

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 2022
CITY HALL AND POLICE DEPARTMENT
303 WEST CHURCH ST.
6:00 p.m.**

Minutes

The City Council of the City of Laurinburg held its regular meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 in the Council Chambers of the City Hall and Police Department at 6:00 p.m. with the Honorable James T. Willis, Mayor, presiding. The following Councilmembers were present: Mary Jo Adams, Mary Evans, Rosemary Rainer, Barbara Rogers, and Andrew G. Williamson, Jr.

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

Mayor Willis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Adams gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The City Manager requested that Item 7d be removed from the Consent Agenda as it had to be changed and needed more information provided to Council. He also requested to add an item about the City's electric substation as the last item under the City Manager Reports.

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve the agenda with the changes requested by the City Manager. Councilmember Rainer seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

RECOGNITION AND PRESENTATION OF ADVANCED LAW ENFORCEMENT CERTIFICATES

Mayor Willis and Police Chief Johnson presented the Advanced Law Enforcement Certificates to Investigator Jeffrey Cook II and Detective Jeremy White.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING KALIYAH HARRINGTON

Mayor Willis read the following proclamation and presented to Kaliyah Harrington:

*RECOGNIZING AND HONORING
KALIYAH HARRINGTON*

WHEREAS, in the early morning of October 29, 2022, Kaliyah Harrington awoke to smoke and fire in her home; and

WHEREAS, using knowledge gained recently from fire safety and escape training at Carver Middle School, Kaliyah woke up her siblings that were sleeping in the living room and ushered them out the front door; and

WHEREAS, she ran back inside to awaken her mother, father and infant sibling, and ushered them outside with everyone else; and

WHEREAS, after a headcount was completed, one of her sisters was discovered missing, so she again went back to save her sister; and

WHEREAS, had it not been for Kaliyah's efforts, her entire family could have been seriously injured or perished in the fire.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that Kaliyah Harrington is hereby honored and recognized for her outstanding heroism for her lifesaving actions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Laurinburg, this 15th day of November, 2022.

Mayor-we have all heard your story. Had fire in house, dog woke me up. Grabbed handle and smoke came pouring out. Terrified and in shock. Think black smoke, smell and heat. Stand in awe of your bravery.

James T. Willis, Mayor

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:11 p.m., Councilmember Adams moved to go into closed session to consult with the attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and carried unanimously.

At 7:25 p.m., Councilmember Adams moved to adjourn the closed session and resume the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rainer, and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no one present to speak during the Public Comment Period.

DICIE PATTERSON

Ms. Patterson was not present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Willis reviewed the Consent Agenda:

- a) Consider minutes of October 18, 2022 regular meeting
- b) Consider Designation of Applicant's Agent and Applicant Assurances for Public Assistance
- c) Consider Resolution No. R-2022-30 Requesting NC Department of Transportation's support for road infrastructure work for Project Leap Frog
- d) REMOVED
- e) Consider Ordinance No. O-2022-33 Amending FY 22-23 Budget Ordinance by increasing revenue in State Government Grant line item in the amount of \$375,000 and additional expenditures in the Fire Department Equipment Replacement line item of \$375,000, and reducing expenditures by \$340,000 from the Fire Department Equipment Replacement line item and increasing expenditures in the Contribution to the Scotland County Economic Development line item by \$340,000
- f) Consider Ordinance No. O-2022-34 Amending FY 22-23 Budget Ordinance by increasing revenues in the Water/Sewer Capital Project line item in the amount of \$300,000, and increasing expenditures in the Water/Sewer Capital Project Engineering line item by \$300,000 for the Water and Sewer Asset Inventory Assessment Grants
- g) Consider Authorizing City Manager to Execute Agreement with the GoldenLeaf Foundation for Infrastructure Improvements for Sopakco
- h) Consider Ordinance No. O-2022-35 Amending FY 22-23 Budget Ordinance by appropriating \$1,200,000 to a Capital Project line item, and increasing expenditures in the Construction line item by \$1,200,000 for Grant from GoldenLeaf

Councilmember Evans moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Williamson moved to second the motion, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Evans, Williamson, Adams, Roger, Rainer

Nays: None

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

CONSIDER ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY 22-23 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE

The City Manager explained that Ordinance No. O-2022-32 provides funding for the emergency repair on the wastewater collection line near the intersection of McColl Road and Hasty Road. The City's water/sewer engineering consultant received quotes from qualified contractors to begin as soon as possible, and the amount that will be needed to repair this work is \$260,000. The City had funding in the Non-Departmental Water/Sewer line item of \$150,000 and an additional \$110,000 from Fund Balance appropriated can be used to completely fund the project

Councilmember Adams moved to approve Ordinance No. O-2022-32 amending the FY 22-23 Budget Appropriations Ordinance (Ordinance No. O-2022-21) by decreasing Non-Departmental expenditures by \$150,000, increasing Fund Balance Appropriated by \$110,000, and increase expenditures in the Sewer Construction line item by \$260,000. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rainer, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Adams, Rainer, Evans, Williamson, Rogers

Nays: None

(Copy of Ordinance No. O-2022-32 on file in city clerk's office)

RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO SPECIAL USE PERMIT REQUEST FOR THE OPERATION OF AN RV PARK

Mayor Willis recused himself.

Councilmember Evans moved to deny Resolution No. R-2022-29 Resolution of the Laurinburg City Council Pertaining to the Special Use Permit for the Operation of an RV Park.

The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve Resolution No. R-2022-29 Resolution of the Laurinburg City Council Pertaining to the Special Use Permit for the Operation of an RV Park. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Adams, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Adams, Rainer, Rogers

Nays: Evans

(copy of Resolution No. R-2022-29 on file in city clerk's office)

Councilmember Rainer stated that she had reservations about voting for the motion; however, she understood what had been discussed in closed session earlier.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION ACCEPTING INCREASE IN CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN OFFER FOR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PHASE II

The City Manager explained that the City has completed the construction of the Distribution System Improvements-Phase I to replace a portion of the main water distribution line from the Water Treatment Plant to the Water Tank on Caledonia Road. The City was previously approved financing from the Division of Water Infrastructure-Drinking Water State Revolving Fund in the amount of \$4,515,000 to complete the remainder of this line replacement. Division of Water Infrastructure approved increasing the loan funding to \$7,150,000 based on more recent cost estimates.

Councilmember Evans moved to approve Resolution No. R-2022-31 accepting Increase in Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Offer in the amount of \$2,635,000 for a total loan amount of \$7,150,000 for Distribution System Improvements Phase II. Councilmember Adams seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Evans, Adams, Rainer, Williamson, Rogers

Nays: None

(copy of Resolution No. R-2022-31 on file in city clerk's office)

**CONSIDER ORDINANCE AMENDING FY 22-23 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE**

The City Manager explained that this budget amendment accounts for the increase in the loan amount from the Division of Water Infrastructure-Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for the Distribution System Improvements Phase II.

Councilmember Rainer moved to approve Ordinance No. O-2022-36 amending FY 22-23 budget ordinance by increasing revenues in the Water/Sewer Capital Project Fund for Distribution System Improvements Phase II by \$2,635,000 and increasing expenditures in the Construction line item by \$2,635,000 for Distribution System Improvements Phase II. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rogers, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Rainer, Rogers, Williamson, Evans, Adams

Nays: None

(copy of Ordinance No. O-2022-36 on file in city clerk's office)

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION ACCEPTING LOAN INCREASE FROM THE DIVISION
OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE-CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND**

The City Manager explained that the City was approved for a necessary increase in the loan amount from the Division of Water Infrastructure-Clean Water State Revolving Fund in the amount of \$2,549,000 for a total financing of \$10,315,000 to complete the renovation of the Influent Pump Station at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Councilmember Williamson moved to approved Resolution No. R-2022-32 Accepting Loan Increase from the Division of Water Infrastructure-Clean Water State Revolving Fund in the amount of \$2,549,000 for a total financing of \$10,315,000 for Influent Pump Station Improvements. Councilmember Rainer seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Rainer, Rogers, Adams, Evans

Nays: None

(copy of Resolution No. R-2022-32 on file in city clerk's office)

**CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CHANGE
ORDER 1**

The City Manager explained that he was requesting to be authorized to execute the Change Order 1 to the contract with Dellinger, Inc. for the Influent Pump Station Repairs. He added that the project had not yet begun because Dellinger, Inc. wanted to have all of the equipment in before beginning. At this point, the City has spent \$520,000 in engineering costs, but the State will not reimburse the City until the Notice to Proceed has been issued. The Change Order 1 allows the Notice to Proceed to be issued on November 16, 2022 and extend the time period of the contract by 180 days. This action will allow the City to be reimbursed the \$520,000 for engineering costs pre-paid.

Councilmember Evans moved to authorize the City Manager to execute Change Order 1 to contract with Dellinger, Inc. for Influent Pump Station Improvements for extension of contract time due to order delays. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rainer, and the motion carried unanimously.

ELECTRIC SUBSTATION

The City Manager commended Council on its decision to fund the second electric substation. He explained that this past Sunday the Duke Energy substation located behind the City's Switching Station/Substation #1 on West Boulevard experienced a major equipment failure which resulted in no power going into the City's Substation #1. After talking with Duke Energy, staff decided to switch all of the City's circuits to Substation #2 in order to keep all of the City on power. Had the City not done so, half of the City (the half that was on Substation #1) would have still been without power because Duke was still trying to figure out the problem. This was the first time all of the City's circuits were energized by Substation #2, so staff involved the City's electrical engineers to ensure that the switch was done properly. This process took approximately 1.5 hours.

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

There were no comments by the Mayor or Councilmembers.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:43 p.m., Councilmember Evans moved to go into closed session to discuss prevent premature disclosure of an award. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and carried unanimously.

At 7:49 p.m., Councilmember Rainer moved to adjourn the closed session and resume the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rogers, and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson, seconded by Councilmember Rogers, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

James T. Willis, Mayor

Jennifer A. Tippet, City Clerk