

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 22, 2023
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, August 22, 2023, 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; William P. Floyd, Jr., City Attorney; Harold W. Haywood, City Clerk.

Mayor Willis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Rogers gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve the agenda with a second by Councilmember Rainer and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no one present to speak.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Willis read aloud the Consent Agenda:

- a) Consider minutes of July 25, 2023 regular meeting
- b) Consider Resolution No. R-2023-12, Finding of Facts for Special Use Permit request to allow a 72-Unit Apartment Complex on Parcel No. 01001601006
- c) Consider approval of the description of the parcel to be conveyed in accordance with Incentive Agreement (Exhibit A) approved at the June 20, 2023 regular meeting.
- d) Sponsor official proclamation from Richmond Community College recognizing September 18-22, 2023, as Adult Education and Family Literacy Week

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

Ayes: Adams, Evans, Rainer, Williamson, Rogers

Nays: None

(Copy of Resolution No. R-2023-12 on file in the clerk's office)

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. O-2023-15 AMENDING CHAPTER 8, ARTICLE II, SECTION 8-83, FOOD TRUCKS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LAURINBURG

The City Manager explained that the current ordinance only allows food trucks to set up in three locations, which are in the certain business district. Currently, truck vendors can get a year-long annual permit and individual property owners can allow them up to four times per year to use their properties. Amending the ordinance will allow the vendors to set up at commercial properties but will require them to have written permission from the property owner, can not be within two hundred feet of an existing food service establishment, and the permit holder will be allowed to operate from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., depending on the property owner discretion.

Councilmember Evans inquired if the business owner could extend the operating hours with the approval of the property owner. The City Manager explained that the city would evaluate the vendors on an individual basis to ensure that the property owner and surrounding property owners approved. He explained that amending the ordinance was to get the code up to date with how things are currently taking place.

Councilmember Adams inquired whether when the vendors apply for one permit if they would be able to use it at multiple locations. The City Manager explained that it would be one annual permit per food truck.

Council ensued conversation regarding the different food trucks that are in use.

Councilmember Adams moved to approve the Ordinance No. O-2023-15 Amending Chapter 8 Businesses, Article II. Itinerant Merchants, Peddlers, or Vendors, Section 8-83 Food Trucks of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Laurinburg. Councilmember Rogers moved to second the motion, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Adams, Evans, Rainer, Williamson, Rogers

Nays: None

(Copy of Ordinance No. O-2023-15 on file in the clerk's office)

UPDATE ON MARKER/MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR MCDUFFIE SQUARE

Walker McCoy, Community Development Director, provided the council with a packet that contained examples of markers and/or plaques to place in McDuffie Square. He asked for guidance from the council on which one the council would like to proceed with. Mr. McCoy explained that once the marker was selected and received, the Beautification Department would landscape the area and place the marker. He explained that the city could not only place a marker in McDuffie Square, but also add a plaque to the walk-thru area to display a brief written history of McDuffie Square.

The Council ensued in discussion on the different examples that were provided by Mr. McCoy and selected the ones that the council agreed on.

The City Manager explained that once Mr. McCoy gets the cost of the marker and a markup of what it will look like, it will come back to council for final approval.

UPDATE ON NORTH FIRE STATION CONSTRUCTION

The City Manager provided a brief update on the fire station construction project. He stated that the metal building is currently being erected and the contractors are working on the roof. He explained that the contractor currently has a lot of subs inside the structure working on framing the living quarters, training room, and offices. He explained that the electricians are onsite working on the electrical as well. The manager stated that the plumbers will begin working inside next week. He stated that the city utility crews will begin working on the septic, water, and generator soon. The manager further explained that the anticipated completion date is by the end of this calendar year with the hopes of being in the facility and operating out of it by Christmas. He explained that once the roof and side walls are complete, that the weather should not hinder the work being completed on the inside of the building any longer.

Councilmember Rainer inquired about the service roads and if there is still an issue with them. The City Manager explained that the construction of the main entrance for the future industrial plant will not begin by the time of completion for the fire station, so there will be a temporary access to the fire station, just for the employees to get to the back and side parking lot. He stated that the main entrance that connects to Aberdeen Road will be completed, but the other entrance will have to wait until that road construction takes place. The manager stated that NC DOT did come in and pave the service road, so it would be completed to provide access for the construction of the industrial plant.

UPDATE ON SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The City Manager explained that there were a few people that have expressed interest in serving on the Solid Waste/Recycling Committee. He asked for guidance on who the council would like to nominate to serve. Currently the committee will consist of Councilmember Evans and Councilmember Rogers as board representatives. The Mayor stated that Frances Willis would also like to serve. The manager explained that Scott Miller has also expressed interest in serving.

Council ensued conversation on recommendations to serve on the committee.

Councilmember Williamson made a motion to appoint Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rogers, Frances Willis, Scott Miller, and Shirley Campbell to serve on the Solid Waste/Recycling Committee. Councilmember Adams moved to second the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER, MAYOR AND/OR COUNCILMEMBERS

The City Manager informed the council that Scotland County has contacted him regarding assistance with the Scotland Yard Project. He explained that assistance is requested to help dig holes at the project site and to remove some of the trees. The manager stated that the county is seeking volunteers to help with the project. He stated that he was going to speak with the city departments to see if anyone would be interested in volunteering during the morning hours if it did not interfere with the operation of city services.

Councilmember Evans inquired about the black pipes that are staged around the city. The City Manager explained that those pipes are in staging areas for the ongoing construction of the Distribution System Improvements-Phase II project. He explained that this phase will be the final phase of installing the new water distribution line along a route from the area close to Scottish Pines to the Caledonia Water Tank.

The Mayor inquired about an update on the Leith Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City Manager stated that the contractors have had two (2) pours of concrete at the construction site of the Leith Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. He explained that the engineers will attend the council meeting in September to provide an update on this project, along with the other ongoing water and sewer capital projects.

Councilmember Adams applauded and thanked the Mayor for the comments that he had made on the radio this week pertaining to St. Andrews University. The Mayor expressed gratitude for her acknowledging his session on the radio. He informed the council that he had spoken with someone that went on a tour of the university and he stated that this person had never been out there but was impressed. The Mayor explained that the property is absolutely beautiful and that Dr. Malick and his team have really turned things around for the university. He informed the council that St. Andrews started a science fair many years ago that is now nation-wide, and that North Carolina has more teams that participate in it than any other state.

Councilmember Evans expressed gratitude to Councilmember Adams for letting her fill in for the Lumber River Council of Government meeting on August 17, 2023. She informed the council that it was very informative and that there are some new grants that will be available to apply for stormwater funding.

CLOSED SESSION – CONSULT WITH CITY ATTORNEY

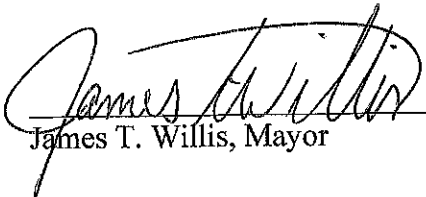
Councilmember Williamson moved to go into closed session at 6:43 p.m. pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3) to consult with City Attorney. Councilmember Adams moved to second the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

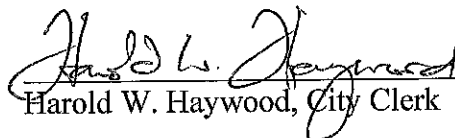
Councilmember Williamson moved to adjourn the closed session at 7:07 p.m. and return to the open meeting. Councilmember Adams moved to second the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.


James T. Willis, Mayor


Harold W. Haywood, City Clerk