

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 30, 2009
W. CHARLES BARRETT ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM
305 WEST CHURCH ST.
LAURINBURG, NC
7:00 P.M.**

Minutes

The City Council of the City of Laurinburg held a special meeting on March 30, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the council room of the Municipal Building with the Honorable Matthew Block, Mayor, presiding. The following Councilmembers were present: Rembert DeBerry, Amanda B. Faulk, Curtis B. Leak, Thomas W. Parker, III and Herbert M. Rainer, Jr.

Also present was: Dolores A. Hammond, City Clerk

Mayor Block called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember DeBerry gave the invocation.

AWARD CONTRACT FOR RICHMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE (RCC) SATELLITE CAMPUS

Mr. Bill Riemer, Director of Administration and Development, explained that 17 bids had been received for the construction of the RCC satellite campus. He stated that references and bonds had been checked. The architect is recommending that the low bidder, Monteith Construction Corporation, Monroe, North Carolina be awarded the contract to construct the RCC campus in the amount of \$2,453,150.00. He stated that the bids were below the originally estimated cost for the project because of the economy.

He explained that discussions have been had with RCC to incorporate into the project 400 square feet of construction which had previously been eliminated due to the anticipated cost. He also stated that the inclusion of "green" additions have been discussed with the possibility of getting it certified as a "green" project. In order to accomplish the additions, plans would have to be resubmitted to the Economic Development Administration and most likely to the State for approval. He stated that this could delay the construction start date but that as long as the contractor is willing to stick with the prices, there could be negotiation to include the additions.

A discussion ensued regarding the RCC project.

Motion was made by Councilmember Parker, seconded by Councilmember Rainer, and unanimously carried to award the contract to the low bidder, Monteith Construction Corporation, in the amount of \$2,453,150.00 to construct the RCC satellite campus.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Riemer stated that it would depend on the additions as to when construction when begin. He also stated that the projected completion date for the campus without additions is 300 days.

WORKSHOP ON PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

The City Clerk stated that Fleming Bell, School of Government, Chapel Hill, is conducting a parliamentary procedure workshop in Fayetteville, North Carolina on April 16, 2009. She stated that the City of Fayetteville has invited Council if they would like to attend.

She asked that if anyone would like to attend to let her know.

She also stated that the Order of Procedures of Council was adopted in 1998 and that they may need to be reviewed in the near future.

AGENDA WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Mayor Block stated that he would like Council to consider conducting agenda workshop sessions the week before the Council meetings. These meetings would be held on the Tuesday before the scheduled meeting.

There was consensus among Councilmembers to schedule agenda workshop sessions on Tuesdays to be held in the W. Charles Barrett Building in the conference room beginning at 7:00 p.m. the week before the regularly scheduled meetings. The first workshop will be held Tuesday, April 14, 2009.

Councilmember Rainer stated that he would like budget workshop sessions to begin as soon as possible.

Councilmember Parker stated the he would like to have the state sales tax projections provided at the April 14 meeting.

PROCESS OF HIRING CITY MANAGER

Mayor Block explained that during a special meeting held on March 17, 2009 a representative from the North Carolina League of Municipalities had suggested several ways to handle the process of hiring a new manager. He stated that he would like to discuss how Council would like to handle the process based on the recommendations from the presentation and the experience that other Councilmembers have had who have been through the process before.

A discussion ensued regarding past process, and Council agreed that they could and would individually see Bob Bell, Human Resources Officer, to review the applications before discussing them at length.

Councilmember Leak suggested that the applications be numbered so that Councilmembers could select their prospective candidates by numbers.

Upon question by Councilmember Faulk, Mr. Bell stated that applications will be received until the position is filled.

Mr. Bell informed Council that he has received 51 applications as of this date.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:40 p.m. motion was made by Councilmember Parker to go into closed session, pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee. Councilmember Rainer seconded the motion, and it unanimously carried.

At 8:41 p.m., motion was made by Councilmember DeBerry, seconded by Councilmember Faulk, and unanimously carried to resume the open meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember DeBerry, seconded by Councilmember Faulk, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Matthew Block, Mayor

Dolores A. Hammond, City Clerk