

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING/WORK SESSION
JUNE 10, 2014
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
303 WEST CHURCH ST.
7:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Laurinburg held a special meeting/work session on June 10, 2014 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. with the Honorable Thomas W. Parker, III, 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 7:00 p.m.

Councilmember Willis gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Parker requested to move Items 6 and 7 to the beginning of the meeting in order to accommodate guests.

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

Laurinburg Maxton Airport Commission

Mayor Parker explained that normally the Laurinburg-Maxton Airport Commission (LMAC) budget would be presented at a regular Council meeting; however, Ms. Gentry has a scheduling conflict on that day. Mayor Parker stated that another representative will present the budget at the June meeting for public edification. He recognized LMAC Board Member Mrs. Ella Morris.

Mrs. Jo Ann Gentry, Executive Director of the Laurinburg/Maxton Airport Commission, presented the 2014-2015 proposed budget and updated councilmembers on several projects completed at the airport. Below are highlights of her presentation:

- Total budget is \$1,202,100.00 which is \$34,850.00 greater than the previous year's budget.
- Includes 1.5% employee COLA.

Mrs. Gentry provided an update on LMAC projects:

- Completed parallel taxiway project in October, 2013.
- Taxiway G, H, L & I Rehabilitation was bid at an estimated cost of \$800,000.00 and it is hoped this project can be completed between 2014-2020.

Upon question by Councilmember Leak, Mrs. Gentry explained that she had received no requests to locate a solar farm on airport property.

Mrs. Gentry explained that the Goodyear Blimp would be housed at the Airport during the US Open tournaments.

The Mayor thanked Mrs. Gentry and Mrs. Morris for attending the meeting.

Input on Cemetery Procedures - Josh Byrd

Mr. Josh Byrd, a local business owner, expressed concern about the possibility of the City opening and closing graves and the effect it would have on local businesses.

The City Manager explained that Council had requested staff conduct research on opening and closing graves at the City's cemeteries. He added that this matter would be discussed at a retreat.

Mr. Richard Boles, owner of Richard Boles Funeral Service, explained that he thought it would be fair of Council to discuss cemetery operations with local funeral homes. He added that he has experienced some difficulties having graves marked off after business hours.

Mr. Purcell, owner of Purcell Funeral Home, expressed concern about the policies and procedures.

Following further discussion concerning cemetery operations, motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to form a committee of City staff and funeral home directors to review cemetery policies and procedures.

AGENDA FOR JUNE 17, 2014

The City Manager reviewed the agenda for June 17, 2014 as follows:

3) Consent Agenda

- a) Approve minutes of April 22, 2014 regular meeting, May 12, 2014 reconvened meeting, and May 13, 2014 reconvened meeting and special meeting/work session

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 4) Consider Ordinance No. O-2014- amending Chapter XVI of the Unified Development Ordinance Council approved flood maps.
- 5) Consider Ordinance No. O-2014- Approving the FY 2014-2015 Budget

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

- 6) Consider Resolution No. R-2014- for Purchase of property at the corner of Alpha and Old Lumberton Road (Tax ID # 01007906012) from Mr. Allen Rogers for sewer line at a price of \$7,500
- 7) Consider Ordinance No. O-2014- condemning the property located at 600 Duncan Street and directing the Building Inspector to repair or demolish the structure
- 8) Consider Ordinance No. O-2014- condemning the property located at 348 East Vance Street and directing the Building Inspector to repair or demolish the structure
- 9) Consider Ordinance No. O-2014- amending the FY 2013-2014 Budget Appropriations Ordinance (Ordinance No. O-2013-17)
- 10) Consider Revised Fee Schedule (dumpsters, commercial yard waste, fiber fees)

- 11) Set public hearing to be held July 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to consider a request for a Conditional Use Permit to install a ground mounted solar array on the north side of X-Way Road
The City Manager explained that this item was being pulled from the agenda.
- 12) Consider awarding bid for Contract 5.0 Bridge Creek Pumping Station in the amount of \$374,850 to Step Construction, Inc.
- 13) Consider Resolution No. R-2014-amending Resolution No. R-2012-20 Adopting a revised Position Classification Plan and a List of Classes for the Position
- 14) Consider awarding audit contract to Gustaf C. Lundin & Company for our FY 2013-2014 audit and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute contract

Discussion ensued concerning further discussion of the Memorandum of Understanding for the 911 Call Center/EOC. Motion was made by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Willis, and unanimously carried to discuss this matter at the July 15, 2014 work session.

CONSENT AGENDA

Following discussion, it was consensus of Council to place Items 7, 8 and 12 on the Consent Agenda.

COLA FOR EMPLOYEES

Mayor Parker expressed concern about the COLA Option approved by Council.

Discussion ensued concerning the need to compensate employees and the need for succession planning.

Councilmember Hammond stated that we should not allow employees on probation to get certifications as we do not know how long they will be here.

Mrs. Carpenter explained that the proposed COLA increase will affect the pay and grade scale since each employee will receive a different percentage of increase. She also explained that in order to not include probationary employees in the proposed COLA increase, a separate pay and class would have to be developed and implemented for all positions during the probationary period.

ITEMS FOR CONSENT AGENDA

Following discussion, it was consensus of Council to include Items 7, 8, 12 and 14 to the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Leak expressed concern about a Scotch Meadows sign erected on McColl Road, and the City Manager explained that staff was investigating.

DUMPSTER OPTIONS

Harold Haywood discussed options for dumpster purchases and the need to adjust fees for dumpsters. He also discussed a rent to own option.

Discussion ensued concerning the rent to own option. Upon question by Councilmember Adams, Mr. Haywood explained that the rent to own option would have a negative impact on revenues in the Solid Waste Fund.

Motion was made by Councilmember Adams to increase dumpster fees and not offer a rent to own option. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hammond, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Haywood then explained a recommendation to add a fee for commercial bulky item and yard waste pickup.

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson, seconded by Councilmember Willis, and unanimously carried to authorize staff to add a fee of \$24.00 flat rate for commercial customers for bulky item and yard waste pick-up.

BUDGET CLARIFICATIONS

Upon request by the City Manager, Mrs. Carpenter discussed the budgeted amount for the Humane Society in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 budget.

Following discussion, it was consensus of Council to fund the Scotland County Humane Society at \$80,000.00.

The City Manager requested clarification on whether part-time employees and Council receive the COLA.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hammond, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to not give the COLA to part-time employees.

Motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to not give the COLA to City Council and the Mayor.

At 8:49 p.m. Mayor Parker departed and Mayor Pro Tem Adams presided for the remainder of the meeting.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

There were no comments offered.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:50 p.m., Councilmember Leak motioned to go into closed session pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11(a) (5) to establish or instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease and pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a) (6) for the purpose of considering the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hammond, and unanimously carried.

At 9:24 p.m., motion was made by Councilmember Hammond, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to adjourn the closed session and resume the open meeting.

SET CITY MANAGER’S SALARY

Councilmember Willis motioned to amend the City Manager’s contract for 2013-2014 by changing the base salary from \$95,000.00 to \$96,000.00. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Willis, Williamson, Leak, Hammond, Adams

Nays: None

Councilmember Willis motioned to increase the City Manager’s base salary from \$96,000.00 to \$99,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 and extend a three-year contract to the City Manager with the stipulation that the City Manager’s base salary will be reviewed annually. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Willis, Williamson, Hammond, Adams, Leak

Nays: None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson, seconded by Councilmember Hammond, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Thomas W. Parker III, Mayor

Jennifer A. Tippett, City Clerk