

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 9, 2010
W. CHARLES BARRETT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
305 WEST CHURCH ST.
LAURINBURG, NC
7:00 P.M.**

Minutes

The City Council of the City of Laurinburg held an agenda work session on February 9, 2010 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the W. Charles Barrett Administration Building with the Honorable Matthew Block, Mayor, presiding. The following Councilmembers were present: Amanda B. Doerffel, Curtis B. Leak, Thomas W. Parker, III, Herbert M. Rainer, Jr. and Kenton Spencer.

Also present were Edward F. Burchins, City Manager, Dolores A. Hammond, City Clerk and Charles L. Hicks, Jr., City Attorney.

Mayor Block called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Invocation was given by Mayor Block.

The City Manager stated that at the annual winter retreat for Council, it was decided that the agenda workshop meetings are to review the agenda for the upcoming City Council meeting. The agenda workshop is not an opportunity to give reports from City staff or presentations from the public, but to review the items on the proposed agenda. He stated that any of the items discussed at the agenda workshop could be removed for additional information; ask questions pertaining to the items on the agenda, and to have a discussion regarding the agenda items. He concluded by stating that items that are routine would be listed on a consent agenda and those for discussion would be listed separately and that any item on the consent agenda at the regular meeting could be removed and added to the discussion agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA AND AGENDA REVIEW

The City Manager and the City Clerk reviewed the proposed consent agenda. The City Manager reviewed the discussion agenda for Council's meeting to be held Tuesday, February 16, 2010.

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes from the meetings of October 20, 2009 and the December 15, 2009 workshop
- b. Set public hearing to be held March 16, 2010 for a request to rezone an 8.97 acre tract of land off McColl Road from General Business to Residential-15 to be held Tuesday, March 16, 2010 in the upstairs council room of the Municipal Building located at 303 W. Church St.
- c. Set public hearing to be held March 16, 2010 for a request to rezone from General Business to Industrial a 1.38 acre tract of land along 401 South (McColl Rd.) to be held Tuesday, March 16, 2010 in the upstairs council room of the Municipal Building located at 303 W. Church St.
- d. Set public hearing to be held March 16, 2010 for a request for a conditional use permit to operate a carnival at 900 US 15/401 bypass to be held Tuesday, March 16, 2010 in the upstairs council room of the Municipal Building located at 303 W. Church St.
- e. Set public hearing on the City of Laurinburg's Water Response Plan to be held Tuesday, March 16, 2010 in the upstairs council room of the Municipal Building located at 303 W. Church St.
- f. Accept low bidder (Insituform Technologies, Inc.–Lexington, SC) for the Rural Center Grant extension of the McKay Street Project in the amount of \$261,745.00
- g. Resolution authorizing City Manager to sign documents authorizing participation in the Mosquito Program
- h. Tax liens – Authorize order to advertise tax liens March 9, 2010
- i. Adjustment to the 2009 tax levy
- j. Approve contract between the City of Laurinburg and Marlowe & Company for lobbying services for the Laurinburg/Maxton Airport

k. Budget Amendment Ordinance (O-2010-03)

1. \$1,000 from Contingency (990-509900)-to Non-Departmental-Public Relations (660-505800)-Market Force Brochure
2. \$2,000 from the Contingency (990-509900)-to Non-Departmental-Contract Services (660-504500)-Marlowe & Co.

There was no discussion regarding the above items listed on the proposed consent agenda. The below items are for review, discussion, and action by Council.

2. Rezoning ten-acres (10) of property along Emily Drive from Residential-15/General Business to Residential-6
 - a. The City Manager informed Council that this request has been withdrawn and that there is discussion to bring before Council a revised request at a later date.
3. Conditional Use Permit Request for the development of property along Emily Drive to develop a planned residential community consisting of thirty (30) dwelling units
 - a. The City Manager informed Council that this request has been withdrawn and that there is discussion to bring before Council a revised request at a later date
4. Mark English-Would like to address Council on the Downtown Area and the proposed condemnation of the old Market Furniture Building
5. Laurinburg Downtown Revitalization Corporation will address Council in order to discuss placing benches at the fountain at the A.B. Gibson Building on South Main St.

At this point in the meeting, the City Clerk stated that the setting of a public hearing was omitted from the proposed consent agenda. This is a proposed public hearing in order to receive citizen input on the City of Laurinburg's Water Response Plan

6. Tax Liens and Adjustment to the 2009 Tax Levy will be added to the consent agenda.
7. Proposed continuance of privilege license categories and fees for precious metals businesses and internet café/cyber sweepstakes businesses
 - a. The City Manager explained that a 30-day moratorium has been set at Council's meeting in January and there needs to be a discussion whether to extend the moratorium or not.

The Assistant City Attorney explained that his concern about an extended moratorium is that a business owner that may take issue with monies that could be lost with another moratorium.

The City Manager then stated that in order to prepare a privilege license ordinance that Council will need to set the fees for the two type businesses (precious metals and café/cyber sweepstakes). He advised Council that he had been appointed to a legislative advisory committee through the North Carolina League of Municipalities to discuss what constitutes a café/cyber sweepstakes and other issues stemming from them. This committee will begin discussions in March 2010.

A discussion ensued and the Assistant City Attorney was directed to prepare a proposed privilege license ordinance establishing two new business categories (Computer Gaming Establishments and Precious Metal Dealers) and applying \$2,000.00 per establishment and \$2,500.00 per machine for café/cyber sweepstakes for discussion and action at the regular meeting to be held February 16, 2010.

8. Animal Control Officer
 - a. The City Manager stated that the City's is retiring and her last day of work will be April 30, 2010. He explained that the position will be re-evaluated with the appropriate salary designation.
9. Water/Wastewater Treatment purchase of a truck- The City Manager stated that during the 2009-2010 Budget discussions, Council directed the Water/Wastewater Treatment Plants Director to consider the need for this vehicle

after January 2010. The City Manager explained that the current vehicle has well over 188,000 miles, it requires extensive maintenance repairs, and has determined this vehicle needs to be replaced.

10. Lobbying contract with Marlowe & Company-The City Manager stated that the previous contracts with the Company has expired. One contract is with Marlowe, the City, Scotland County, the Town of Maxton, and the Laurinburg/Maxton Airport Commission. The contract price is \$24,000 and divided between the entities. This contract helps with lobbying efforts for the Laurinburg/Maxton Airport. The other contract is among Marlowe, the City of Laurinburg and Scotland County for a total of \$36,000.00.

There was consensus among Council that the City would renew the \$24,000.00 contract but not the \$36,000.00 contract.

11. Contract with Market Force-The City Clerk explained that a contract with Market Force, Raleigh, NC was signed in 2007 for brochures for marketing purposes of Laurinburg and Scotland County. The contract was signed by a previous City Manager and a previous Chamber President. The contract needs to be completed with the purchasing of the brochures. There is an agreement among Scotland County Economic Development Corporation, the Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce to divide the cost if Council so desires. The purchase for 500 brochures will be \$2,966.00 not include shipping and sales tax. The consensus among Councilmembers is to participate in the purchase of the brochures.
12. AT&T and T-Mobile Contracts-The City Manager explained that these companies would like to renew and revise leases for space on the City's water towers. The City Manager recommends that the City request that T-Mobile pay \$1,103.00 effective April 1, 2010 and increase by 5% each two-three years.

The City Manager stated that he and the Assistant City Attorney will discuss these contracts and make a recommendation to Council at a later date.

13. Youth Council Adult Nominees-Councilmember Spencer stated that this is a result of Council agreeing to implement a Youth Council Advisory Committee. He suggested that if anyone has a recommendation for a nominee to please bring to Council meeting on February 16, 2010.
14. Armed Forces Community Covenant-This proposed resolution supports the North Carolina Community Covenant which is a formal affirmation of support by state and local communities to service members and their families – Active, Guard and Reserve in all branches of the military.
15. Lumber River Council of Governments Alternate Board Member-The City Manager explained that Councilmember Spencer has volunteered to be the alternate to this board. There were no objections from Councilmembers.
16. Community Wellness Taskforce-Councilmember Spencer stated that he would Council to consider appointing a Community Wellness Taskforce.
 - a. The City Manager stated that he has not had an opportunity to discuss this item with the Chief of Police and would like to do so before a decision is made by Council. He then would report back to Council about his conversation with the Chief and make a recommendation.
17. Citizen Input Session-The City Manager stated that the Management Team and he had a retreat based on information from Council's retreat. He would like to schedule a meeting with Council and Staff in order to produce a strategic plan in order to present to citizens at an Input Session in order to begin discussions about the upcoming 2010-2011 Budget. Letters of invitation would be mailed to citizens for participation in the Citizen Input Session.

- a. There will be a list of potential dates for the Citizen Input Session at Council's regular meeting February 16, 2010.

18. Ethics Training-The City Clerk explained that there is an Ethics Training class in Whiteville, April 15, 2010

from 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. There will be Scotland County Commissioners attending this session. Scotland County is providing a van and invited Councilmembers to ride to Whiteville.

Councilmember Leak stated that he would like Council to consider giving employees three additional vacation days to compensate for no pay increase in the current budget.

There was a brief discussion and no action was taken.

Councilmember Leak discussed the idea of the Manager providing weekly updates in order to provide information to Council.

There was a brief discussion and Councilmembers chose that they would discuss how they would like to be notified concerning weekly events.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Parker, seconded by Councilmember Spencer, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Matthew Block, Mayor

Dolores A. Hammond, City Clerk