

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 27, 2007
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
12:00 Noon**

Minutes

The City Council of the City of Laurinburg reconvened its June 19, 2007 regular meeting on June 27, 2007 at 12:00 Noon in the council room of the Municipal Building with the Honorable Ann B. Slaughter, Mayor, presiding. The following Councilmembers were present: Rembert DeBerry, Lisa D. Griswold (Blalock), Curtis B. Leak, and Herbert M. Rainer, Jr. Councilmember Thomas W. Parker, III was absent.

Also present were Craig F. Honeycutt, City Manager and Dolores A. Hammond, City Clerk.

Mayor Slaughter called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Councilmember DeBerry gave the invocation.

Mayor Slaughter explained that Councilmember Parker had minor surgery this morning, and it is questionable as to whether he will be alert enough to attend the meeting. She explained that, because this is a recessed meeting and all members are deemed present, a member must be excused in order to be excluded from the meeting. She stated that Councilmember Parker had asked to be excused from the meeting if he was not present when the meeting begins. Mayor Slaughter and Councilmember agreed that Councilmember Parker be and he was excused from this meeting.

JOB CLASSIFICATION AND PAY COMPENSATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF LAURINBURG

Mayor Slaughter explained that the request is that Council consider the adoption of a proposed job classification and pay compensation plan for the City.

Councilmember Leak stated that normally there is a classification and pay plan study conducted every four to five years for City employees. He explained that he was not satisfied with the study that was conducted by Condrey and Associates. He stated that his concern with the study is that every employee should be treated equitably, and he does not feel that this was the case with the lower paid employees. He then stated that he has lots of questions about the plan. He continued by stating that the City has in place a cost of living increase as well as the merit system and would like Council to consider postponing the job classification and pay compensation plan for the upcoming proposed budget.

Councilmember Blalock expressed that she had some of the same concerns as Councilmember Leak in addition to concerns about the cities chosen for the study.

Councilmember Blalock stated that she appreciates employees attending the meeting. She explained that Council is not taking any action to take a pay raise away. She continued by stating that Council has questions about the merit system as well but that the merit system would remain in place as it is. She then stated that Council is trying to make sure that the pay and classification study is fair to every employee now and in the future.

Councilmember Leak moved that the proposed pay and job classification plan discussion be tabled with the idea that it be included in the 2008-2009 budget year in whatever form Council finds appropriate and that Council possibly modify the plan after more investigation regarding the same. Councilmember Griswold seconded the motion, and it was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Leak, Blalock, Rainer, DeBerry

Nays: None

The City Manager stated that work on the plan would begin immediately and that Council should let him know if they

have any other questions or concerns.

PROPOSED 2007-2008 BUDGET APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

Mayor Slaughter explained that Ordinance No. O-2007-11, the Budget Appropriation Ordinance, appropriates funds for the operation of the City of Laurinburg Government.

Upon question by Councilmember Leak, the City Manager explained that the proposed pay and classification plan was not included in the budget. He further explained that the proposed ordinance does reflect the changes to the water and sewer rates as well as the solid waste fees.

Councilmember Rainer moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. O-2007-11 which appropriates funds for the operation of the City of Laurinburg government. Councilmember Blalock seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Rainer, Blalock, Leak, Deberry

Nays: None

(Ordinance No. O-2007-11 is on file in the City Clerk's Office)

2007-2008 CITY OF LAURINBURG SCHEDULE OF FEES

The City Manager explained that new fees submitted by the Interim Fire Chief for the fire department and the false alarm fees that Council approved at last month's meeting are included in the proposed schedule of fees as well as the proposed water/sewer and solid waste fees.

Motion was made by Councilmember DeBerry, seconded by Councilmember Leak, and unanimously carried to adopt the 2007-2008 City of Laurinburg Schedule of Fees.

RECESS

Motion was made by Councilmember DeBerry, seconded by Councilmember Blalock, and unanimously carried to recess the meeting until Friday, July 6, 2007 at 12:00 Noon in the upstairs council room of the Municipal Building.

The meeting was recessed at 12:16 p.m.

Ann B. Slaughter, Mayor

Dolores A. Hammond, City Clerk