

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON MAY 22, 2018

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 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, February 20, 2018 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. with the Honorable Matthew Block, 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. Tippet, City Clerk; and William P. Floyd, Jr., City Attorney.

Mayor Block called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The City Manager requested that an Update from Human Resources be added in the City Manager Reports and to move Item number 9, Consider Ordinance No. O-2018-03 Amending FY 17-18 Budget Ordinance (Ordinance No. O-2017-15) by Increasing General Fund-Fund Balance Appropriated by \$20,000 and Allocating \$20,000 to Community Development-Contracted Services since three (3) representatives of Retail Strategies from out of town were at the meeting.

Councilmember Adams requested that Item 15, Discussion Concerning Purposes and Limitations of Closed Sessions – City Attorney, be removed from the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Leak.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Councilmember Adams explained that the City Attorney had responded to concerns about the January 16, 2018 closed session, and that she did not believe Council needed to revisit the matter.

Mayor Block stated that he thought the discussion was going to be a broader discussion.

Motion was made by Councilmember Adams to remove Item 15, Discussion Concerning Purposes and Limitations of Closed Sessions – City Attorney, from the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Leak, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Adams, Leak, Williamson

Nays: Garby, Evans

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Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson, seconded by Councilmember Leak, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with amendments as suggested by the City Manager.

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION REMEMBERING PETER “PETE” G. VANDENBERG,
FORMER CITY MANAGER**

Mayor Block explained that he did not know former City Manager Pete Vandenberg, the longest serving Laurinburg City Manager, who passed away on February 9, 2018. He then read a resolution acknowledging his service. The Resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. R-2018-01

***RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAURINBURG
REMEMBERING PETER “PETE” G. VANDENBERG
LAURINBURG CITY MANAGER FROM 1971-1998***

WHEREAS, Peter “Pete” G. Vandenberg served as City Manager of the City of Laurinburg from 1971 until his retirement in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Pete lost his courageous battle with cancer on February 9, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Pete was the longest serving City Manager of the City of Laurinburg, and one of the longest serving in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Laurinburg City Council wishes to remember the visionary leadership provided by Pete to those councils and staff members who served during his tenure as city manager; and

WHEREAS, Pete’s civil engineering background ensured his attention to the infrastructure needs for the City as he thoroughly understood every facet of the electric and water/sewer infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, his visionary efforts and meticulous attention to detail resulted in the formation of the North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency and in the City’s fiber optic network; and

WHEREAS, Pete was known by employees, past and present, as firm but fair, frugal with money and time, precise, multi-talented, and quick and dry-witted.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAURINBURG that the Laurinburg City Council hereby recognizes and remembers Peter “Pete” G. Vandenberg and his contributions to the City of Laurinburg, its employees and its citizens, and that Laurinburg is a much better community because of his vision and character.

Adopted this the 20th day of February, 2018.

/S/ Matthew Block, MD, Mayor

/S/ Jennifer A. Tippet, City Clerk

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Councilmember Williamson moved to approve Resolution No. R-2018-01 Remembering Peter “Pete” G. Vandenberg, former City Manager. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Adams, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Adams, Evans, Garby, Leak
Nays: None
(Resolution No. R-2018-01 on file in City Clerk’s office)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Block reviewed public comment procedures.

Ms. Joyce Davis expressed concern about people asking her about the electric bills and construction of the new City Hall. She added that she was told by those questioning her that they had been promised by a lady that “if you vote for me, I will reduce your light bill immediately” and that if they voted for her, there would not be a new City Hall. She further added that her second concern was all of the discussion about the Police Department and singling out Police Chief Williams. She explained that she wanted to know if the motive was to try to put someone else, such as Sheriff Kersey, in the position by combining law enforcement agencies in the County. She suggested that there be a District 1 town hall meeting in order to answer the questions being posed by citizens.

Mayor Block thanked Ms. Davis for her comments and explained that every election there is an allegation of being promised to lower the light bills. He added that it would be hard to imagine any councilmember running for election would make such a promise. He further added that the discussion about the Police Chief and the Police Department has nothing to do with consolidation. He further explained that he had been pushing to have a consultant examine whether everything was being done to ensure that the department and the community were availing themselves of all best practices and everything that could be done to combat crime.

Councilmember Evans commended Ms. Davis for suggesting the town hall meeting since she had suggested that in the past.

Mayor Block asked Ms. Davis to tell everyone about the Citizen Input Session being held on February 27, 2018 at the A.B. Gibson Center.

Councilmember Evans explained that asking for a consultant to come in to find out if the City is following best practices in the Police Department should have been done a long time ago. She added that it is Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Block presented the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a) Consider minutes of November 14, 2017 regular meeting; November 27, 2017 recessed meeting; and December 12, 2017 organizational meeting

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- b) Consider setting public hearing to be held on March 20, 2018 to consider request for a Conditional Use Permit for carnival to be held at 1681 S. Main St. from March 30-April 8, 2018
- c) Consider Ordinance No. O-2018-01 Closing Main Street for SpringFest

Councilmember Adams moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Garby seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Adams, Garby, Williamson, Leak, Evans

Nays: None

CONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. O-2018-03 AMENDING FY 17-18 BUDGET ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. O-2017-15) BY INCREASING GENERAL FUND-FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED BY \$20,000 AND ALLOCATING \$20,000 TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT-CONTRACTED SERVICES

The City Manager explained that although the only action by Council needed was to approve the budget amendment for the first year of the contract with Retail Strategies in the amount of \$20,000.00, Ms. Lacy Beasley, President of Retail Strategies and two (2) of her team members were in from Birmingham, Alabama.

Ms. Beasley introduced Mr. Scott Voncannon, the Chief Operating Officer (COO), and Jeff Sommer, Portfolio Manager. She presented a PowerPoint presentation with highlights as follows:

- Retail Strategies has partnered with ElectriCities for approximately six (6) years.
- Team of over 30 people has over 200 years' experience in commercial real estate and retail recruitment and works in 28 states.
- Retail has economic and quality of life impacts.
- Retail Strategies will develop and implement a retail recruitment plan for the City.
- Provide market analysis and utilize data that major retailers use.
- Laurinburg's preliminary trade area is approximately 36,847 people even though the population is a little over 15,000.
- There is a retail leakage from Laurinburg of \$163,179.00 per year.
- Retail Strategies has excellent contacts and attends conferences and retail shows throughout the country and will utilize those contacts to sell Laurinburg to retailers.
- Will generate marketing guide including a web platform for use on the City's website.
- The main points of contact for the City will be Wesley Vaughn and Jordan Williams.
- Provides online reporting system, Basecamp which is updated constantly and will show history.
- Timeline of engagement includes the first 90 days are spent with Retail Strategies conducting discovery and research about Laurinburg, after which the recruitment plan is delivered to Council.

Councilmember Williamson commented that although Laurinburg's demographics might not be impressive, the strategic location on Highway 74 and access to the beach traffic allow

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Laurinburg to capture a lot of customers that retail might not know to consider when analyzing Laurinburg for potential development.

Ms. Beasley stated that one of the goals for Retail Strategy is to package the story of Laurinburg to entice retailers who normally would not consider Laurinburg.

Upon question by Councilmember Evans, Ms. Beasley explained that the City of Lexington was similar to Laurinburg, and one (1) recent success in Lexington was the opening of a Chick-fil-A. She added that because Lexington did not have interstate visibility, Retail Strategies worked with the City of Lexington to cut trees, and Chick-fil-A located there and it is an extremely successful store.

Mr. Scott VonCannon explained that Dunkin Donuts was an excellent example of a retailer that was expanding, but might not necessarily consider Laurinburg because of the demographics. He added that Retail Strategies would package Laurinburg in such a way that would meet Dunkin Donuts' criteria in order to make Dunkin Donuts' decision easier since the information would be pre-packaged. He further added that Retail Strategies would be working on identifying the retailers that are expanding and have potential.

Discussion ensued concerning the need to not harm existing retailers. Mr. VonCannon explained that the research will reveal any shortages and what the market can bear so as to not to harm existing retailers.

Upon question by Councilmember Adams, the City Manager explained that the contract is for three (3) years, and that ElectriCities would pay one-half (1/2) each year. He added that the cost for next year would be \$12,500.00 for the City, and \$12,500.00 for ElectriCities.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Ms. Beasley explained that the contract was not structured on a productivity basis.

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve Ordinance No. O-2018-03 amending FY 17-18 Budget Ordinance (Ordinance No. O-2017-15) by Increasing General Fund-Fund Balance Appropriated by \$20,000 and Allocating \$20,000 to Community Development-Contracted Services. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Leak, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Leak, Evans, Garby, Adams.

Nays: None

(Ordinance No. O-2018-03 on file in City Clerk's office)

PUBLIC HEARING

CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE FROM RESIDENTIAL-20 TO OFFICE/INSTITUTIONAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON OLD JOHNS ROAD AND IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL NO. 02024501012

Mayor Block opened the public hearing to consider a request to rezone property located on

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Old Johns Road and identified as Parcel No. 02024501012 from Residential-20 to Office/Institutional.

Mr. Mac McInnis, Planning and Zoning Officer, explained that Mr. Daniel Jones, property owner, had requested to rezone property located on Old Johns Road from Residential-20 to Office/Institutional. He added that the Office/Institutional zoning district would allow primarily office and institutional uses as well as limited retail. He further added that Planning Board considered the request on January 9, 2018, and voted 4 to 2 to recommend approval of the request. He further added that the property is abutted on two (2) sides by Office/Institutional property, and that there are also some General Business, residentially zoned property, as well as Industrial in the vicinity. He further explained that Mr. Bill Moser, attorney for the property owner was in attendance.

Upon questions by Mayor Block, Mr. McInnis explained that it was his opinion that the two (2) Planning Board members voted against the rezoning because of a rumor as to why the property was being rezoned. He added that staff does not question why Planning Board members vote as they do. He further added that he did not know if a contract for purchase of the property had been signed.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Sandy Callan of WLNC Radio explained that the Scotland County Schools had agreed on a purchase price for the property providing the property was rezoned.

Councilmember Leak suggested that the questions being posed by Mayor Block should be addressed to Mr. Bill Moser, attorney for Mr. Jones, the property owner.

Mayor Block explained that Mr. McInnis had mentioned that the two (2) Planning Board members that voted against the rezoning did so because of the rumor that a school was to be located on the property.

Mr. McInnis explained that he told Planning Board that the possible use for a school should have no bearing on the request, because the request is for rezoning, not about a school. He added that the request is to rezone the property to Office/Institutional, and a school is simply one of the permitted uses in the Office/Institutional zoning district.

Mr. Bill Moser appeared before Council and explained that he represented the owner, Reverend Dan Jones, who resides in retirement home in Winston Salem. He discussed Reverend Jones' family history and the history of the property being discussed. He added that the Jones family owns other property in the area of the property being discussed. He further added that the City owns a small tract of land abutting the subject property from which it operates a well. He stated that he had read in the local newspaper that the Scotland County School Board had requested that Scotland County transfer funds for the purchase of land for a new school; however he does not represent the Scotland County School Board and therefore he is not familiar with any contract. He added that he has worked with Mr. Nick Ellis, an attorney with Poyner Spruill in Rocky Mount, and no signed contracts have been furnished to him. He concluded by stating that Mr. Jones was requesting to rezone the

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property on the west side of Old Johns Road be rezoned to Office/Institutional.

Upon question by Mayor Block as to why Reverend Jones wanted to rezone the property, Mr. Moser stated that Mr. Jones' request was a business decision he and his attorney have made. He stated that obviously if the Scotland County School Board had asked the County Commissioners to move some money, then the Scotland County School Board has some interest in pursuing and possibly purchasing this property. He reiterated that he could not speak for the Scotland County School Board.

Mr. Moser thanked Council for recognizing Mr. Pete Vandenberg and discussed the work done by Mr. Vandenberg, Mr. Sam Snowden and himself in building the Scotland High School Stadium and the baseball field.

Mr. Michael Schmidt explained that he was an attorney in Laurinburg and was opposed to the proposed rezoning. He expressed concern that if the purpose of the rezoning of the property was to locate a school, he wanted Council to consider the location of Helena Chemical, 17223 Harry Malloy Road, not far from the subject property. He discussed Helena Chemical's history of chemical contamination in at least 11 states over the last three (3) decades. He discussed the need for extensive testing to ensure that there are no ground, air and water pollutants. He advised Council to proceed cautiously.

Mr. Schmidt discussed that Councilmember Williamson's law firm had represented the Scotland County School Board, and that he hoped Councilmember Williamson would recuse himself.

Mayor Block explained that Mr. Nick Sojka, formerly of Williamson, Dean, Sojka, no longer represented the Scotland County Schools.

Mr. Schmidt explained that there were many years of representation by Councilmember Williamson's law firm of the Scotland County Schools which would be a direct flow of money to the law firm. He suggested that where there is a direct conflict or even an appearance of a conflict of interest, he would not feel comfortable in Councilmember Williamson voting on this matter due to the flow of money to the law firm from the Scotland County Schools.

Upon questions by Councilmember Leak, Mr. Schmidt replied that he did not speak before the Planning Board concerning this request. He added that Helena Chemicals had been in its location for at least 20 years.

Councilmember Leak explained that he did not see the logic of Mr. Schmidt's presentation.

Mr. Schmidt explained that the logic was that Planning Board should have considered the close location of Helena Chemicals to the subject property. He added that he thought Council would want to consider this in its decision.

Councilmember Leak discussed the water contamination issues faced by a mobile home park that is no longer in existence.

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Mr. Thomas Willis explained that he now owns the property where the mobile home park was located, and that the water lagoon that is contaminated is located on the other side of the railroad track. He added that there was nothing else in the vicinity that is contaminated.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Willis explained that he did not conduct soil testing before purchasing the property from Scotland County at auction.

There being no one else to speak, Mayor Block closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Williamson stated that his law firm had historically represented the Scotland County School System; however, effective February 1, 2018, his firm no longer represents the Scotland County School System. He added that he was seeking direction from the City Attorney concerning his duty to vote or not.

The City Attorney explained that the issue being considered is whether a conflict of interest for Councilmember Williamson. He added that there was a specific General Statute concerning voting for zoning for zoning ordinances and changes in the zoning. He added that NC General Statute 160A-381 there is specific provision in the law that says that “a City council member shall not vote on any zoning matter or text amendment where the outcome of the matter being considered is reasonably likely to have a direct substantial and readily identifiable financial impact on the member.” He then asked Councilmember Williamson if he would receive any direct or even indirect financial impact.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Attorney stated that he was reading from NC General Statute 160A-381 referring to zoning matters.

The City Attorney explained that the issues is whether or not the outcome of this matter, the rezoning, would have any direct, substantial or readily identifiable financial impact on a councilmember. He added that if Mr. Sojka was still a member of Williamson, Dean, Sojka and still represented the Scotland County School Board, then the outcome of this matter would be important to Councilmember Williamson because he may receive payment, direct or indirect payment for his firm.

Councilmember Williamson explained that he did not see that his firm would receive any financial benefit, either direct or indirect, substantial or readily identifiable benefit from this rezoning even if a school is built.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Councilmember Williamson stated that he nor anyone in his firm would represent the Scotland County School System.

Councilmember Evans explained that she was familiar with the area as she grew up in Johns Station. She expressed concern as a councilmember, person and citizen that there was a possibility that there could be contamination from Helena Chemical that may affect children. She explained that there could be chemicals in the air that would put children at risk. She added that if the property were being zoned for a business, she would not have a problem

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with the rezoning, but not for a school.

Mayor Block explained that another issue from the safety standpoint is the speed limit. He also commented that there was no turning lane on Old Johns Road.

Councilmember Leak explained that if a school is built, the road would have to be improved.

Following a brief discussion, Councilmember Adams moved to approve Ordinance No. O-2018-02 rezoning from Residential-20 to Office/Institution the property located on Old Johns Road and identified as Parcel No. 01024501012 and adopt the following Consistency and Reasonableness Statements:

1. The Office and Institutional district is established to encourage land uses which serve as an adequate buffer between intensive non-residential uses and residential uses; provide aesthetic controls and dimensional requirements to ensure compatible office and service development with surrounding residential uses; and encourage a mixture of medium density residential uses with offices and services.
2. The Comprehensive Use Plan 2035 Future Land Use Map indicates the development of some mixed uses along the Highway 74 Bypass area, which is where this parcel is located. The present R-20 zoning restricts the permitted uses on the property. Office and Institutional zoning will be much more suited to future development of the parcel.
3. There are already some Office and Institution zoned properties along with Residential and General Business in the area. The rezoning of this parcel will allow residential as well as office and service uses on the property as a permitted use.

And the rezoning is reasonable because:

1. The rezoning to OI will allow uses consistent with other existing uses;
2. The rezoning to OI will help maintain the present character of the City of Laurinburg while promoting diversity and future growth.
3. The rezoning to OI will have no detrimental impact to the property values of the surrounding land owners.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Leak.

Mayor Block asked Councilmembers Williamson and Adams if they did not have any concerns brought up by Mr. Schmidt about Helena Chemical being sued in multiple states for contamination issues.

Councilmember Williamson stated that Council is being asked to consider a rezoning request for a piece of property. He added that he looked at properties around the subject property which are zoned Office/Institutional so that request is consistent with the Land Use Plan and with surrounding properties. He further added that the potential contamination issue may come up with the Scotland County School Board; however, Council is being asked to simply

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rezone the property.

Mayor Block asked Councilmember Williamson if he thought it was okay for a school to be located on the property. He also asked if Councilmember Williamson was sure the property was safe.

Councilmember Williamson stated that he was not sure the property was safe and that he did not know if there was any issue with the property at all. He added that he did not see Council's role as deciding whether the property was safe as Council was considering the request to rezone the property.

Councilmember Adams stated that she agreed with Councilmember Williamson. She added that the parcels surrounding the subject property are zoned Office/Institutional, and that Council was being asked to address the zoning issue, not the school issue.

Mayor Block stated that the zoning would allow for schools.

Councilmember Adams explained that the Office/Institutional zoning allows for multiple uses, as does the zoning surrounding the subject property. She added that there is a railroad track that runs through downtown Laurinburg, goes by Scotland High School and that there was no way to tell how many contaminated materials cross through Scotland County every day. She further added that she has full confidence that the Scotland County School Board will property vet the property before they would build a school on the subject property.

Mayor Block called for the vote, and the result was as follows:

Ayes: Adams, Leak, Williamson

Nays: Evans, Garby

(Ordinance No. O-2017-02 on file in City Clerk's office)

The City Attorney explained that when an ordinance is introduced and voted on the first time, a simple majority vote is insufficient; therefore since the vote approving Ordinance No. O-2017-02 rezoning property on Old Johns Road was 3-2, it must be voted on again at which time a simple majority vote will be sufficient.

DELEGATIONS

NANCY WALKER, LAURINBURG HOUSING AUTHORITY – UPDATE ON INFRASTRUCTURE

Mrs. Nancy Walker, Executive Director of the Laurinburg Housing Authority, provided an update on funding for assisted housing across the country. She explained that over the last 10 years, dollar for dollar, funding has remained the same. She added that each governmental agency determines how the dollars will be spent throughout each department in the agency. She reviewed the following information:

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- Completed conversion from Public Housing to Section 8 Program in order to stabilize funding.
- Upgraded electrical systems and heating and air conditioning systems (hvac) in Carolina Park and Southmoor.
- Recently signed contract to upgrade electrical and hvac in another 120 units.
- There are 520 vouchers under lease in the private sector in Laurinburg.
- Laurinburg Housing Authority owns and leases 479 units.
- Conversion to tenant paid electricity has been ongoing for almost four (4) years.
- Out of the 479 tenants, 84 have not paid the deposit to the City. The hope is to have all tenants converted by mid-summer 2018. There are some tenants who have said they will not pay the delinquent bills to the City, so the Housing Authority will not be able to work with those individuals.

Upon questions by Councilmember Williamson, Mrs. Walker explained that the oldest units are the 30 units in McIntosh and 45 units in Duncan Street. She added that with the funding limitations, she did not anticipate rehab dollars being available any time soon.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mrs. Walker that a waiting list exists, but it is not as long as it was 5-10 years ago.

Mrs. Walker thanked Council for recognizing former City Manager Pete Vandenberg. She added that he loved Laurinburg and did a lot for Laurinburg, the Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce and the community.

Councilmember Leak commended Mrs. Walker for her work in the community and for her work with Laurinburg Housing Authority.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE- CITIZEN ACADEMY

Mrs. Betty Galloway, Human Resources/Risk Management Director, explained with the number of personnel issues recently and the holidays, there had not been time to plan the Citizen Academy this year. She added that staff was considering having it in the winter, perhaps advertise in November and December, with the academy beginning in January, 2019.

Councilmembers Garby and Evans commented that they enjoyed the Citizens Academy the previous year.

Discussion ensued concerning the best time of the year to hold the Citizen Academy. Councilmember Garby explained that the key was advertising because if attending was important to an individual, that individual would attend no matter what time of year.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Mr. Michael Mandeville, Community Development Director, displayed a mock-up of a

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wayfinding sign. He explained that with the \$4,000.00 grant from ElectriCities and the City's \$4,000.00 match, staff was planning to order approximately 10 signs the first year, with the possibility of adding more in future years. He further added that there would be a \$4,000.00 match from the Scotland County Tourism Development Authority (TDA) and the Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce. He further added locations for the signs will be identified. He further explained that staff hoped to have the signs installed before the Spring Arts Festival in April 2018.

Mr. Mandeville reported that the City and the Scotland Memorial Foundation (Foundation) are planning for the Foundation's FUNd run to begin and end downtown just prior to Springfest. He added that the plan is to encourage more participation and have people stay downtown for the entertainment, new sculptures and events for kids. He further added that plans include having beer served and only Main Street will be closed for the events.

CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE FAÇADE GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. Mandeville explained that in preparation for entering the North Carolina Main Street Program, staff reviewed the funds from the Municipal Service District which have not been spent in a couple of years. He added that the amount of the Façade Grant Program be increased from the \$1,500.00 amount to a match up to \$5,000.00. He further added that it was hoped that this incentive would be beneficial and encourage more property owners to improve facades downtown.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, Mr. Mandeville explained that the NC Main Street personnel were aware of the change to the Façade Grant Program and that staff consulted other Main Street Cities for their program guidelines.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Mandeville explained that the downtown business owners were being notified by Mr. Daniel Walters, PIO/Downtown Development Coordinator. He added that Mr. Walters walks downtown almost every day and talks with business owners. He further added that a breakfast for the downtown business owners would be held on April 5, 2018, and this would be funded by ElectriCities.

Upon question by Councilmember Garby, the City Manager explained that one property owner was going to receive design assistance from UNC Greensboro.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that Integrated Development is eligible for the Façade Grant Program.

Following a brief discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Williamson, seconded by Councilmember Garby, and unanimously carried to approve amendments to the Façade Grant Program.

CONSIDER ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY 17-18 BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT-OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

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The City Manager explained that as previously discussed in the meeting, this budget amendment increases revenues by \$4,000.00 to receive the grant from ElectriCities and allocates to the Community Development-Other Improvements line item.

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson to approve Ordinance No. O-2018-04 amending FY 17-18 Budget Ordinance (Ordinance No. O-2017-15) by Increasing General Fund-Misc. Grants by \$4,000 and Allocating \$4,000 to Community Development-Other Improvements. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garby, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Garby, Adams, Leak, Evans
 Nays: None
 (Ordinance No. O-2018-04 on file in City Clerk’s office)

CONSIDER RELEASES, DISCOVERIES AND ADJUSTMENTS TO TAX LEVY

Ms. Diana Chavis, Tax Collector, explained that the municipal tax collector is required to report the amounts of releases, discoveries and adjustments to the tax levy. She added that the amount of discoveries was \$71,211.43, the amount of releases was \$7,159.35 and amount of adjustments was \$393.45.

Councilmember Leak moved to approve the releases, discoveries and adjustments to the tax levy as presented by the tax collector and listed below. Councilmember Adams seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

DISCOVERIES PER COUNTY AND STATE						
NAME	PP/RE	VALUE	YR	RATE	TAXES	REASON
AT&T COMMUNICATIONS	PP	330,701	2017	0.40	\$1,322.80	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
AT&T MOBILITY LLC	PP	692,975	2017	0.40	\$2,771.90	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
AMERICAN TOWER CORP	PP	103,896	2017	0.40	\$415.58	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
AT&T (BELLSOUTH)	PP	5,278,158	2017	0.40	\$21,112.63	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
CELLCO PARTNERSHIP	PP	887,685	2017	0.40	\$3,550.74	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
CROWN CASTLE USA, INC	PP	127,780	2017	0.40	\$511.12	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
CSX TRANSPORATION CO	PP	796,075	2017	0.40	\$3,184.30	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS	PP	2,760,549	2017	0.40	\$11,042.20	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
DUKENET COMMUNICATIONS	PP	776,753	2017	0.40	\$3,107.01	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
GE CAPITAL INFORMATION	PP	7,643	2017	0.40	\$30.57	BILLED WRONG ACCT
GE CAPITAL TECHNOLOGY	PP	14,905	2017	0.40	\$59.62	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
GE CAPITAL TECHNOLOGY	PP	86,445	2017	0.40	\$345.78	PUBLIC SERVICE CO

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GREYHOUND LINES	PP	18,283	2017	0.40	\$73.13	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
LBG & SOUTHERN RR	PP	333,960	2017	0.40	\$1,335.84	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS	PP	12,207	2017	0.40	\$48.83	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
LUMBEE RIVER EMC	PP	130,896	2017	0.40	\$523.58	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
MCI COMMUNICATIONS	PP	2,012	2017	0.40	\$8.05	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
NC ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP	PP	1,433	2017	0.40	\$5.73	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS	PP	3,319,681	2017	0.40	\$13,278.72	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
SCOTTISH PINES LAND	PP	1,200,172	2017	0.40	\$4,800.69	PER COUNTY
SOUTH LAURINBURG BAPTIST	RE	16,450	2017	0.40	\$65.80	DEED MISSED
SOUTH LAURINBURG BAPTIST	RE	2,740	2017	0.40	\$10.96	DEED MISSED
SPOK, INC	PP	10,198	2017	0.40	\$40.79	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
SPRINT WIRELESS	PP	68,288	2017	0.40	\$273.15	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
T MOBILE	PP	64,181	2017	0.40	\$256.72	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
TIME WARNER CABLE	PP	233,537	2017	0.40	\$934.15	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
TWC DIGITAL PHONE	PP	428,510	2017	0.40	\$1,714.04	PUBLIC SERVICE CO
WALTER ROLLAND PHILLIP	PP	768	2017	0.40	\$3.07	UNLISTED
WINDSTREAM KDL, INC	PP	95,983	2017	0.40	\$383.93	PUBLIC SERVICE CO

\$71,211.43

ADJUSTMENTS PER COUNTY						
DONALD RAY STANLEY	RE		2013	0.40	\$ (11.89)	ERROR IN BILLING
EJ POPE & SON	PP		2016	0.40	\$ (19.23)	PER NCDOR
HERBERT SMITH	RE		2012	0.40	\$ (5.45)	ERROR IN BILLING
IBM CREDIT CORP.	PP		2017	0.40	\$ 3.86	ADDITIONAL TAX
LADD ROGER	RE		2016	0.40	\$ (4.04)	ENTRY ERROR
MY EYE DR OPTOMETRY	PP		2017	0.40	\$ (93.96)	WRONG VALUE
NIC PIC KWIK #2	PP		2016	0.40	\$ (100.00)	ENTRY ERROR
TWC SECURITY INC	PP		2017	0.40	\$ (214.42)	ADJUST VALUE
WELLS FARGO VENDOR	PP		2017	0.40	\$ 51.68	ADJUST VALUE

\$ (393.45)

RELEASES PER COUNTY					
ANTONYA GRIFFIN	PP	2015	0.40	\$ (2.69)	OUT OF BUSINESS
ANTONYA GRIFFIN	PP	2016	0.40	\$ (2.21)	OUT OF BUSINESS
ANTONYA GRIFFIN	PP	2017	0.40	\$ (1.68)	OUT OF BUSINESS

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CARLIE'S	PP	2015	0.40	\$ (61.28)	OUT OF BUSINESS
CARLIE'S	PP	2016	0.40	\$ (53.54)	OUT OF BUSINESS
CARLIE'S	PP	2017	0.40	\$ (44.90)	OUT OF BUSINESS
CCRX OF NC OMINCARE	PP	2017	0.40	\$ (14.28)	DOUBLE BILLED
FRANK JONES	RE	2005	0.40	\$ (40.55)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2006	0.40	\$ (42.68)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2007	0.40	\$ (42.68)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2008	0.40	\$ (44.81)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2009	0.40	\$ (44.81)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2010	0.40	\$ (44.81)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2011	0.40	\$ (46.56)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2012	0.40	\$ (46.56)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2013	0.40	\$ (46.56)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2014	0.40	\$ (46.56)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2015	0.40	\$ (56.56)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2016	0.40	\$ (46.56)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
FRANK JONES	RE	2017	0.40	\$ (46.56)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
GE EQUIP SMALL TICKET	PP	2017	0.40	\$ (89.49)	BILLED IN ERROR
KEN HARRELL DDS	PP	2017	0.40	\$ (22.68)	OUT OF BUSINESS
LEE HOWELL	RE	2017	0.40	\$ (65.80)	WRONG VALUE
LEE HOWELL	RE	2017	0.40	\$ (10.96)	WRONG VALUE
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2005	0.40	\$ (76.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2005	0.40	\$ (80.75)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2005	0.40	\$ (76.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2005	0.40	\$ (76.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2006	0.40	\$ (80.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2006	0.40	\$ (85.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2006	0.40	\$ (80.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2006	0.40	\$ (80.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2007	0.40	\$ (80.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN

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LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2007	0.40	\$ (85.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2007	0.40	\$ (80.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2007	0.40	\$ (80.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2008	0.40	\$ (84.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2008	0.40	\$ (89.25)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2008	0.40	\$ (84.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2008	0.40	\$ (84.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2009	0.40	\$ (84.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2009	0.40	\$ (89.25)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2009	0.40	\$ (84.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2009	0.40	\$ (84.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2010	0.40	\$ (84.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2010	0.40	\$ (89.25)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2010	0.40	\$ (84.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2010	0.40	\$ (84.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2011	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2011	0.40	\$ (105.60)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2011	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2011	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2012	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2012	0.40	\$ (105.60)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2012	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2012	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2013	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2013	0.40	\$ (105.60)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2013	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2013	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN

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LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2014	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2014	0.40	\$ (105.60)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2014	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2014	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2015	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2015	0.40	\$ (105.60)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2015	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2015	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2016	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2016	0.40	\$ (105.60)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2016	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BLUE DORSEY	RE	2016	0.40	\$ (88.00)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
LOUISE BREEDEN	RE	2006	0.40	\$ (142.52)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2003	0.40	\$ (11.17)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2004	0.40	\$ (11.17)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2005	0.40	\$ (11.17)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2006	0.40	\$ (11.76)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2007	0.40	\$ (11.76)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2008	0.40	\$ (12.35)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2009	0.40	\$ (12.35)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2010	0.40	\$ (12.35)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2011	0.40	\$ (12.84)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2012	0.40	\$ (12.84)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2013	0.40	\$ (12.84)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2014	0.40	\$ (12.84)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2015	0.40	\$ (12.84)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2016	0.40	\$ (12.84)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN

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ROSA GILCHRIST SHIELDS	RE	2017	0.40	\$ (12.84)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2002	0.40	\$ (20.03)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2003	0.40	\$ (11.70)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2004	0.40	\$ (15.50)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2005	0.40	\$ (15.50)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2006	0.40	\$ (16.32)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2007	0.40	\$ (16.32)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2008	0.40	\$ (17.14)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2009	0.40	\$ (17.14)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2010	0.40	\$ (17.14)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2011	0.40	\$ (17.44)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2012	0.40	\$ (17.44)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2013	0.40	\$ (17.44)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2014	0.40	\$ (17.44)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2015	0.40	\$ (13.44)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2016	0.40	\$ (13.44)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
RUFUS & SANDRA DAVIS	RE	2017	0.40	\$ (13.44)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
SCOTLAND COUNTY	RE	2017	0.40	\$ (156.36)	COUNTY OWNS
ST. LUKE UNITED METH	RE	2017	0.40	\$ (73.72)	TAX EXEMPT
THELMA SHAW	RE	2006	0.40	\$ (104.68)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
THELMA SHAW	RE	2008	0.40	\$ (109.91)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
THELMA SHAW	RE	2009	0.40	\$ (109.91)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
THELMA SHAW	RE	2010	0.40	\$ (109.91)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
THELMA SHAW	RE	2011	0.40	\$ (88.96)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
THELMA SHAW	RE	2012	0.40	\$ (88.96)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
THELMA SHAW	RE	2013	0.40	\$ (88.96)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
THELMA SHAW	RE	2014	0.40	\$ (88.96)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
THELMA SHAW	RE	2015	0.40	\$ (88.96)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN

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THELMA SHAW	RE	2016	0.40	\$ (88.96)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
THELMA SHAW	RE	2017	0.40	\$ (88.96)	(FC)CITY & COUNTY OWN
WELLS FARGO VENDOR	PP	2017	0.40	\$ (65.07)	BILLED IN ERROR
WELLS FARGO VENDOR	PP	2017	0.40	\$ (36.64)	BILLED IN ERROR
XEROX LEASE EQUIPMENT	PP	2017	0.40	\$ (21.21)	DOUBLE BILLED
				\$ (7,159.35)	

AUTHORIZE TAX COLLECTOR TO ADVERTISE TAX LIENS THE WEEK OF MARCH 12-16, 2018

Ms. Chavis explained that she was requesting permission to advertise tax liens the week of March 12-16, 2018. She added that as of today, the unpaid taxes for 2017 total \$310,313.58.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, Ms. Chavis explained that this amount is about the same as the prior year. She added that notices to delinquent taxpayers had been mailed.

Councilmember Evans expressed concern about the amount in delinquent taxes and asked if the City needed to be more aggressive in collecting taxes.

Ms. Chavis explained that she uses every option available for collecting taxes.

The City Manager explained that there are taxpayers who pay just prior to publication in the newspaper because they do not want their names in the paper. He added that the City has a solid collection percentage over the years, and the current amount is in line with where the City has typically been at this time of the year.

Councilmember Evans requested the last five (5) years of delinquent taxes and why the delinquencies are on the list.

The City Manager explained that because the City has only one (1) employee and the Scotland County has a large department, the City follows suit of Scotland County on tax foreclosures. He added that if the City tackled tax foreclosures on its own, the legal fees would be tremendous.

The City Attorney explained that there is a threshold dollar amount based upon the value of the property for the City to file answer to Scotland County's foreclosure complaint. He added that when the property is foreclosed on, the City receives a prorated amount of the proceeds. He added that one of the big issues with delinquent taxes are the properties that are dilapidated and are heir property. He further added that these properties are difficult to foreclose and the property may be worth only \$2,000.00 and not worth doing a tax foreclosure.

Following a brief discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Evans, seconded by Councilmember Garby, and unanimously carried to authorize the tax collector to advertise tax liens the week of March 12-16, 2018.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON MAY 22, 2018

CONSIDER RESOLUTION AMENDING COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE

The City Manager explained that at the January 30, 2018 Council retreat, changes to the Council Rules of Procedure were discussed. He added that these changes include the following:

- Requiring citizens to sign up prior to the meeting to speak during Public Comment Period; however, if time allows at the meeting, a citizen(s) who did not sign up previously can speak during the Public Comment period.
- If an individual has written comments, said comments are to be given to the City Clerk at the meeting.
- Anyone wishing to be on the agenda as a “Delegation” must make such request 10 days prior to the meeting.
- If a “Delegation” has written comments or presentation, they must be provided to the City Clerk 10 days prior to the meeting to be included in agenda packets.
- Maximum time for a “Delegation” to speak is 10 minutes.
- Miscellaneous administrative issues such as removing language concerning Council “work sessions”.

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Councilmember Evans moved to approve Resolution No. R-2018-02 amending Council Rules of Procedure. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Evans, Williamson, Leak, Adams, Garby
Nays: None
(Resolution No. R-2018-02 on file in City Clerk’s office)

DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION CONCERNING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LAURINBURG AND LUMOS (FORMERLY LMK) LEASING DARK AND LIT FIBER FROM THE CITY OF LAURINBURG

The City Manager explained that the City currently has an agreement with Lumos, formerly LMK, to provide lit fiber and internet to all of the schools in Scotland County, and Lumos has requested an amendment and update to the agreement. He explained that another company similar to LMK has approached the Scotland County School System with a lower rate than Lumos offers. In order to keep the fiber lease with Lumos, the agreement would reduce the City’s revenue by approximately \$90,000.00 annually beginning in fiscal year 18-19. He explained that staff feels the decreased revenue will still be sufficient and be above operating costs. He added that when the first agreement with LMK was negotiated, the City was spending a tremendous amount of money installing the fiber infrastructure; therefore, those costs no longer exist. He further explained that the agreement is for five (5) years. He further added that staff was requesting authorization for the Mayor to execute the agreement pending review and approval by the City Attorney.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON MAY 22, 2018

Following a brief discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Garby, and unanimously carried to authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement with Lumos pending review and approval by the City Attorney.

APPOINTMENTS

LUMBER RIVER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ALTERNATE MEMBER

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson to appoint Councilmember Mary Evans as the City's Alternate Member of the Lumber River Council of Governments Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried.

SCOTLAND COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN-SMART START

Following discussion concerning the appointment to the Scotland County Partnership for Children-Smart Start, the appointment was tabled to allow the City Manager to see if a staff member would like to volunteer to serve on this Board.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND/OR COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Adams reminded everyone that the State of the Community was being held Friday, February 23, 2018 beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Laurinburg Presbyterian Church. She added that the City Manager does a good job with his presentation.

Mayor Block reminded everyone that the Citizen Input Session will be held next Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the A.B. Gibson Center.

CLOSED SESSION

At 9:20 p.m. motion was made by Councilmember Adams to go into closed session pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11(a) (4) for economic development. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and carried unanimously.

At 9:50 p.m. motion was made by Councilmember Adams to adjourn the closed session and resume the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and unanimously carried.

PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY

Motion was made by Councilmember Williamson, seconded by Councilmember Leak, and unanimously carried for the City to provide funding in the amount of \$52,000.00 to the Scotland County Economic Development Corporation to purchase land near the Small Business Innovation Center with the understanding that Scotland County would also fund \$52,000.00, that the property be annexed into the City and that the City would provide utilities for the property.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON MAY 22, 2018

ADJOURN

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Matthew Block, MD, Mayor

Jennifer A. Tippett, City Clerk