

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2011
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
303 WEST CHURCH ST.
LAURINBURG, NC
7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Laurinburg held its regular monthly meeting January 18, 2011 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: Curtis B. Leak, Thomas W. Parker, III, Herbert M. Rainer, Jr., Kenton T. Spencer, and Joy Ellison.

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

Mayor Block called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Councilmember Ellison gave the invocation.

CONSENT AGENDA

The City Manager presented the Consent Agenda indicating all items were considered to be routine and could be enacted simultaneously with one motion and a roll call vote.

The items on the Consent Agenda were as follows:

- a. Minutes from the meetings held December 14, 2010 and December 21, 2010

Councilmember Leak moved for the approval of the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Rainer seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Leak, Ellison, Rainer, Spencer, Parker

Nays: None

PUBLIC HEARING

**ORDINANCE NO. O-2011-01 WHICH REZONES FROM RESIDENTIAL-6 TO
OFFICE/INSTITUTIONAL PROPERTY LOCATED OFF OF US HIGHWAY 401 NORTH
(WAGRAM RD.) – ST. JOHN’S HOLINESS CHURCH**

Mayor Block explained that St. John’s Holiness Church has requested that the 12.032 acres owned by it located off US Highway 401 North be rezoned from Residential-6 to Office/Institutional. This is a result of the recent annexation of the property in order to construct a church of this location.

Mayor Block declared the public hearing open.

Brandi Deese explained that St. John's Holiness Church is requesting that the 12.032 acres owned by it located off of US Highway 401 North be rezoned from Residential-6 to Office/Institutional. This request is prompted by the recent annexation of this property stemming from plans to construct a church at this location. Rezoning this property to Office Institutional will, for the surrounding residential properties, create a buffer from commercial development. This request will be in harmony with the surrounding area, and the uses permitted in the O-I zone would not create a significant impact on the surrounding property. Planning Board unanimously approved this request. Staff recommends approval of this request.

Mr. Kenneth Rogers, Treasurer of St. John's Holiness Church and Assistant Deacon spoke in favor of the request.

There was no one to speak against the request.

Mayor Block closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Parker moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. O-2011-01 which rezones the property located at US Highway 401 North/Wagram Road from Residential-6 to Office/Institutional as such rezoning is:

- Consistent with other development in the area;
- Advances the public health, safety or welfare; and
- Provides a positive impact to the public at large.

Councilmember Spencer seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Parker, Spencer, Rainer, Ellison, Leak

Nays: None

(Ordinance No. O-2011-01 is on file in the City Clerk's office.)

DELEGATION

Mayor Block explained that Mrs. Mary Robinson, Laurinburg Downtown Revitalization Corporation (LDRC) Executive Director, would report on 2nd quarter activities of LDRC. .

Mrs. Robinson reported that the LDRC Board had recently approved revolving loan fund guidelines. She explained that this project is at the stage where the Committee will seek out and collaborate with financial institutions for assistance. She stated the City would be receiving a request for support fairly soon.

She informed Council that there are three new businesses in the downtown area.

She stated that there have been three facade grants awarded to downtown businesses in the amount of \$1,000.00 per grant.

She explained that LDRC is using a person from the unemployment commission to help organize

the files in the office.

Mrs. Robinson reported on the events that were held during November and December.

A question and answer session then followed.

REQUEST TO REZONE FROM RESIDENTIAL-20 TO OFFICE/INSTITUTIONAL PROPERTY LOCATED OFF HASTY ROAD - NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

The City Manager explained Dr. Thomas Marshall, Senior Pastor and Chairman of the Board of New Hope Baptist Church, is requesting that an 18.787 acre parcel of land on Hasty Road be rezoned from Residential-20 to Office/Institutional in order to construct a worship center and Sunday school space. Council needs to set a public hearing for this request.

Motion was made by Councilmember Parker, seconded by Councilmember Leak, and unanimously carried to set a public hearing to be held Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs council room of the Municipal Building.

RESOLUTION NO. R-2011-01 WHICH DIRECTS THE CITY CLERK TO INVESTIGATE THE SUFFICIENCY OF A VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION REQUEST - NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

The City Manager explained that the City Clerk received a petition December 29, 2010 from New Hope Baptist Church requesting that its property on Hasty Road be annexed inside the city limits. The proposed resolution will direct the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the petition. The property is contiguous to the existing city limits.

Councilmember Parker moved for the adoption of Resolution No. R-2011-01 which directs the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of a voluntary annexation request by New Hope Baptist Church. Councilmember Rainer seconded the motion, and it was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Parker, Leak, Ellison, Spencer, Rainer

Nays: None

(Resolution No. R-2011-01 is on file in the City Clerk's office.)

REQUEST FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT 44-ONE STORY ELDERLY APARTMENTS ON PLAZA ROAD

The City Manager explained that Mr. Tommy Ward of Gateway Construction is requesting a conditional use permit to construct a 44-unit multi-family housing complex located off Plaza Road. This development would be super energy-efficient and restricted to individuals 55 years and older.

Motion was made by Councilmember Ellison, seconded by Councilmember Rainer, and unanimously carried to set a public hearing to be held Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs council room of the Municipal Building.

ORDINANCE NO. O-2011-02 WHICH AMENDS ORDINANCE NO. O-2010-01 (ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ACCOUNT PROGRAM

GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE FOR CITY OF LAURINBURG COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT 09-C-2015) TO INCLUDE ADMINISTRATION COSTS

The City Manager explained that Ordinance No. O-2010-01 inadvertently did not include the Administration cost of \$15,000.00. In order to balance the expenditures, this amount needs to be included. There is no financial impact to the City budget. This expenditure is covered by revenue from this project.

Councilmember Parker moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. O-2011-02 which amends Ordinance No. O-2010-01 as stated in the previous explanation. Councilmember Rainer seconded the motion, and it was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Parker, Spencer, Rainer, Ellison, Leak

Nays: None

(Ordinance No. O-2011-02 is on file in the City Clerk's office.)

AGENDA WORKSHOP DATES

The City Manager explained that at Council's agenda workshop session held January 12, 2011 there was a consensus to hold agenda workshops through the month of June 2011.

Motion was made by Councilmember Parker, seconded by Councilmember Spencer, and unanimously carried to set agenda workshops to be held as follows and beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs conference room of the W. Charles Barrett Building located at 305 West Church St., Laurinburg, NC.

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Tuesday, June 14, 2011

APPOINTMENT

Mayor Block stated that Mr. Rembert DeBerry's appointment to the Firemen's Relief Fund has expired. He stated that Mr. DeBerry is interested in serving once again. The appointment expires January, 2013.

Councilmember Parker motioned to reappoint Mr. Rembert DeBerry to the Firemen's Relief Fund with term to expire January 2013. Councilmember Ellison seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Mayor Block stated that the annual Citizen Input Session will be held February 3, 2011 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The session will be held at the A.B. Gibson Building at 322 South Main St., Laurinburg, NC.

Councilmember Parker stated that the Boldface Lairs event will be held at the Storytelling Festival of the Southeast in downtown Laurinburg Saturday, January 22, 2011.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present for the public comment session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Matthew Block, Mayor

Dolores A. Hammond, City Clerk