

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 16, 2015
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 June 16, 2015 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, 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. Tippet, 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 Hammond, and she then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Parker requested that the agenda be amended to add a discussion about Economic Development Update after the closed session.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no one present to comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

The City Manager presented the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a) Consider minutes of April 13, 2015 special meeting/retreat; April 14, 2015 special meeting/work session; April 21, 2015 regular meeting; and May 11, 2015 special meeting/budget workshop
- b) Consider Ordinance No. O-2015-08 amending the FY 2014-2015 Budget Appropriations Ordinance (O-2014-11)
- c) Consider authorizing the City Manager to execute Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Laurinburg and North Carolina Department of Transportation concerning Advanced Warning Signs and Pavement Marking
- d) Consider Resolution No. R-2015-09 endorsing the City of Laurinburg's application to the North Carolina Department of Commerce, NC Main Street Center for participation in the Downtown Associate Community program and committing the Community Development

Director position to the administration of the local Downtown Associate Community Program

Councilmember Adams motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Hammond seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Adams, Hammond, Willis, Leak, Williamson

Nays: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CONSIDER COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN 2035

Mr. Wes MacLeod of Holland Planning Associates explained that the Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2035 was a general guide for growth and planning for the city for 35 years.

Mayor Parker opened the public hearing.

There being no one present to speak, Mayor Parker closed the public hearing.

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to approve the Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2035.

CONSIDER FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET

Mayor Parker opened the public hearing.

There being no one present to speak in favor or against the budget, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Hammond thanked staff for its due diligence for working through a tough budget.

Councilmember Hammond motioned to approve Ordinance No. O-2015-09 Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget Appropriations Ordinance. Councilmember Willis seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Hammond, Willis, Williamson, Leak, Adams

Nays: None

(Ordinance No. O-2015-09 on file in City Clerk's office)

DELEGATIONS

McNair Evans – Arts Council Grant

Mrs. Brenda Gilbert of the Arts Council of Scotland County explained that Mr. McNair Evans, a Laurinburg native, was working with the Arts Council on a two-year grant.

Mr. Evans explained that the grant funds will be used to consolidate the photo history of Scotland County into one (1) location. He described the project as follows:

- Project is called "Echode: From These Roots"

- Phase One will be archiving photographs into single archive accessible online and at the Storytelling & Arts Center of the Southeast (SACS).
- Phase Two will be displaying in public areas photos to invigorate civic pride and engage the community.
- He may request that photos or sculptures be displayed or for temporary murals.
- Working to ensure that archiving meets State requirements.
- Working with SACS, Betty Myers, Ann Miller, St. Andrews and Leon Gyles at Scotland County Memorial Library.

Upon question from Councilmember Hammond, Mr. Evans explained that anyone wishing to share photos can do so in two (2) ways: a scanning station will be opened on the second floor of the SACS or the photos can up uploaded directly onto the website.

Mayor Parker thanked Mr. Evans and Mrs. Gilbert for helping to preserve the past for the future, and he presented them with City pins.

Mrs. Gilbert added that volunteers are needed to work on this project.

Ms. Paige Quick – Golf Cart Ordinance

Mrs. Paige Quick appeared before Council to request that Council establish an ordinance that would allow golf carts to be driven on City streets. She discussed requirements such as registration and inspection, insurance, being allowed only on City streets with speed limit of 35 or below, driver must have valid drivers' license and the golf cart can carry only the number of passengers for which there are seats.

Upon question by Councilmember Hammond, Mrs. Quick explained that she and her husband recently moved to the Hunters Ridge Subdivision and inquired whether golf carts could be driven on City streets, and when told that golf carts on streets were illegal, she talked to City staff who suggested that she make the request of Council.

Discussion ensued concerning seat belts and potential enforcement. Mr. Mac McInnis, City Zoning Officer, explained that any violation would be similar to a traffic violation and handled by the Police Department.

Following a brief discussion, it was consensus of Council for staff and the City Attorney work with Mrs. Quick to develop an ordinance and present to Council and the next meeting.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS CONSIDER REVISING THE FEE SCHEDULE

City Manager explained that the Fee Schedule amendment included increases in the water and sewer rates and the solid waste fees.

Motion was made by Councilmember Hammond, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to approve the revised Fee Schedule for 2015-2016.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 117

The City Manager explained that this resolution supports House Bill 117 that deals with distribution of the local option sales tax. He added that if passed, Laurinburg and other rural areas of the state would benefit.

Councilmember Adams motioned to approve Resolution No. R-2015-10 supporting House Bill 117. Councilmember Leak seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Adams, Leak, Willis, Hammond, Williamson

Nays: None

(Resolution No. R-2015-10 on file in City Clerk's office)

CONSIDER AWARDING CONTRACT FOR AUDITING SERVICES

The City Manager requested Council award the contract for auditing services for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 to Gustaf C. Lundin & Company.

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to authorize the Mayor to execute the contract with Gustaf C. Lundin & Company, LLP to audit the City's financial records for FY 2014-2015.

APPOINTMENTS

PLANNING BOARD

Mayor Parker explained that Mr. Larry Everett would like to serve on Laurinburg Planning Board.

Motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to appoint Larry Everett to the Laurinburg Planning Board for a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2015 and expiring June 30, 2018.

LAURINBURG-MAXTON AIRPORT COMMISSION

Mayor Parker explained that he currently fills one of the City's appointments to the Laurinburg-Maxton Airport Commission. He added that if Council so desires, he would like to be reappointed.

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to appoint Thomas W. Parker III to a 3-year term on the Laurinburg-Maxton Airport Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2018.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR OR COUNCILMEMBERS

Upon request by Councilmember Leak, the City Manager explained that the July 4th Fireworks Display will be at Pate Stadium with gates opening at 6:00 p.m. He invited everyone to come out and enjoy the fireworks.

Discussion ensued concerning the Summer Feeding Program for school-age children in the community.

Mayor Parker thanked Council and staff for the excellent job working on the budget.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:30 p.m. Councilmember Hammond moved to go into closed session 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 Leak, and unanimously carried.

At 8:04 p.m. Councilmember Adams moved to adjourn the closed session and resume the open meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Willis, and unanimously carried.

CITY MANAGER'S SALARY

Motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to set the City Manager's salary for fiscal year 2015-2016 at \$3,000.00 above his current salary to be effective July 1, 2015.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The City Manager provided an update on the status of utility usage at FCC (North Carolina).

Discussion ensued concerning the City's economic development efforts and the need to utilize the Community Development Director more in these efforts, including attending the meetings of the Scotland County Economic Development Corporation.

Mayor Parker requested and it was consensus of Council for the Mayor to send a letter to Mr. McNair Evans regarding his efforts with the Echode Project.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Thomas W. Parker III, Mayor

Jennifer A. Tippet, City Clerk