

**CITY OF LAURINBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2013  
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 on September 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the council room of the Municipal Building with the Honorable Thomas W. Parker III, Mayor, presiding. The following Councilmembers were present: Mary Jo Adams, Curtis B. Leak, Andrew G. Williamson, Jr. and J. D. Willis.

Also present were: Charles D. Nichols III, City Manager; Jennifer A. Tippett, City Clerk; and William P. Floyd, Jr., City Attorney.

Mayor Parker called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The invocation was given by Councilmember Willis.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilmember Leak requested that Item (d) be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Motion was made by Councilmember Leak, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda as amended.

Mayor Parker explained that Item (d) from the Consent Agenda would be discussed following the Consent Agenda.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There was no one present to speak.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The City Manager presented the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a) Consider minutes of June 18, 2013 regular meeting; July 9, 2013 agenda workshop; July 16, 2013 regular meeting; and August 1, 2013 special meeting
- b) Consider Resolution No. R- 2013-20 honoring Ellis Hankins upon his retirement from the North Carolina League of Municipalities
- c) Consider Ordinance No. O-2013-23 condemning the property located at 218 McGirts Bridge Rd. and authorizing the City Building Inspector to demolish and clear the property
- d) REMOVED

e) Consider setting public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on October 22, 2013 to consider a request for a Conditional Use Permit to expand an existing daycare facility located at 497 Produce Market Road

f) Consider Ordinance No. O-2013-24 amending the FY 2013-2014 Budget Appropriations Ordinance (O-2013-17) by allocation \$19,000.00 from Contingency to Other Improvements

g) Consider Ordinance No. O-2013-25 amending the FY 2013-2014 Budget Appropriations Ordinance (O-2013-17) to receive funds for the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency Urgent Repairs Grant

h) Consider Resolution No. R-2013-21 authorizing the Mayor, City Manager and City Clerk to execute any documents related to the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency Urgent Repairs Grant

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Councilmember Adams seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Williamson, Adams, Leak, Willis

Nays: None

**CONSIDER SETTING PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X PERMISSIBLE USES, SECTION 146 TABLE OF PERMISSIBLE USES AND AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XI SUPPLEMENTARY USE REGULATIONS OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE**

Mayor Parker explained that Council was to consider setting a public hearing to be held on October 22, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to consider a request to amend Article X Permissible Uses, Section 146 Table of Permissible Uses and an amendment to Article XI Supplementary Use Regulations of the Unified Development Ordinance.

Councilmember Leak expressed concern about the safety of having a live fire training facility in the City limits and urged Council to proceed with caution.

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson to set a public hearing to be held on October 22, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to consider a request to amend Article X Permissible Uses, Section 146 Table of Permissible Uses and an amendment to Article XI Supplementary Use Regulations of the Unified Development Ordinance. Councilmember Willis seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Williamson, Willis, Adams

Nays: Leak

The City Attorney explained that this public hearing is a legislative hearing and would not be as formal as the quasi-judicial hearings held recently by Council. He added that any individual wishing to speak regarding the request would be able to do so and it would not be limited to adjoining property owners.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

## **SECOND CDBG HEARING**

Mayor Parker opened the public hearing.

The City Manager explained that staff recommends that Council continue the public hearing held on July 16, 2013, continued until August 20, 2013 and continued until this date, September 17, 2013 in order to discuss the application for the CDBG 2013 cycle.

Motion was made by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Willis, and unanimously carried to continue this public hearing to October 22, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

## **DELEGATIONS**

### ***FARMERS MARKET PLANS***

Mr. Jim Willis, Chairman of the Laurinburg Downtown Revitalization Corporation (LDRC), introduced Ms. Miller Slaughter, Manager of the Farmers Market.

Ms. Slaughter presented a PowerPoint presentation on the history and activities of the Farmers Market as follows:

- Farmers Market began with \$3,000.00 grant from the Sparkplug Foundation Grant and Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and the opening date was July 2, 2011.
- The purpose of the Farmers Market is to provide access to healthy locally-grown produce and to allow local beekeepers and artisans an avenue to sell their goods.
- Over the years, the Farmers Market has grown and become more diverse.
- In 2014, she hopes to continue growth of the Farmers Market by applying for SNAP, the US Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Program, to allow vendors to accept electronic banking transactions (EBT), conduct more advertising, have more special events and develop a steering committee.

Mr. Jim Willis explained that LDRC was happy to partner with the City on the Farmers Market, and that Ms. Slaughter was the right person for managing the Farmers Market. He also discussed the following:

- In order to reduce City expenditures, City staff brings truck to him every Friday that houses the tents, tables and chairs for the Farmers Market, eliminating the need for City staff to be present on Saturday during the Farmers Market.
- The Farmers Market should be held every Saturday for continuity.
- Advertising needs to be increased in order to increase number and variety of vendors.
- Tweaked the requirements for vendors to increase number.
- Agreement with the School System to use restrooms at the A.B. Gibson Center has worked well.
- Until LDRC can present solid plan for Farmers Market, there is no need to ask for additional money for Farmers Market since there is some left from the \$2,500.00 allocated by the City.

Upon questions by Councilmember Willis, Mr. Jim Willis explained that there is approximately \$800.00 left of the original amount allocated. He added that in the future, if the Farmers Market grows and it is sustainable, LDRC may ask for additional funds next year.

Mayor Parker thanked Ms. Slaughter and Mr. Willis.

### ***URGENT REPAIRS GRANT***

Mr. Adrian Lowery of the Lumber River Council of Governments (COG) appeared before Council and explained that the City has been awarded \$75,000.00 for Urgent Repair Grant and the applications for this grant will be ready the next day and interested persons should contact him at the COG or Mrs. Brandi Deese.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

#### **CONSIDER AWARDING BID FOR AUDIO-VISUAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The City Manager explained that staff was requesting Council award the bid for audio-visual improvements to the Council Chambers to Draughon Brothers in the amount of \$10,043.02.

Upon question by Councilmember Adams, the City Clerk explained that the City would have to run some electric lines and fiber in order for the system to be operational.

Mr. Tom Waage, Library Coordinator at St. Andrews University and Manager of the Community Access Channel, explained that he reviewed the bids, researched the technology and made the recommendation to award the bid to Draughon Brothers as its proposal included advanced technology compared to the other submission. He added that he volunteered to assist the City Clerk and be trained on the new system as well.

Following a brief discussion motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to award bid for audio-visual improvements to the Council Chambers to Draughon Brothers Inc. in the amount of \$10,043.02.

#### **CONSIDER RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AWARD INSTALLMENT FINANCING CONTRACT**

The City Manager explained that Council was presented a resolution submitted by the City's bond counsel authorizing the City Manager to award the installment financing for the FCC Project for under \$9 million. He added that the bids were due the following day and with the tight schedule to meet the Local Government Commission's schedule, he was asking Council for authorizing to award the installment financing contract.

Councilmember Adams moved to approve Resolution No. R-2013-22 authorizing the City Manager to award installment financing contract to the submitter of the proposal that best meets the needs of the City, with the primary factor being the lowest interest cost to the City. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Adams, Leak, Williamson, Willis

Nays: None

(Resolution No. R-2013-22 on file in the City Clerk's office)

### **CONSIDER RESOLUTION DECLARING OCTOBER 6-12, 2013 AS PUBLIC POWER WEEK**

The City Manager explained that Public Power Week is celebrated each year by members of ElectriCities to promote the vital utility. He added that in conjunction with Public Power Week, Consumer Billing will hold Customer Appreciation Day on Wednesday, October 9, 2013.

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve Resolution No. R-2013-23 declaring October 6-12, 2013 as Public Power Week in Laurinburg. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Willis, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Willis, Leak, Adams

Nays: None

(Resolution No. R-2013-23 on file in the City Clerk's office)

### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### **PLANNING BOARD**

Mayor Parker explained that Mr. Charles "Scoofer" Jordan has submitted application to serve on the Planning Board.

Motion was made by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to appoint Mr. Charles "Scoofer" Jordan to the Planning Board for a term expiring June 30, 2016.

#### **SCOTLAND COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Mayor Parker explained that a member of Council needs to be appointed to the Scotland County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to replace former Councilmember Spencer. The term will expire September 1, 2014.

Motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to appoint Councilmember Andrew G. Williamson, Jr. to the Scotland County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

#### **VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE FOR NORTH CAROLINA LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Mayor Parker explained that a Voting Delegate and Alternate Voting Delegated needed to be appointed for the North Carolina League of Municipalities Annual Conference being held in Hickory October 13-15, 2013.

Councilmember Williamson moved to appoint the City Manager as the Voting Delegate and Councilmember Curtis B. Leak as the Alternate Voting Delegate for the North Carolina League of Municipalities Annual Conference. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Willis, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Willis, Adams, Leak

Nays: None

### **COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND/OR COUNCILMEMBERS**

Councilmember Willis requested that detailed information be provided at the upcoming retreat concerning the fire tower and a zoning violation on McColl Road.

Further discussion ensued concerning the fire tower and information from the Scotland County Inspections Department.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, the City Manager explained that staff will be present to provide input to Council.

Councilmember Willis requested an update on the Management Trainee Program.

### **RECESS**

Motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to recess the meeting to Monday, September 23, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building for a Council Retreat.

The meeting recessed at 8:02 p.m.

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Thomas W. Parker III, Mayor

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Jennifer A. Tippett, City Clerk