

**CITY OF LAURINBURG  
RECONVENED COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 20, 2014  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
303 WEST CHURCH ST.  
LAURINBURG, NC  
6:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

The City Council of the City of Laurinburg reconvened its April 22, 2014 meeting which was reconvened on May 12, 2014 and recessed until 6:00 p.m. on May 20, 2014 at 6:00 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, Dolores A. Hammond, 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 6:00 p.m.

The Invocation was given by Councilmember Williamson.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion was made by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Hammond, and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda as presented.

The City Manager explained that two (2) items would be discussed at the meeting on May 21, 2014 – new entrance signs and a request from the Make A Wish Foundation to fill a swimming pool for a child with cancer. He added that staff would be seeking Council's opinion of the new entrance sign on McColl Road so that the remaining signs could be ordered.

Following discussion regarding the request from the Make A Wish Foundation, it was consensus of Council to personally pay for the water to fill the swimming pool.

**FY 2014-2015 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS**

The City Manager explained that the Solid Waste Fund and Building Maintenance would be reviewed.

***Building Maintenance***

Mr. Haywood explained that Building Maintenance for Public Works is split between the Electric and Water/Sewer Funds. The total cost for Building Maintenance is \$82,996.00, which is a reduction from FY 2013-2014.

The City Manager explained that some of the expenditures include a heat pump for Public Works and paint and repair warehouse.

A discussion ensued concerning adding vinyl siding instead of painting.

Upon question by Councilmember Leak, Mr. Haywood explained that the perimeter laser on the fence at Public Works is working and there needed to be some repairs made to the gate and fence.

### ***Solid Waste***

The City Manager discussed the following in the Solid Waste Fund:

- Revenue was fairly flat.
- \$187,000.00 would be appropriated from Solid Waste Fund Balance in FY 2014-2015 leaving a net position of \$313,000 .00 in the Solid Waste Fund.
- Increase in sale of recyclables from \$25,000.00 to \$85,000.00.
- Will utilize inmates to sort recycling to allow the City to package and sell recyclables at the best price.
- Some equipment at the Recycling Center will need to be repaired at a cost of \$17,000.00.

A discussion ensued concerning subsidizing the Solid Waste Fund with money from the General Fund, automation and personnel attrition in the Sanitation Department, financing of equipment and the Solid Waste Fund being self-supporting.

A discussion ensued concerning the use of Fund Balance, not just in Solid Waste, but all of the City's Funds, to balance the budget, particularly for capital purchases. The City Manager explained that in the past few years capital purchases were financed.

Mr. Haywood explained the variation of capital purchases in the Solid Waste Fund. He explained that beginning in 2008, because of economic conditions, the City did not replace any trucks for several years, so the vehicle schedule got behind.

A discussion ensued concerning the number of solid waste customers, solid waste fees and savings in the Solid Waste Fund from automation to keep costs down for customers.

Upon questions by Councilmember Williamson, Mr. Haywood explained that the City's solid waste fees are slightly higher than some other municipalities of comparable size; however, most of those municipalities do not offer the same level of service as the City and/or part of the solid waste costs are included in the property tax rates for the other municipalities. He added that a new position, supervisor for litter pick-up, is included in this fund. He further added that also included in the expenditures is a one-time cost to replace the solid waste containers downtown.

A discussion ensued concerning the solid waste containers downtown and options to replace them. Councilmember Williamson suggested removing this item from the budget in order to work with Laurinburg Downtown Revitalization Corporation (LDRC) to find a suitable, less expensive trash can.

Following further discussion concerning the Solid Waste Fund, fees and capital replacement schedule, the City Manager explained that staff would research the effect of raising the solid waste collection fees by \$1.00 for residential and the corresponding percentage increase to commercial and provide to Council on May 21, 2014.

Mr. Haywood discussed operating the City's recycling center utilizing one (1) employee to supervise inmates sorting recyclables. He also discussed repairs necessary on the motor on the bailer and the conveyor.

Upon question by Councilmember Leak, Mr. Haywood explained that he would apply for a recycling grant in February or March, 2015.

**RECESS**

Motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to recess the meeting to Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

The meeting recessed at 6:53 p.m.

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Thomas W. Parker III, Mayor

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Jennifer A. Tippett, City Clerk