

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANFORD
SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

The City Council met at the Sanford Municipal Center, 225 E. Weatherspoon Street, on Wednesday, August 16, 2011, at 7 P.M. The following people were present:

Mayor Cornelia P. Olive	Council Member Bob Brown
Mayor Pro Tem Sam Gaskins	Council Member James Williams
Council Member Walter H. McNeil, Jr.	Council Member Charles Taylor
Council Member L. I. (Poly) Cohen	Council Member Linwood S. Mann, Sr.
City Clerk Bonnie D. White	City Attorney Susan C. Patterson
City Manager Hal Hegwer	

Mayor Cornelia Olive called the meeting to order and delivered the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No citizens signed up to speak.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Sam Gaskins requested to add to the Regular Agenda – Consideration of a Budget Change for the Radios in the Fire Department. Council Member L. I. “Poly” Cohen made the motion to approve the amended agenda. Seconded by Council Member Walter McNeil, Jr., the motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of June 8, 2011, City Council Meeting Minutes – (Filed in Minute Book 76)

Approval of July 19, 2011, City Council Meeting Minutes – (Filed in Minute Book 76)

Approval of Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2011-2012 – (Exhibit A)

Ordinance was approved appropriating \$1,150 as a local match required for North Carolina Urban Forest Council Grant for East Sanford Beautification Project.

Approval of Ordinance Establishing a No-Parking Zone on a Portion of an Alley Way of the City of Sanford – (Exhibit B)

Ordinance was approved establishing a no-parking zone in the alley directly behind and adjacent to the businesses located at 117 and 119 South Steele Street.

Approval of Capital Project Grant Ordinance – North Carolina Department of Transportation – 2011 Comprehensive Bicycle Planning Project – (Exhibit C)

Ordinance was approved to allow the city manager and staff to execute the Municipal Service Agreement between the City of Sanford and the NC Department of Transportation for the 2011 Bike Planning Grant and places this project on the books. The grant received from the

NC Department of Transportation is \$24,500 with a local match of \$10,500 from the City. Total cost of the project is \$35,000.

Approval of Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2011 – 2012 – (Exhibit D)

Ordinance was approved appropriating \$10,500 for the 2011 Comprehensive Bicycle Planning Grant.

Approval of Capital Project Amendment Rural Economic Development Center – Sewer Capital Project #2007-013-40401-107 – (Exhibit E)

Amendment was approved to amend Capital Project Ordinance No.2008-72 and 2010-5 to appropriate an additional \$31,776 for the Wal-Mart Sewer Improvement Capital Project.

Approval of Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2011-12 – (Exhibit F)

Ordinance was approved to amend the annual operating budget by transferring \$31,776 from Contingency to Contribution-Capital Project for the Wal-Mart Sewer Improvement Capital Project.

Approval of Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2011-12 – (Exhibit G)

Ordinance was approved appropriating \$7,682 for the Dry Creek Basin sewer rehabilitation project.

Approval of Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2011-12 – (Exhibit H)

Ordinance was approved to re-appropriate funds earmarked for projects that were not expended at June 30, 2011.

Approval of 2011 Assistance Firefighters' Grants (AFG) Application – (Exhibit I)

Approval was given to apply for a 2011 Assistance Firefighters Grant (AFG) for new air packs for the Fire Department and to hire Dorner Grant Consultants for consulting services in obtaining the grant funds. The fee is 2 percent of the awarded amount for consulting services to be paid at the time of the award announcement and a deposit of \$500 non-refundable for consulting services. The \$500 will be credited to the 2 percent fee when awarded.

Approval of Resolution Establishing the Lee County Animal Control Ordinance as the Applicable Laws for the City of Sanford – (Exhibit J)

Resolution was approved establishing the Lee County Animal Control Ordinance as the applicable laws for the City of Sanford.

ALL THE ITEMS LISTED ABOVE WERE DISCUSSED AT THE LAW AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2011.

Council Member Linwood Mann, made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Council Member Bob Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Presentation of National Night Out Video

City Manager Hal Hegwer presented a video of various locations of National Night Out events.

Consideration of a Budget Change for the Radios in the Fire Department

Mayor Pro Tem Sam Gaskins made a motion to reduce the budget for the radios (for the Fire Department) from the current \$94,000 down to \$44,000. Council Member Charles Taylor seconded the motion for the sake of discussion.

Mr. Gaskins said that the reason he made the motion is that after the presentations Council received last week and from what he read from the materials, there is no safety concerns between the two radios (Kenwood and Motorola) because they pass military standards. He has had six years in quality control; he was the quality control manager for Pfizer so he is familiar with military standards. If these pass military standards, safety is not an issue. After hearing the presentations (Fire Chief Wayne Barber and Nick Long with Kenwood Radios) the only issue he sees is that these radios cost the same, when comparing apples to apples - \$68,000 versus \$61,000. The difference is are we willing to pay a 50 percent premium for the P25 capabilities. He said Council was told that not only have we never used the P25 capabilities, we do not expect to use the P25 capabilities. Mr. Gaskins said that he did not see any reason to pay a 50 percent premium which is the difference. The reason he said \$44,000 was because he feels it puts them in the price range for either radio. He did not know if the Motorola radio offers it without the P25 capability comparing the prices that would put them in the ballpark. He said the reason for the motion is we need to go down from the \$94,000 – neither radio is anywhere close to the \$94,000; and he did not feel that the City should be paying for P25 capability. Should it become necessary, Council was told it could be used as an add-on. He did not care what radio is bought – that is a job left up to the Fire Department to make their own choice on the radio. He said that what has been brought to Council is that the City is paying a tremendous premium for P25 capability and that is the reason for the motion.

City Manager Hal Hegwer said that he was not prepared to talk about this issue tonight. He was not sure that Motorola makes that radio without the P25 capability. Mr. Gaskins said he would like for the difference in the money from \$94,000 to \$44,000, to go back into the General Fund.

A vote was taken and the motion failed two to five with Mayor Pro Tem Sam Gaskins and Council Member Charles Taylor voting in favor and Council Members Walter McNeil, L. I. “Poly” Cohen, Linwood Mann, Bob Brown, and James Williams voting against the motion.

Council Member Taylor said that he has talked with some vendors this weekend who attended the southeast fire show in Raleigh and there are a lot of questions on radios and he is pleased to hear that we have not made a movement towards a solution yet. He said that we need to think about some of the questions and issues that were brought up the other night. He was surprised tonight that this was brought up on the agenda. He supports going away from the P25 technology because when you look on the internet and talk with some fire departments, there are some issues with that technology. He felt that we should take our time because this decision will be made for ten years. He did not want to be strapped to antiquated technology for ten

years. Mr. Taylor said that we need to look at what we are doing as it relates to the county; we all need to be on the same page. We need to be able to communicate clearly and distinctly with one another.

Council Member Cohen added that he spoke with the city manager earlier today and he was going to try and find a person from the state to come and talk with us about radios in general – not a particular brand.

Mr. Hegwer suggested having someone to come in and talk about future technology, the VIPER system, etc.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Olive gave an update on the U. S. Highway 421 project. She has been concerned with the hold up that traffic was having on the south end of town with a 15 to 20 minute wait. She has spoken with a resident engineer and the engineer stated that when he checked into it, he had to wait 18 minutes to get to the location where the bottleneck is. He said that people pass traffic on the right and sneak in line. He said the project on the south end is behind schedule and that another intersection close by will be worked on also, so the congestion in that area will continue to be bad for a while.

Mayor Olive said that the resident engineer also stated that regarding the project on the north end of Sanford, there have been some problems with erosion control around Cumnock and the contractor had to be shut down four different times.

Mayor Olive advised that she has been working with Tim Shaw on some plantings at the gateways into Sanford. She felt they have some ideas that can be brought to Council.

Mayor Olive stated that she wanted Council to pay close attention to the progress of the landfill proposal in Johnsonville because it is close to Sanford. A lot of trucks will be utilizing U. S. #1 and N. C. Highway 87 to get to the proposed landfill.

CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Susan Patterson advised that Council needs to go into closed session in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a) (1) to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State, or not considered a public record within the meaning of the General Statutes. So moved by Council Member James Williams and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sam Gaskins, the motion carried unanimously.

ALL EXHIBITS CONTAINED HEREIN ARE HEREBY INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned on motion of Council Member James Williams; seconded by Council Member Walter McNeil, Jr., the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

CORNELIA P. OLIVE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BONNIE D. WHITE, CITY CLERK