

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2018
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
303 WEST CHURCH ST.
7:00 p.m.**

Minutes

The City Council of the City of Laurinburg held its regular meeting on Tuesday, July 17, 2018 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. with the Honorable Matthew Block, MD, Mayor, presiding. The following Councilmembers were present: Mary Jo Adams, Mary Evans, James J. Garby, Jr., Curtis B. Leak, and Andrew G. Williamson, Jr.

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

Mayor Block called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmember Williamson gave the Invocation and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The City Manager requested two amendments to the agenda: 1) add to the Consent Agenda Consideration of Resolution No. R-2018-28 Designation of Applicant's Agent (required for Federal Emergency Management Agency), and 2) add at the beginning of the City Manager's Reports Mr. Brian Graham of Scotland County Parks and Recreation with a request concerning the Insanitarium event.

Motion was made by Councilmember Leak, seconded by Councilmember Garby, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with requested amendments.

RECOGNITION OF NANCY WALKER

Mayor Block explained that he had been looking forward to recognizing Mrs. Nancy Walker following her retirement from Laurinburg Housing Authority.

Councilmember Evans moved to approve Resolution No. R-2018-22 Honoring Nancy Walker. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Evans, Williamson, Adams, Leak and Garby

Nays: None

Mayor Block read Resolution No. R-2018-22 and presented it to Mrs. Walker.

RESOLUTION NO. R-2018-22

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAURINBURG
HONORING NANCY WALKER
LAURINBURG HOUSING AUTHORITY
JULY 1979-JUNE 2018**

WHEREAS, Nancy Walker began working at Laurinburg Housing Authority on July 23, 1979 as Assistant Director, was promoted to Executive Director in 1981, and retired on June 30, 2018, for a total of almost 39 years; and

WHEREAS, under Nancy's leadership, the Laurinburg Housing Authority grew from 15 employees managing 472 housing units into an organization with diverse programs, properties and management contacts with 46 employees, 530 units of Housing Choice Vouchers, 479 units of Section 8 Project Based Vouchers, a Family Self-Sufficiency Program, and also provides contract management for Maxton Housing Authority (140 units) and Southern Pines Housing Authority Housing (101 units); and

WHEREAS, also under Nancy's leadership, a non-profit entity, Opportunity, Inc., was formed which has been an avenue for the development of three (3) tax credit properties: Central School, a 31-unit project; Scottish Glen Apartments, a 40 unit project; and Scottish Glen II Apartments, a 40 unit project; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career in public housing Nancy has worked diligently to provide low-cost and fair housing for the communities served by Laurinburg Housing Authority and other affiliated organizations; and

WHEREAS, Nancy has been extremely active in numerous federal and state professional organizations, and she has devoted decades to serving the community as a volunteer and leader in several organizations in Scotland County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAURINBURG that the Laurinburg City Council hereby recognizes and honors Nancy Walker for her expert leadership of the Laurinburg Housing Authority and for her dedicated work in the community. We wish her well in her much deserved retirement.

Adopted this the 16th day of October, 2018.

Mrs. Walker thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition. She explained that she felt that the Laurinburg Housing Authority gave her more than she ever gave it. She added that one of the highlights of her service in the community was being a part of winning the All America City in 2003. She further added that she had been very fortunate and blessed to have had a wonderful career that she loved and that did a lot of good work in the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Block reviewed Public Comment procedures.

Mr. Michael Edds explained that he was pleased that Council was considering a storm water policy. He expressed concern about the portion of the policy that requires storm drainage improvements on private property be partially funded by the property owner. He further explained that citizens were concerned about the inoperable drains and the potential for flooding houses. He added that he sent pictures to the Council of storm drains that needed to be cleaned out, including a ditch at the corner of West Blvd. and Glasgow Drive. He further added once told that West Blvd. was a state-maintained road, he contacted Senator McInnis, Representative Pierce and Governor Cooper, which resulted in 20 feet of the ditch being cleaned. He requested that Council be the citizens' advocates and be sensitive to their needs.

Mrs. Terry Parker explained that on behalf of Tis the Season, she was offering Council the opportunity to purchase a Christmas tree downtown to decorate for \$100.00, at a cost of \$14.20 per person. She added that the Scotland County Commissioners were decorating a tree also. She further added that lights would be placed on the tree and Council could decorate the tree as desired during the second week of November. Mrs. Parker volunteered Mayor Block.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, Mrs. Parker explained that checks should be written to Tis the Season.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Block reviewed the Consent Agenda:

- a) Consider Resolution No. R-2018-23 Fixing date of public hearing to be held on November 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. on question of annexation of property near the Small Business Innovation Center
- b) Consider request to close Roper Street from Main Street to Atkinson Street on December 15, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for Tis the Season event
- c) Consider Approving First Amendment to Water Tower Lease between the City of Laurinburg, the Town of Maxton and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute First Amendment to Water Tower Lease
- d) Resolution No. 2018-28 Designating Applicant's Agent

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garby, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Garby, Evans, Adams, Leak

Nays: None

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

Bryan Graham, Director of Scotland County Parks & Recreation appeared before Council to request that Council waive the Fire Department fees associated with having the Insanitarium Nightmare on Main Street. He explained that according to the North Carolina Fire Code that if a building has a fire suppression system installed, it must be operational in order to use the building; however, if there is no fire suppression system installed, a building can be used. He

further added that the building on Roper Street to be used for Insanitarium contained an inoperable fire suppression system so either the system needed to be repaired or find another solution. He further explained that he and City staff had developed an alternative to repairing the sprinkler system, and it was to have a manned fire truck on site to provide adequate safety. However, the costs to have the manner fire truck onsite according to the City's Fee Schedule was approximately \$3,200.00. He concluded by stating that planning for the Insanitarium event did not include costs for fire protection; therefore he requested that Council waive the fees.

The City Manager explained that he spoke with Mr. Graham and Mr. English and explained that he nor Chief Gibson could waive the fees.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, the City Manager explained that he could not remember when the City had a request for a fire truck to standby. He cautioned Council that another non-profit could make a request at any time.

Following further discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Garby, seconded by Councilmember Leak, and unanimously carried to waive the Fire Department Fees per the Fee Schedule for the Insanitarium Nightmare on Main Street event.

Mr. Graham added that the Insanitarium event would be held on October 19, 20, 26 and 27, 2018, with entrance fees of \$10.00 per person, or for a Fast Pass to get through the line faster at \$20.00 per person. He added that the event would be held at 116 Roper Street.

NORAN SANFORD, GROWING CHANGE

The City Manager explained that before Hurricane Florence, he had met with Mr. Noran Sanford about a partnership between the City and Growing Change, Mr. Sanford's non-profit organization, regarding the City's unused greenhouse. He added that the City would use the greenhouse to grow its annual plants and Growing Change could use it as well.

Mr. Terrence Smith, Youth Director of Growing Change, appeared before Council and explained that Growing Change is working on a lot of projects, and the partnership concerning the greenhouse would allow the organization to focus on one project.

Mr. Noran Sanford, founder of Growing Change, explained that the work being done by Growing Change at the abandoned prison in Wagram was being used as a model of what to do with the closed prisons in North Carolina, of which there are six (6) within 50 miles of Laurinburg. He added that the City's greenhouse was a high tunnel structure and would allow Growing Change to utilize acreage that otherwise could not be used. He further added that use of the greenhouse would allow for revenue sources for the youth.

The City Manager explained that Mr. Walker McCoy, Beautification Supervisor, and Mr. Michael Mandeville, Community Development Director, saw a segment about Growing Change on WRAL-TV and suggested the partnership using the greenhouse. He added that if Council was interested in pursuing the partnership, a resolution would be presented at the November meeting to finalize the partnership.

Motion was made by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Garby, and unanimously carried to pursue the partnership between the City of Laurinburg and Growing Change, a non-profit organization, regarding location and use of the City's greenhouse, and for staff to present necessary paperwork at the November 13, 2018 meeting.

CATHERINE SANTANA ANDERSON, FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Ms. Catherine Santana Anderson explained that she was the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist for this region specifically to interact with elected officials. She added that the registration deadline for assistance from FEMA and the Small Business Administration (SBA) is November 13, 2018 to obtain assistance with damage caused by Hurricane Florence. She further added that a Disaster Recovery Center with FEMA and SBA representatives opened yesterday, October 15, 2018 at Scotland Place, and would be open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. until further notice. She further explained that individuals affected by Hurricane Florence could register at the Disaster Recovery Center, online or by calling FEMA's toll free number.

Upon questions by Mayor Block, Ms. Anderson explained that if a citizen has a question, they should go to the Disaster Recovery Center. She added that if someone has received a denial from FEMA, they should also go to the Disaster Recovery Center for additional information, particularly the right to appeal.

Councilmember Garby stated that he had heard about citizens being denied assistance from FEMA because they had insurance.

Ms. Anderson explained that the representative from the SBA in attendance would provide information on this issue.

Councilmember Evans explained that she had heard from a lady that is handicapped and cannot clean her home from the water damage.

Ms. Anderson requested that Councilmember Evans provide the individual's name and address to Mr. Roylin Hammond, Scotland County Emergency Management Director, so that someone could be sent to home to help her register with FEMA.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Ms. Anderson explained that Mr. Michael Fundu would provide information concerning the registration deadline.

Ms. Vivian Santos, Specialist with the SBA, explained that her mission is to inform citizens of the SBA's programs, in this case a low-interest loan to assist individuals recover from a disaster. She added that homeowners and renters must register with FEMA first. She further added that individuals that did not have the income to repay a loan would be referred back to FEMA. She further explained that she would be working outreach activity such as visiting churches and other institutions to let citizens know about services.

Ms. Anderson explained that a SBA representative would be at the Disaster Recovery Center, and when an individual registers with FEMA, sometimes FEMA also registers the individual with the SBA. She added that the SBA would review the application and conduct an income test, and if an individual did not qualify for a loan, the applicant would be referred back to FEMA. She further added that if an individual does not go through the entire process including application with the SBA, then FEMA interprets that to mean that the individual does not need assistance, and the process ends there.

Mr. Michael Kundu, FEMA Supervisor for eight (8) counties including Scotland County, explained that he handles tactical operations following a disaster. He provided a quick review of the process for assistance programs, as follows:

- Any impacted community will work through the county and then through the state.
- The state works directly with FEMA in a partnership usually in a joint field office established after a declaration is declared.
- There are two (2) types of assistance through FEMA: Individual Assistance (IA) which is for citizens seeking assistance, and Public Assistance (PA) which is public assistance.
- FEMA works through the Emergency Management Director.

Mr. Kundu explained that one of the biggest issues for FEMA is that elected leaders do not know what resources are available for citizens and for government entities. He added that in-depth training could be provided. He further explained that there is a deadline for FEMA application because there is a designated amount of money allocated by the federal government for each disaster.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Kundu explained that debris removal is a reimbursable expense from FEMA.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Kundu explained that FEMA has a new mitigation program that would help pay for improvements in a disaster declared county that perhaps had not been damaged, but could be damaged with the next disaster.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Kundu explained that elected officials could reach out to churches, use social media and traditional media to inform citizens about the assistance available.

Councilmember Evans explained that many citizens have questions about flood insurance.

Mr. Kundu explained that in order to purchase flood insurance, the property must be in a flood prone area which results in some properties receiving significant flooding but the properties are not eligible for flood insurance. He added that the National Flood Insurance Program can provide options for property owners. He further added that the flood maps are constantly changing.

The City Manager explained that he and staff members had been in every FEMA meeting held since Hurricane Florence hit the area. He requested that Mr. Harold Haywood, General Services Director, provide Council with a status of the City's application with FEMA.

Mr. Haywood explained that the City had submitted a request for public assistance, and was waiting to be assigned a program manager. He added that he and the departments are collecting data concerning damage on operational costs, overtime, tipping fees and other items. He further added that the information will be uploaded into the grants portal and then get the FEMA project worksheet submitted so the City can get reimbursed by FEMA.

CONSIDER STORM WATER POLICY

The City Manager explained that staff and Mr. Chuck Willis of Willis Engineering had revised the draft Storm Water Policy based on Council's direction to remove the advisory board. He added that staff is working on a priority list of problem areas which would be presented in February or March for budget consideration.

Councilmember Garby suggested that staff look at possible projects that could be funded with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds.

Following a brief discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to approve the Storm Water Policy.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The City Manager explained that the appraisals for the properties involved with the Urban Design Parking Project had been received, and the eight (8) parcels owned by five (5) property owners appraised at \$60,500.00 total. He added that he and staff held discussions with the property owners and provided them with copies of the appraisal with results as follows:

- The owner of the house facing Atkinson Street was fine with the appraised value and then changed her mind.
- The Pierces were fine with the appraised amount if the other property owners were on board with selling to the City.
- Mr. Murphy wanted the tax value which is greater than the appraised value.
- Mr. West wanted twice the appraised value.
- Mr. Stone and Mr. Brooks were fine with the appraised price for their parcel.

The City Manager explained that there was another potential location for the Urban Design Parking Project, but he did not want to disclose the location until he and staff looked at the site.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that the total to purchase all of the parcels would be approximately \$80,000.00 if the property owners were paid what they wanted for their parcels. He added that staff wanted to treat all property owners the same. He further added that the City Attorney had begun title searches on the parcels which revealed that one (1) property has a mortgage and another has liens.

Following a brief discussion, the City Manager explained that staff would talk with the property owners to ask them what it would cost for them to sell their parcels to the City. He added that this information along with the location for the other potential site would be discussed at the November meeting.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, the City Attorney explained that the use of eminent domain would be very difficult in this scenario.

Mayor Block stated that with the collapse of the Market Furniture Building, perhaps the project could be moved to that lot.

Mr. Mandeville explained that the City does not own the Market Furniture Building property.

Mayor Block requested that staff find out what is going to happen with the Market Furniture Building property.

The City Manager explained that he had spoken with the owner of the Market Furniture property, Mr. Marshall Melton, when the walls fell. The property was deemed unsafe and Mr. Melton sent crews in to finish demolition of the remaining wall. He added that Mr. Melton was talking with Mr. Chuck No, owner of the adjacent building that was damaged when the Market Furniture Building fell, about the possibility of purchasing the building from Mr. No. He added that the City's concern was that the corner where Market Furniture Building was located had been cleaned up and was safe. He further added that Mr. No's building was deemed unsafe, and the process requires a hearing before the Code Enforcement Officer, and then Mr. No would be given a certain amount of time to repair or tear down the building.

Mr. Mandeville presented an update on Community Development activities as follows:

- The wayfinding signs are being reworked with larger font and will be blue with white lettering at no cost to the City. The signs should be back in several weeks.
- He will be submitting a Brownsfield Grant before Thanksgiving. This is the same Brownsfield Grant submitted last year in partnership with Scotland County and the Scotland County Economic Development Corporation for up to \$600,000.00 to clean up a Brownsfield property in Scotland County.
- Hit all of the goals in the first plan of the Main Street Program. Ms. Sherry Adams from Cultural Resources will be coming to Laurinburg on November 15, 2018 to work on the second round of implementations and to assist staff with the 501(c)3 application.
- The Annual Tree Giveaway has been extended another week due to lack of orders.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, Mr. Mandeville explained that the tree order is made after the sign up is completed.

The City Manager explained that if there are funds available from the Tree Giveaway, then it could be used to purchase additional right-of-way trees.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, the City Manager explained that the Beautification Supervisor could conduct an inventory of the big oak trees that were knocked down by Hurricane Florence and develop a plan to replace those trees but perhaps not with the same type of oak tree.

Upon question by Mayor Block about the possibility of planting large trees in the Art Garden to provide shade, Mr. Mandeville explained that the only large plantings that had been discussed for the Art Garden was to block off the A.B. Gibson Building.

CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS RECOGNIZING ELECTRICITIES MEMBERS' ELECTRIC CREWS WHO ASSISTED RESTORING ELECTRIC SERVICES

The City Manager explained that Resolutions No. R-2018-24 through Resolution No. R-2018-27 recognize the municipalities of Apex, Rocky Mount, Wilson, and Tarboro. He added that the individual crews would also receive recognition.

Councilmember Williamson moved to approved Resolution No. R-2018-24, Resolution No. R-2018-25, Resolution No. R-2018-26 and Resolution No. 2018-27 recognizing ElectriCities members' electric crews who assisted restoring electric services. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garby, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Garby, Leak, Adams, Evans

Nays: None

(Resolutions No. R-2018-24, R-2018-25, R-2018-26 and R-2018-27 on file in City Clerk's office)

CONSIDER SETTING PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO ELECTRIC RATE ORDINANCE TO UPDATE THE AREA LIGHT SCHEDULE

The City Manager explained that a public hearing needed to be set for November 13, 2018 to consider amending the Electric Rate Schedule to update the Area Light Schedule. He added that in conjunction with changing street lighting to LED, staff wanted to replace area lights and parking lot lights to LED.

Motion was made by Councilmember Adams to set a public hearing to be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. to consider amendment to the Electric Rate Ordinance to update the Area Light Schedule. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garby, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Adams, Garby, Williamson, Leak, Evans

Nays: None

AUTHORIZE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (WATER INFRASTRUCTURE) CONTRACT

The City Manager explained that an amendment of the Community Development Block Grant-Infrastructure contract was necessary, and authorization for the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the amendment was needed.

Motion was made by Councilmember Garby, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute amendment to Community Development Block Grant (Water Infrastructure) contract.

RATIFY CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR HURRICANE FLORENCE

The City Manager explained that he was requesting that Council ratify his execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Hurricane Florence with North Carolina Department of Transportation. He added that the MOU provides that the City would pick up yard debris on State streets within the City limits. He further added that if the MOU had not been executed, staff would have to keep debris picked up from State streets separate from debris picked up from City streets.

Motion was made by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Evans, and unanimously carried to ratify the City Manager's execution of Memorandum of Understanding for Hurricane Florence with North Carolina Department of Transportation.

DISCUSSION/FOLLOW UP FROM DISTRICT 1 TOWN HALL MEETING

The City Manager explained that this item was on the agenda in the event Council wanted to discuss the results of the District 1 Town Hall Meeting.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Councilmember Evans replied that a list of the items discussed at the Town Hall Meeting was included in the agenda packet.

The City Manager read the list as follows:

- ❖ Send letter to State concerning storm drainage on Church Street (Tim Ivey will provide information.)
- ❖ North side of town – Recreation and Beautification
- ❖ Isabelle Street/Geneva Street – Flooding
- ❖ Communication – During Storm
- ❖ Contingency Plan/Future
- ❖ Infrastructure

Mayor Block commented that the City was working on all of those items.

Councilmember Garby suggested that FEMA funds could possibly be used for storm drainage improvements on Isabelle Street.

The City Manager explained that staff would discuss the Isabelle Street situation when meeting with FEMA.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Councilmember Leak explained that he spoke at the public hearing concerning closing of I. Ellis Johnson School to make sure that the Scotland County School Superintendent was aware that funds were included for demolition of the two (2) dilapidated buildings at I. Ellis Johnson School so that they would not continue to be an eyesore. He added that the Scotland County School System would be selling the school property.

Mayor Block explained that when I. Ellis Johnson School is sold to the highest bidder, it would be out of the City's control. He added that cities should consider taking possession of schools to make sure that the property ends up in the hands of "the people" who will be good stewards.

Discussion ensued concerning the gym at I. Ellis Johnson School and use of the remaining area maintained as a green space for the community.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Sandy Callan, WLNC Radio News Director, explained that the property had not been put for sale yet.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF MAJOR SITE PLAN FOR SCOTLAND COUNTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The City Manager explained that when a major site plan is submitted, it must be reviewed by the Planning Board and then approved by Council. He added that a major site plan is defined as any development involving over one (1) acre of land or a building over 20,000 square feet. He further added that all appropriate staff has reviewed the site plan for the Scotland County Elementary School and have determined that it adheres to all requirements. Planning Board recommended approval of the site plan.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that the property will be voluntarily annexed into the City limits. He added that the City will provide all utilities to the school including electricity.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that electric service is a customer choice at this location, and the School System wanted the City to provide electricity.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that any changes on Old Johns Road would be permitted by North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Motion was made by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried to approve the major site plan for Scotland County Elementary School.

REVIEW/UPDATE OF SOLID WASTE POST-HURRICANE FLORENCE

Mr. Harold Haywood, General Services Director, provided an update of solid waste/yard debris following Hurricane Florence. He stated that he appreciated citizens' patience with City crews

as they work to get the appearance of the streets back to normal. He added without the assistance from Water/Sewer, Streets, Beautification, Electric and Customer Services, the debris removal would be even more challenging.

- Two (2) types of debris:
 - Yard Waste Debris which includes vegetative debris consisting of limbs, leaves, and tree debris directly resulting from storm damage.
 - Construction & Demolition (C&D) which is defined as all waste resulting from construction, demolition, remodeling, or repair work done by the homeowner or contractors. According to the City's Solid Waste Policy, there is a charge if the City picks up C&D debris. Includes building materials, bricks, concrete, sand, wood, drywall, roofing materials, plumbing or electrical materials, metal, carpet, or vinyl, or other flooring, etc.
- Collection of debris:
 - The normal yard waste collection cycle is North, East, South, and West.
 - One pass down every street in each section before moving to the next section.
 - Once cycle is complete, it is then repeated continuously.
 - Just prior to Hurricane Florence hitting on Friday, Sept. 14th, the yard waste crews just finished the South section, which is why they started back with the West once cut and shove emergency operations (moving debris out of the streets) were no longer needed.
- Timeline of events:
 - September 14, 2018 – Began experiencing significant impacts
 - September 14 – 16, 2018 – Debris Cut & Shove Emergency Protective Measures
 - September 17, 2018 – Began Debris Removal Operation in West Section
 - October 2 , 2018 – Finished West Section / Started North Section
 - October 12, 2018 – Finished North Section / Started East Section
 - October 16, 2018 – Currently about 50-60% finished with East Section
- Yard Waste Collection to date:
 - Completed about 65-70% of first pass through City thus far in past 30 days
 - Collected 600 truckloads thus far, 650 tons (approximately 6,000 cubic yards) going directly to the Scotland County disaster site, and 3,000 cubic yards going to the City disaster site that will eventually be hauled to the County site. Yard debris collected on Saturdays is taken to the City's site since the County's site is closed on Saturdays.
 - For comparison, following Hurricane Matthew City crews completed two (2) passes through City in 35 days and collected 879 truckloads with approximately 14,000 cubic yards.
 - Crews (8 full-time employees) are working Monday through Thursday, 10 hours/day picking up yard waste when finished with bulky items (more bulky items put out in aftermath of storm).
 - Other crews from other departments assist the full-time yard waste crews on Friday for 10 hours and Saturday eight (8) hours working overtime.
 - One of the issues crews are facing in route down-time is the time it takes to go to the County site on Patterson Road. With Matthew, the City took all yard waste to the City's site on Hall Street, but the City had to grind the yard waste and then

dispose/give away the mulch that was generated from that large volume. Staff decided, since the City is seeking FEMA reimbursement, crews would take it to the County this time, get reimbursed from the tipping fee charges.

- C&D Debris:
 - Compared to Hurricane Matthew, there is significantly more C&D waste being put at the curb due to wind and flood damage sustained at a lot of residential locations.
 - The Solid Waste Policy states that the City does not collect this type of debris without charging an additional fee. If a resident puts this type of debris at the curb, the crew leaves a door hanger letting the resident know the City does charge an additional fee for that type of service. If it is not removed by resident by next round, the City removes and sends an invoice for the additional fees.

Upon question by Councilmember Leak, Mr. Haywood explained that the County waived tipping fees for yard waste and bulky items until October 15, 2018.

Councilmember Leak expressed concern that the City would charge citizens for tipping fees and eventually the City would be reimbursed by FEMA for those tipping fees.

Mr. Haywood discussed the large amount of C&D debris crews were collecting. He explained that the same crews collecting the C&D debris were the same crews collecting yard debris. He provided the following information concerning C&D debris collection:

- The crews have left 63 door hangers for C&D waste that was put at the curb for collection since September 18, 2018, some of which may or may not have been storm-related (we normally average around 24 door hangers per month).
- Collected with normal bulky items operations (which has slowed down yard waste collection as same employees work on yard waste also).
- Collected from 20 locations so far, already billed for seven (7) of those, with 13 pending invoices.
- Also, had some residents call and were informed of the policy of additional fees for C&D, so they may have taken their waste to one of the county sites (unknown #).

Mr. Haywood discussed the following options for Council to consider:

- Allow city staff the discretion to waive the additional fees if it can be determined that the C&D waste is the direct result of storm-related damage.
- The City will have to document each location, the estimated amount, take pictures of waste, provide weight tickets, etc. for all storm-related C&D waste to meet FEMA requirements for reimbursement, so a separate truck will have to be assigned to collect this waste only (can't mix with non-storm related).
- Once the City substantially completes the debris removal for yard waste, possibly after making two (2) passes through City, the reimbursement request will be sent to FEMA, so a deadline should be considered for getting storm-related C&D out for the City to pick up (30 days, 45 days?).

- City released Request for Proposals (RFP) yesterday to accept bids to provide collection and hauling assistance for disaster debris, as well as hanging limbs and stump removals for City-owned trees (cost to be reimbursed by FEMA). The deadline for the RFP is next Friday, October 26, 2018.

Discussion ensued concerning the FEMA deadline for Public Assistance. Mr. Haywood explained that staff would like a six (6) month deadline for cleanup so that that the City would be reimbursed in this fiscal year.

Discussion ensued concerning notification to citizens. Mr. Haywood explained that updates would be provided on the City's website and Facebook page.

The City Manager explained that since it was unclear if the FEMA reimbursement would be before June 30, 2019, staff would be presented a big budget amendment to be presented in December 2018 or January 2019 that will be in line with the FEMA application. He added that staff wanted to ensure that budgeted funds were on hand for what the City was doing.

Discussion ensued concerning the County disaster site being closed on Saturdays. It was consensus of Council for the City Manager to contact the County Manager to request that the site be open on Saturdays.

Following discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Garby, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to allow City staff the discretion to waive the additional fees if it can be determined that the C&D waste is the direct result of storm-related damage for the next 45 days.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND/OR COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Garby asked if there was anything the City could do to keep WLNC Radio on the air during storms.

Mayor Block suggested that the City Manager work with WLNC Radio to develop a disaster plan to determine what its need would be to say on the air 24/7 during a storm.

Councilmember Williamson suggested that Mr. Kevin Patterson, Scotland County Manager, and Mr. Roylin Hammond, Scotland County Emergency Management Director, also be included in the discussion.

Councilmember Evans suggested that WEWO Radio also be included.

The City Manager explained that he would discuss the issue with Mr. Hammond since it is a grey area for the City to purchase something such as a generator and give to a business.

CLOSED SESSION

At 9:04 p.m., Councilmember Adams moved to go into closed session to consult with an attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garby, and carried unanimously.

At 9:15 p.m., Councilmember Garby moved to adjourn the closed session and resume the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Matthew Block, MD, Mayor

Jennifer A. Tippet, City Clerk