

**CITY OF LAURINBURG
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 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, November 13, 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. Tippett, City Clerk; and William P. Floyd, Jr., City Attorney.

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

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Pastor Michael Edds expressed concern about building and zoning requirements, specifically with regard to the buildings downtown. He also expressed concern about the storm drains not being cleaned leading to damage to private property including his home. He discussed contacting Senator Tom McInnis about the storm drainage on West Boulevard and requested that the City advocate for citizens with North Carolina Department of Transportation. He inquired as to what the City's plans were for fixing the storm drainage issues and when would the plan be implemented.

Mr. Steve Adams, 11680 Hasty Road, expressed concern about the flooding of his home during Hurricane Florence caused by storm drainage problems on Hasty Road and Japonica Drive. He explained that he met with Senator Tom McInnis concerning the problems on Hasty Road; however, the problem on Japonica Drive needs to be addressed by the City. He added that the house flooded again recently with all of the rain and is no longer livable or marketable.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that he speaks every couple of weeks with Mr. Marshall Melton, owner of the former State Bank Building. He added that the building codes for new and existing buildings are different. He further added that when windows were out on the first floor of the former State Bank Building, Mr. Melton received letters from the

City to secure the windows. City staff has also encouraged Mr. Melton to do the same with the windows on the other floors of the building. He further explained that this building does not pose harm to citizens; therefore the City is limited as to what it can require. He further added that when the walls on the former Market Furniture Building fell, Mr. Melton was sent a certified letter notifying him that the safety issues needed to be addressed immediately, which Mr. Melton did address.

Mayor Block commented that there are still bricks in the vicinity of the former Market Furniture Building.

The City Manager explained that the bricks remaining are on Mr. Chuck No's property. He added that Mr. No's property had been deemed unsafe and a hearing had been held with the City's Code Enforcement Officer which Mr. No failed to appear. He further added that a second certified letter was sent to Mr. No notifying him that action would be taken by the City if he fails to meet with the City Code Enforcement Officer.

Upon question by Councilmember Evans, the City Manager explained that Mr. Melton had addressed the safety issues with the former Market Furniture Building. He added that Mr. No has ten (10) days from the date the letter was mailed to meet with the Code Enforcement Officer.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Attorney explained that it is the landowner's responsibility; however, if it is an unsafe structure, the City can condemn the property and tear it down. So it may come back to Council to condemn and add the cost of demolition as a lien against the property.

Upon questions by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that he did not know if the owner of the Market Furniture Building removed steel beams or if he did anything dealing with the structural integrity of the building. He added that the City had no part in the demolition of the building except when the walls fell during Hurricane Florence and it became a public safety issue. He further added that the City cannot require the owner to submit plans until it is ready to begin work.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that the City does not have any ordinance that bans boarded windows downtown.

Councilmember Leak explained that Mr. No had been out of town and would be back in Laurinburg on Thursday, December 13, 2018. He added that this was the reason that Mr. No had not been in contact with the Code Enforcement Officer.

The City Manager explained that Mr. No had been very cooperative. He added that the damage to Mr. No's building is causing him a loss of monthly revenue from two (2) tenants. He further added that one (1) tenant moved across the street while the other tenant was still out of business.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that Council approved the Storm Water Policy in September, 2018. Mr. Stacey McQuage, Public Utilities Director, and Mr. Chuck

Willis of Willis Engineers were developing a detailed priority list and cost estimates. He then provided the following information:

- The City has been assigned a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) manager, and site inspections have begun.
- The City's total estimated reimbursement from Hurricane Florence was now \$8.89 million, with \$4.2 million of that being estimated costs for storm water improvements for the high priority areas in the City that were affected by Hurricane Florence.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, the City Manager explained that when the Camelia Acres subdivision was built, the subdivision was not in the City limits, so when the area was annexed, the City inherited the existing storm water system. He added that Hasty Road is a state-maintained road, and Japonica Drive is a City street in Camelia Acres.

Further discussion ensued concerning the preliminary reimbursable costs to FEMA.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that the main projects submitted to FEMA in the remaining \$4.6 million were \$2.7 million for the electric substation improvements, \$.5 million for the North Fire Station, and other projects.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Harold Haywood, General Services Director, explained that the priority streets provided by Mr. Chuck Willis of Willis Engineering for storm water improvements were: College Drive, McLean Street, Blue Drive, Midland Way, Salem Street, Flower Street, Pitt Street, Muse Street, Hooper Drive, Azalea Drive, Cypress Street, Beech Street, Dogwood Lane, Franklin Avenue, Peden Street, Isabelle Street, Cypress Drive, West Allen Lane and Plaza Road, as well as all of the Leith Creek area.

Upon questions by Councilmember Williamson, the City Manager explained that any storm water improvements would be required by FEMA to not allow events such as flooding to keep reoccurring. He added that since this was not the first time Willis Engineering had looked at some of the priority areas, the cost estimates were hopefully conservative numbers. He further added that the City would need to follow FEMA's procurement requirements before any project could begin.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that the City has \$1.2 million in reimbursable FEMA expenditures from Hurricane Matthew in 2016 of which the majority of the expenditures were for extremely specific projects. He added that the FEMA reimbursement was received by June 30, 2017 so that it was in the same fiscal year. He further added that with a total of \$8.89 million, he anticipated it would take some time before FEMA reimbursed the City for costs incurred with Hurricane Florence. He further explained that a few months ago, Council directed Willis Engineering and Mr. Stacey McQuage, Public Utilities Director, to develop a storm water priority list and to present cost estimates to consider during the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget discussions.

Councilmember Evans expressed concern about flooding at the dead end of Sugar Road and Honey Street.

The City Manager explained that he and Mr. McQuage had spoken with Mr. Kenny Bethea concerning the problem at the dead end of Honey Street and Sugar Road. He added that Mr. Bethea was present when crews went to clean up the drain. He further added that the drain was clogged due to sticks and debris that had been in the roadway.

Further discussion ensued concerning storm water issues.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Block reviewed the Consent Agenda:

- a) Consider minutes of August 28, 2018 regular meeting
- b) Consider Resolution No. R-2018-29 Adopting Pee Dee Hazard Mitigation Plan
- c) Consider Ordinance No. O-2018-13 Amending Fiscal Year 18-19 Budget Appropriations Ordinance (Ordinance No. O-2018-07) by receiving \$26,409.88 to General Fund-Fund Balance and allocating \$26,409.88 to Fire Department Equipment Replacement
- d) Authorize Mayor and City Clerk to execute deed from Scotland County and the City of Laurinburg to Stephanie D. Mitchell for property located at 410 East Bizzell St.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

CONSIDER ANNEXATION OF APPROXIMATELY 46.69 ACRE TRACT OF LAND ON HECK NORTON ROAD

Mayor Block opened the public hearing.

The City Manager explained that this tract of land is the planned incubator park behind the Small Business Innovation Center, and is the property of the Scotland County Economic Development Corporation (EDC). He added that if annexed the property owner(s) will pay property taxes to the City and the occupant will pay for City utilities at in-City rates.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that the future tenants of the buildings would pay the property taxes.

Upon question by Councilmember Evans, the City Manager explained that an amount for tax revenue could not be provided at this time.

There was no one to speak in favor of or in opposition to this request.

Mayor Block closed the public hearing.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that he was not sure of the purchase price for the land; however, the City and Scotland County contributed to the purchase. He added that the tax value of the property is \$105,090.00.

Mayor Block stated that it should have a tax value of about \$500,000.00.

Councilmember Leak explained that he and Councilmember Williamson are on the EDC Board representing the City. He added that there would be no financial benefit for either of them.

Councilmember Adams moved to approve Ordinance No. O-2018-14 to extend the Corporate Limits of the City of Laurinburg by annexing 46.69 acre tract of land on Heck Norton Road. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garby, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Adams, Garby, Leak, Williamson, Evans
Nays: None
(Ordinance No. O-2018-14 on file in City Clerk's office)

CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO ELECTRIC RATE ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. O-2017-14) BY AMENDING SCHEDULE FOR AREA LIGHTS

Mayor Block opened the public hearing to consider amendment to the Electric Rate Ordinance.

The City Manager explained that this public hearing was to update the City's existing Electric Rate Ordinance to provide better options for area lights. He added that LED options would be available which provide brighter, clearer and more energy-efficient lighting.

There was no one to speak in favor of or in opposition to the amendment.

Mayor Block closed the public hearing.

Upon questions by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that because the lights are more energy-efficient and brighter, citizens would benefit. He added that the area lights can generally be placed where the citizen prefers.

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve Ordinance No. O-2018-15 amending the Electric Rate Ordinance (Ordinance No. O-2017-14) by amending the Area Light Schedule. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Adams, and the vote was as follows

Ayes: Williamson, Adams, Leak, Evans, Garby
Nays: None
(Ordinance No. O-2018-15 on file in City Clerk's office)

DELEGATION

FRANK EVANS – THANK COUNCIL AND CITY EMPLOYEES FOR HANDLING OF RECENT HURRICANE AND EVENTS THEREAFTER

The City Manager explained that Mr. Evans contacted the City Clerk with a conflict and requested to be placed on the December 11, 2018 agenda.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

UPDATE ON URBAN PARKING DESIGN PROJECT AND CONSIDER AUTHORIZING STAFF TO OFFER SCOTLAND COUNTY TAX VALUE TO PURCHASE PROPERTIES

The City Manager provided the following update concerning the properties being considered for the Urban Parking Design Project:

- Two (2) months ago Council directed staff to obtain appraisals on the properties located near the corner of Gill Street and Railroad Street, which are owned by five (5) property owners, and to offer the appraised value to the property owners for purchase.
- Since some of the property owners were not happy with selling their property for the appraised value, a month ago, Council directed staff to see if the tax value would suffice for the purchase price. Four (4) of the five (5) property owners are in agreement for selling their property to the City at tax value, for a total of \$56,930.00.
- Ms. Patterson, who owns the house on Gill Street is not in agreement. Ms. Patterson's property appraised for \$17,500.00, the tax value is \$24,790.00, and she would like to get \$50,000.00 for her property.
- Staff believes the project can move forward without Ms. Patterson's property. Once the properties are obtained, City crews can begin work of getting all of the electric underground.
- Staff had been looking at another property which was not as good a location; however, that property has been sold, and the new owner has plans for the property.

The City Attorney explained that the properties from the four (4) property owners are not under contract as of yet. He added that he is drafting the purchase agreements.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Attorney explained that no public hearing was necessary to purchase the properties.

Discussion ensued concerning Ms. Patterson's property. The City Manager explained that the design company said the Urban Parking Design Project could be built without Ms. Patterson's property and it would not greatly affect the project.

Motion was made by Councilmember Garby, seconded by Councilmember Adams, and unanimously carried to authorize staff to offer the Scotland County Tax Value to the property owners for the property involved in the Urban Parking Design Project.

CONSIDER DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO DETERMINE SUFFICIENCY OF PETITION FOR ANNEXATION

The City Manager explained that the subject property is on Old Johns Road where the new school is being built. He added that if the property is annexed, it is the customer's choice for electricity. He further added that both the Scotland County School System and the City would benefit from the property being annexed. He further added that the School System does not pay taxes. He further explained that this resolution directs the City Clerk to determine the sufficiency of the petition for annexation.

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve Resolution No. R-2018-30 directing the City Clerk to determine the sufficiency of petition for annexation of a 29.90 acre tract of land on Old Johns Road. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Adams, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Adams, Evans, Garby, Leak
Nays: None
(Resolution No. R-2018-30 on file in City Clerk's office)

Upon questions by Mayor Block, the City Clerk explained that required process for annexation petitions. She added that the same procedures were followed with the voluntary annexation of the 46.69-acre tract of land on Heck Norton Road.

POST HURRICANE FLORENCE UPDATE

The City Manager provided a brief update on Post Hurricane Florence activities as follows:

- A FEMA Project Manager had been assigned to the City.
- Estimated \$8.9 million reimbursement expenses, but this figure is not definite.
- Cost to repair North Fire Station is \$.5 million. FEMA does not want to spend money to repair with the possibility that a flood event would happen again. The North Fire Station is in the 100-Year Flood Zone. If FEMA says to build in another area, the cost will be greater than estimated repair, but the cost would be reimbursable.
- Storm water repair costs are ballpark numbers.
- The City could be reimbursed for some of the cost for the second electric substation since the hospital needs electric redundancy in event of an emergency.
- As of last week, crews had made the first full round through the City in picking up storm yard and Construction and Demolition (C&D) debris.
- City Manager executed Notice to Proceed with Russell Enterprises to assist with pickup of yard debris and C&D debris. This company will also assist with tree trimming such as limbs hanging down in street rights-of-way. The first task for Russell Enterprises will be to move the debris from the City's temporary debris site to the County Landfill.

Mr. Haywood stated that the County Landfill has been open on Saturdays for the last few weeks.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Haywood explained that there had been no problems with citizens and C&D debris. Mr. Haywood presented the following information concerning debris collection:

- 100% complete with first pass, took 54 days to complete
- 1,192 total truck loads
- 1,379 tons to the Scotland County landfill
- 5,141 cubic yards taken to City staging site
- 2,816 OT hours for approximately \$106,000.00
- Contractor starting November 14, 2018, total contract amount approximately \$87,000.00
- Collected C&D from 36 locations (in addition to 20 last month)

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that the overtime hours and the contract amount for Russell Enterprises were reimbursable from FEMA.

Upon question by Mayor Block, the City Manager explained that under the City's contract with Russell Enterprises, the company cannot assist Mr. No with cleaning up his private property on Main Street; however, if Mr. No wanted to contract with Russell Enterprises, Mr. No would need to discuss with Russell Enterprises.

The City Manager explained that in the event the City does not get reimbursed from FEMA by the end of June 2019, the City's Fiscal Year 2018-2019 audit would be affected. He added that in this scenario, staff would need to present a large budget amendment in January or February to ensure that funds were budgeted to cover expenditures. He further added that with the preliminary reimbursement figure being \$8.89 million, the City would probably not be completely reimbursed by the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 audit.

Mr. Haywood explained that the City would be submitting several applications to FEMA because of the categories, one (1) is for debris removal and the other for public utilities. He added that the applications would be submitted as quickly as possible. He further added that the debris removal application would be very straight-forward and would be submitted quickly and hopefully get reimbursed quickly from FEMA.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, the City Manager explained that the applications for reimbursement would be broken up so that hopefully reimbursement from FEMA would come in as quickly as possible. He added that the applications would be broken up into different projects, and staff would have to follow FEMA procurement requirements. He further added that the City would not receive the entire amount in one (1) check, but that the reimbursement would be based upon project completion. He further explained that with FEMA reimbursements, the State covers up to 25% of the reimbursement, and that the City had not yet received reimbursement from the State from Hurricane Matthew.

Mr. Haywood stated that the State owed the City \$225,000.00 in reimbursement from Hurricane Matthew. He further added that the final inspection on Hurricane Matthew related projects had just been completed, so hopefully the City would receive the reimbursement from the State.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. Haywood explained that cleaning storm water drains was part of the ongoing maintenance done by the City. He added that the temporary ditch crews were recently hired since this work is done in the winter months.

Councilmember Leak expressed concern about the quality of tree trimming around the City.

The City Manager explained that the City has a new tree contractor this year.

Mr. Haywood explained that the Electric Services Director has expressed concern about the quality of tree work.

Discussion ensued concerning tree trimming, interference with electric lines and planting smaller trees that do not interfere with electric lines.

CHRISTMAS PARADE

The City Manager requested that the Mayor and Council let the City Clerk know by Tuesday, November 20, 2018, if members would be riding in the Christmas Parade being held on Saturday, December 1, 2018. He added that those riding would meet at Scotland Motors at 1:00 p.m. and taken to a float. The Mayor and Council can bring a chair or walk if they choose.

Discussion ensued concerning the change from riding in cars to riding on a float. Mr. Chris English, Executive Director of the Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce (Chamber), explained that the idea was discussed in the Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee because a float would allow more visibility and show unity for governmental officials.

Following further discussion, it was consensus of Mayor Block and Council that all would ride on the float in the Christmas Parade.

Upon question by Mayor Block, Mr. English explained that Christmas on Main would be held Sunday, November 18, 2018, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The City Manager explained that on Sunday, November 25, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. the Christmas Tree lighting was being held by the Tis the Season group, followed by "Skype With the Deployed at 6:30 p.m. and then a concert by Jim Quick and Coastline Band at 7:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION OF RECREATION CENTER

Mayor Block explained that he had requested that this item be on the agenda following the defeat of the Scotland County referendum for increase in the sales tax, and that the idea of a recreation center has been discussed for over 15 years with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan calling for a recreation center to be built at the Morgan Complex in 2012 or 2013. He presented the following history of discussion concerning a recreations center:

- In his first term as Mayor, a Recreation Center Committee was formed that consisted of stakeholders such as the City, the County, the hospital and the school system.
- The Scotland County Parks and Recreation Department conducted a county-wide survey with 80-90% of the respondents expressed desire for a recreation center.

- Three (3) major stakeholders funded preliminary design of a recreation center, with the estimated cost to build a center in the \$8 to \$10 million range, with annual operating costs estimated to be \$600,000.00.
- Upon completion of the survey and presentation of the results, there was no further action on the matter.
- Several years ago, he discussed having the Community Development Director and City Manager look into feasibility of a City recreation center; however, Council did not feel that staff should be committed to that effort as it was the responsibility of Scotland County Parks and Recreation Department.
- As the City's representative to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, he took the request for a recreation center to said committee. The matter was discussed but metamorphosed into a much larger project with the only way to pay for operational costs was an increase in the sales tax.
- He was not in favor of the sales tax increase; therefore, he resigned from the Committee, Councilmember Williamson was appointed to the Committee, and the plan developed further and funds were set aside for architectural drawings to be made.

Councilmember Williamson explained that there is a Parks and Recreation subcommittee that was formed when the Morgan Complex was developed. He added that there were funds still available, and the architectural drawings were paid by those funds.

Mayor Block continued with the history concerning a recreation center:

- The plans were designed and the sales tax increase to pay for annual operating expenses was put on the ballot in November, 2018, and was voted down.
- Lessons learned from this experience:
 - Major stakeholders in the community were in favor of a recreation center.
 - The Chief Executive Officer of the hospital wrote an editorial in the newspaper speaking for the hospital board discussing the health benefits and supporting the recreation center.
 - City Council voiced its support for the recreation center when Mr. Graham, Scotland County Parks and Recreation Director, presented plans to Council.
 - Mr. Graham made a presentation to the Scotland County School Board, and he received positive feedback.
 - None of the entities committed any funding for the recreation center.
 - The Scotland County Tourism Board also wrote an editorial in support of the recreation center.

Mayor Block explained that there is a strong desire for a recreation/community center to be located in Laurinburg. He added that he believed that the City should take the lead financially in providing a recreation/community center. He further added that cities provide augmented services to citizens, and one of those services is recreation. He stated that that recreation was one (1) of the core functions of cities. He questioned the need for the City since E911 and recreation had been turned over to Scotland County. He discussed Scotland County's lack of money to build a recreation/community center; therefore, if a center was going to be built, the City would have to take the lead financially. He then discussed a scaled down version of a recreation/community

center without the water features presented in the Scotland County Parks and Recreation Plan. He discussed that the City would need a larger facility than the one located in Wagram, which incurs approximately \$60,000.00 in annual operating costs after accounting for revenue. He stated that the City just built a \$9 million City Hall without a tax increase and with no increase in utilities. He suggested that the City should be able to build a \$3 million recreation/community center utilizing grants and partnerships. He asked Council if there was support for putting together a recreation/community center vision for the City of Laurinburg.

Councilmember Evans stated that she felt it was something the City should explore.

Councilmember Garby agreed with Councilmember Evans.

Mayor Block asked if putting together a recreation/community center vision was wise use of the Community Development Director.

Councilmember Williamson explained that he attended the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board earlier in the day, and that everyone on the Board is onboard with a recreation center and does not want to lose the current momentum towards the goal. He added that a meeting of the stakeholders should be held to figure out how to make the recreation center a reality. He further added that it could be debated whether it should be City or County center. He added that he would love to see a center in the City of Laurinburg since the City is the population center. He further added that Scotland County is a small county and he could anticipate getting a much better product in the City when other entities are participating. He further explained that if the City constructs a recreation/community center, then the City would have to create a City Recreation Department with staff and programming when the Scotland County Parks and Recreation Department with staff and programming already exists. He gave Mayor Block credit for discussing the recreation center more than anyone else has. He added that if there was interest on Council, he would make a motion that the City take the lead and ask for a meeting with the Scotland County Commissioners, invite the healthcare representatives, invite the school system, invite the Scotland County Parks & Rec people, get Michael Mandeville and put heads together and start exploring ways to make it happen.

Mayor Block explained that he was in favor of a meeting with all of the interested parties to see where discussion of a recreation/community center would lead.

Councilmember Williamson explained that he believed that the City should have a public pool, and he would like to see a recreation center/community center include one in the footprint. He added that since the Scotland County School System has a swim team, having a pool would be the incentive for the Scotland County School System to get involved. He further added that those involved would need to be creative in how to afford such a center.

Mayor Block stated that he too would like a pool. He further added that he would prefer to see a recreation center/community center centrally located on Main Street. He added that he believed the only way an indoor pool would happen was if the Scotland County School System partners for funding. He further added that he was in favor of sitting down to discuss with all interested parties.

Following further discussion, it was consensus of Council to have a joint City/County meeting in January with one (1) of the agenda items being discussion of recreation/community center, and to have someone from the interested entities present to participate in the discussion.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND/OR COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Adams discussed attendance at the Laurinburg/Scotland County Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cuttings. She explained that the individual who had agreed to represent the City at the last two (2) ribbon cuttings did not attend and did not notify anyone that he would not be attending. She added that she happened to be at those ribbon cuttings and said remarks on behalf of the City. She asked Council if there were any ideas on how to better participate.

Councilmember Garby explained that he could be at ribbon cuttings held on weekends.

Councilmember Evans explained that if someone could call her, she would be happy to go to the ribbon cuttings.

Further discussion ensued concerning attendance at ribbon cuttings.

Upon question by Councilmember Williamson, Mr. Chris English explained that every ribbon cutting has an agenda, and if someone is listed on the agenda, people expect to see that individual present.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:41 p.m. Councilmember Adams moved to go into closed session pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney concerning *McInnis v. City of Laurinburg et al.* The motion was seconded by Councilmember Evans, and carried unanimously.

At 9:08 p.m. Councilmember Adams moved to adjourn the closed session and return to the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williamson, and carried unanimously.

SETTLEMENT – MCINNIS V. CITY OF LAURINBURG ET AL

Councilmember Garby moved to approve settlement in the case of *McInnis v. City of Laurinburg et al* for a total amount of \$250,000.00, with \$100,000.00 being paid in this fiscal year and \$150,000.00 in the next fiscal year, and to authorize the City Manager and Finance Director to execute settlement agreement, pending approval of the settlement agreement by the Court System. Councilmember Williamson seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Garby, Williamson, Evans, Adams, Leak
Nays: None

**CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO FY 2018-2019 BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS
ORDINANCE**

Councilmember Williamson moved to approve Ordinance No. O-2018-16 amending Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget Appropriations Ordinance (Ordinance No. O-2018-07) by increasing General Fund-Fund Balance Appropriated by \$123,500.00 and allocating \$123,500.00 to General Fund-Professional Services. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garby, and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Williamson, Garby, Leak, Evans, Adams
Nays: None
(Ordinance No. O-2018-16 on file in City Clerk's office)

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Councilmember Garby, seconded by Councilmember Leak, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Matthew Block, MD, Mayor

Jennifer A. Tippett, City Clerk