison overall with only a 12.9% increase of \$3.43 per month for employee only coverage. Upon questioning, Mr. Whitley stated that the dental insurance is taken out of employee pay check 24 times a year. Mr. Whitley also stated that the City has had dental coverage with Ameritas before with great results. These prices carry a 1-year guarantee.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Dry, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the City Council approved changing the City's voluntary employee dental program from Guardian to Ameritas beginning January 1, 2017 with a price guarantee of one year.

Councilmember Hughes said the newly installed tree lights on the south side of East Main between 3rd and 4th look great. The City Manager stated that staff has run electric outlets to the street trees, therefore allowing staff to put lights on the trees in this area for the first time. This created an additional block

that was not lit before now. The City Manager mentioned that the City is doing the same thing on both sides of South Second Street between King Avenue and South Street and hope to have this completed and the trees lit by the end of this week.

Councilmember Hall stated that Senator McInnis will be in Albemarle for a drop-in tomorrow between 4:30-6 pm at Stanly County Commons for anyone interested in stopping by. She said due to family health issues she may not be able to be there.

Councilmember Whitley also commented on how great the downtown lights look and thanked everyone for all the hard work involved.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Dry, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council adjourned to a Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 160A-318.11 (3) (4) and (5) - Economic Development, Contract Negotiations and Consult with City Attorney.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bramlett, seconded by Councilmember Hall, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Council reconvened to open session. Mayor Michael announced that a closed session was held Pursuant to NCGS 160A-318.11 (3) (4) and (5) – Economic Development, Contract Negotiations and Consult with City Attorney and there is nothing to report at this time.

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