

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 Tuesday, August 19, 2014, at 7 P.M., in the Council Chambers. The following people were present:

Mayor T. Chet Mann	Council Member Byron Buckels
Council Member Sam Gaskins	Council Member Jimmy Haire
Council Member Charles Taylor	Council Member Norman Charles Post, III
Council Member Rebecca Wyhof	Mayor Pro Tem James Williams
City Manager Hal Hegwer	City Attorney Susan Patterson
City Clerk Bonnie Davis	

Mayor Mann called the meeting to order. Mayor Pro Tem James Williams delivered the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Manager Hal Hegwer made a request to add an item to the Regular Agenda - Closed Session, to be held directly after consideration of the Resolution in Support of the Central Carolina Community College Bond Referendum.

Council Member Sam Gaskins made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Council Member Byron Buckels, the motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes Dated July 15, 2014 – (Filed in Minute Book #82)

Approval of City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes Dated July 30, 2014 – (Filed in Minute Book #82)

Approval of Law and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes Dated July 30, 2014 – (Filed in Vault)

Council Member Gaskins made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem James Williams, the motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2014-2015 – (Exhibit A)

Financial Services Director Beth Kelly explained that this amendment is done annually at this time of the year in order to re-appropriate funds which were earmarked for expenditures not completed by or for products not received prior to June 30, 2014.

Council Member Wyhof made a motion to approve the Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2014-2015. Seconded by Council Member Gaskins, the motion carried unanimously.

Consider Ordinance Establishing a No-Parking Zone Along a Portion of Bickett Road of the City of Sanford – (Exhibit B)

See Comments given below which address both Exhibit B and Exhibit C.

Consider Ordinance Establishing a No-Parking Zone Along a Portion of Pine Street of the City of Sanford – Hal Hegwer (Exhibit C)

City Manager Hal Hegwer stated that he would explain Items B and C together since they are related and the properties adjoin each other. A vote would be then held separately on each item.

Mr. Hegwer informed Council that a request had been received regarding problems with traffic flowing through Bickett Road and Pine Street, as well as vehicles obstructing traffic in this area. Mr. Hegwer confirmed that discussions have been held with property owners in this area and the overall consensus was that there was no problem with establishing a no parking zone. Only one person stated that there may be problems when residents of the nearby Apple Square Condominiums have several visitors at once or when a reunion is being held here. Mr. Hegwer said that he had also spoken with the Police Department, which indicated there would be no problem with short-term loading or unloading in these zones. Mr. Hegwer recommended proceeding with restricting parking along both Bickett Road and Pine Streets.

Council Member Taylor explained that Pine Street is a very narrow street; it is only 21 feet wide at the point it joins Bickett Drive and goes into a 90 degree turn. There is also a problem with erosion coming off of Hawkins Avenue. Ruts are developing on the right (north) side of Pine Street where the parking ban is requested. There are houses on the left (south) side of the street which are all rental properties.

Council Member Gaskins asked whether the property owners knew of this proposed ban, and Mr. Hegwer explained that nine owners had been notified who had no problem with the ban.

Council Member Williams asked if the property owners in this area had driveways. Mr. Hegwer confirmed that they did. Street access would not restrict the two houses that are there, where residents could park along their side of the street. There should be no problem as long as there is no traffic along both sides; there can be movement along here to accommodate the flow of traffic. The problem is when cars are parked along both sides.

Mr. Taylor stated that this situation also creates a problem with Waste Industries' ability to get in and out when servicing cans.

Manager Hegwer noted that there had been occasions where household garbage canisters have been knocked over. He also stated that he felt this change would benefit everyone in this area.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to adopt the Ordinance Establishing a No-Parking Zone along a Portion of Bickett Street of the City of Sanford. Seconded by Council Member Post, the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to adopt the Ordinance Establishing a No-Parking Zone along a Portion of Pine Street of the City of Sanford. Seconded by Council Member Post, the motion carried unanimously.

Consider Resolution in Support of the Central Carolina Community College Bond Referendum – (Exhibit D)

Mayor Mann explained that this Referendum was put together by the Bond Committee of Central Carolina Community College, a group of citizens working to pass the bond referendum.

Council Member Taylor wanted to know if is typical for City Councils of municipalities to endorse items such as this.

City Attorney Susan Patterson explained that if it were a bond referendum of the City of Sanford, taxpayer funds could not be used to support or oppose the bonds and that requests are occasionally made to municipalities by other entities regarding endorsement of bond referenda.

Council Member Williams stated that there were many unanswered questions regarding this bond referendum, among them knowing exactly what the tax implications would be. He requested that more information be supplied before Council acts upon the request.

Mayor Mann explained that one option is to table this issue until more information is received or a presentation is made to answer questions regarding the bond.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to table the issue and for Council to seek guidance from the League of Municipalities and the Triangle J Council on their stance regarding endorsements of bond referenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Williams.

The matter was then opened for discussion. Council Member Gaskins suggested that Julian Philpot also be consulted on this issue since he can answer any questions very well. Mr. Gaskins explained that he spent quite a bit of time with the 2020 Vision Committee for the development of the Civic Center and several businesses in the area, especially in the banking industry. The Civic Center, in its current condition, does draw many people but it does not bring in the overnight visitors. The lack of break rooms particularly limits the draw to many local businesses, especially the banking industry, which then resorts to holding meetings elsewhere. The addition of break rooms, in his opinion, would enable meetings to be held at the site, as well as bringing in other industries and overnight visitors. There are also hazards which currently exist at the Civil Center in its current condition. For continued use, this particular bond referendum is very critical. These bond referenda certainly effect the economic development within Sanford, according to Member Gaskins.

Council Member Taylor clarified that his motion was to request guidance from the North Carolina League of Municipalities, not the National League.

Mayor Mann stated that he agreed with Member Gaskins that the question for Council is whether you believe there is an economic vitality to be gained by what the bonds represent, including turning the Civic Center into more of an economic engine and whether a downtown Business Incubator, along with the general upgrading of the numerous Central Carolina Community facilities, would be a positive development for the City.

Mayor Mann called for a vote on the motion on the floor. The motion carried by a six to one vote, with Council Member Post casting the dissenting vote.

CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Susan Patterson stated that a motion was needed to go into closed session in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a) (3) and (4) to consult with an attorney employed by the public body to preserve the attorney/client privilege and to discuss matters relating to the location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body.

Council Member Haire made a motion to adjourn to closed session. Seconded by Member Gaskins, the motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

City Mayor Mann called the meeting back to order as Council returned to regular session at 8:15 p.m.

Consider Resolution Authorizing the City of Sanford to Enter Into an Interlocal Agreement with Lee County and Lease Agreement with Progressive Development Company, LLC, for the Co-Location of Community and Economic Development Services at the Sanford Buggy Factory – (Exhibit E)

Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement, which was seconded by Council Member Post. Attorney Patterson noted that this item was consideration of the resolution, not the actual lease. Council Member Gaskins amended his motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing the City of Sanford to Enter Into an Interlocal Agreement with Lee County and Lease Agreement with Progressive Development Company, LLC for the Co-Location of Community and Economic Development Services at the Sanford Buggy Factory. After being seconded by Council Member Post, the motion carried by a six to one vote. Council Member Taylor cast the dissenting vote.

Consider Interlocal Agreement for Shared Use of the Buggy Factory – (Exhibit F)

Attorney Patterson explained that this Agreement was between the City and County whereby they agree to co-locate their different departments with the newly formed Sanford-Lee County Partnership for Progress (“SLCPP”) in the Buggy Factory. It involves the City and County splitting the cost of utilities 50/50, with each entity paying for their own office furnishings and to retain interlocal agreements currently in place for the shared departments.

Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Shared Use of the Buggy Factory. After being seconded by Council Member Post, the motion carried by a vote of 6 to 1 with Council Member Taylor casting the dissenting vote.

Consider Lease of Buggy Factory – (Exhibit G)

Attorney Patterson explained that revisions have been made to the Lease in the last few days. This lease was approved by Lee County last night and basically calls for SLCPP, Lee County and the City of Sanford to enter into a Lease with Progressive Development. The City's portion of the rent for ten years would be \$7,308 per month. The lease includes a clause for escalation of the rental amount for years four through ten, allows the City to use the property for governmental purposes, and includes standard lease information regarding operation specifics.

There are specific attachments regarding the rental amount, floor plans, specifications and the resolution passed last night by the Lee County Board of Commissioners along with the resolution which was just approved tonight by Council.

Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the Lease of Buggy Factory. After being seconded by Member Post, the motion carried by a six to one vote. Council Member Taylor cast the dissenting vote.

Consider Update on Sister City Project – (Exhibit H)

Mayor Mann noted that Council had entertained the idea of forming a Sister City Program with the City of Yixing, which is the ceramics capital of China. They have reached out to us in order to foster a business exchange. A cultural exchange is already in place through the Confucius Classroom at Central Carolina Community College and this program will be an extension of that exchange. Chinese representatives have recently contacted us regarding an International Sister Cities Forum on Tourism and Cooperation in which they have invited us to participate. The forum will be held over three days at a location several hours outside Shanghai. If the Council elects to proceed, a response would be sent confirming our attendance at the forum and our desire to visit Yixing in an effort to foster our relationship. We would invite them to Sanford next year, at which time we hope to begin a business pottery exchange through which our wares would be displayed in China and their wares would be displayed here. Others from the state and region would be invited to visit the international pottery display.

Six delegates have been invited, with all expenses paid once in China. Each person would pay for his own international air fare and related travel expenses to China, where we would be hosted by the Chinese and transported to the various sites for the three-day conference and for a visit to Yixing. Mr. Mann emphasized that a response was needed quickly since international travel arrangement would be required. Several private citizens who have been involved with this project and are familiar with China are willing to pay their own expenses in order to participate and help foster the event when it returns to Sanford. There is an opening for a Council Member and the Mayor to go on this trip. Mayor Mann suggested that Community Development Director Marshall Downey be included in his official capacity for the City; however, if more than one Council Member desires to go, that would be appropriate.

Mr. Mann confirmed that air fare would be paid by each delegate unless funds were appropriated by the Council. Once in China, the host would pay expenses of the delegation. Council Member Williams asked whether funds would be appropriated by the City. Mayor Mann stated that \$5,000 had been appropriated in anticipation of the Chinese delegates' arrival in Sanford; however, due to our delayed response and conflicting schedules, we were unable to facilitate this event. These funds could be re-appropriated for air fare, specifically for Director Downey. Until we are officially designated with "Sister City" status, expenses will be covered for only six delegates. The visit to China is one component of the official status declaration. Once the official status declaration is made, as many as 20 delegates may be included. The Chinese delegation has indicated an interest in bringing their Hospital Director and Economic Director, among others, to Sanford. Mr. Mann informed Council that this is a city with a population of 10 million.

City Manager Hegwer explained that funds were not specifically designated for this project at the time of the budget since it was anticipated that the Chinese delegation would be coming here. It was anticipated that local restaurants would offer to host the guest delegates in order to showcase their businesses and Dr. James has offered her home for a reception. Funds were appropriated in the budget which could be re-appropriated in order to accommodate some of the expenses associated with the visit.

Mayor Mann informed Council that a Sanford native, Frank Proctor, is currently a resident of Hong Kong. Mr. Proctor, who runs an English magazine there and speaks Mandarin fluently, has volunteered to be our guide once in China, which would be a wonderful no-cost benefit. Mr. Mann closed by stating that perhaps more information will be available at the next Council meeting and action can be taken at that time. He also requested that anyone interested in this trip please contact him.

Consider Update on Citizens Academy – (Exhibit I)

Public Information Officer Kelly Miller gave an update on the newly formed Citizens Academy. She stated that a sample itinerary program has been assembled and distributed via email to all Council members, which summarizes all aspects of City government. One goal is to inform citizens how City government functions and allow greater understanding of how and why municipal decisions are made. The ultimate goal is for residents to be more engaged in and knowledgeable about the decision-making process. The program is open to any City resident. An information binder would be furnished to participants and a Certificate presented from Council upon completion of the program.

Council Member Williams asked about the number of current participants; Ms. Miller explained that registration has not yet begun. Mayor Mann explained that this is a new concept which he and Council Member Wyhof are attempting to promote. At an orientation session he attended in Hickory, other community representatives from western North Carolina had done a "101"-style program for their towns and some graduates of the sessions went on to become Council members. Components of the program include promotion and information. One of the biggest keys to successful cities is having many ambassadors who understand the process and who have actually seen the staff side of government and the steps involved in running a

municipality, including functions ranging from trash pickup to the process of obtaining water beginning with water taps. It is hoped to begin the program in the fall rather than late winter or early spring 2015. Mr. Mann said that he hopes National Night Out hosts and other community citizens will be enticed to volunteer.

Mrs. Miller stated that initially a small group of six to ten participants are desired in order to provide quality feedback and to foster good discussion; however, since this is the initial launch of the program, perhaps National Night Out volunteers would be a good source of participants since they are already engaged with the community. She indicated that interest has already been shown on the City's Facebook page and through the City website, indicating an interest in such a program.

Mayor Mann indicated that this is a good opportunity for interested parties and that perhaps graduates of the class could be sought after for board appointments or, at least, be given preference when multiple candidates are interested in an appointment. There would be many opportunities to engage with local government.

Council Member Wyhof asked Mrs. Miller whether the September 9, 2014 targeted start date was feasible. Mrs. Miller answered that she believed this date was feasible since there would be a small group of six to ten participants. Ms. Wyhof acknowledged Mr. Mann's accurate description of the program and thanked Mrs. Miller for her effort in launching the project.

City Manager Hegwer requested that anyone knowing parties who may be interested to contact Mrs. Miller. It is his hope that touring properties and other interactive elements during the project will help to showcase the City. Mrs. Miller further explained that the sessions would initially be held from 9:00 a.m. through 12:00 p.m., with the possible addition of evening sessions during spring of 2015, if there is enough interest. She invited Council Members to attend the initial session to introduce themselves, specifically Council Member Haire to share personal knowledge of Sanford and its residents.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Mann shared that earlier this year he had an opportunity to research the U.S. Conference of Mayors, an association we have recently joined since he saw real benefit to the City. Both the City and Mayor Mann are now enrolled as members. Many cities, both large and small, are members and it is a resource for determining "best practices". One benefit is eligibility in the "Walmart Innovation Grant," which offers grants for bringing jobs and manufacturing processes back to America. Arden, a local company, sought this grant and Mayor Mann stated that he was pleased to announce that Arden is one of seven companies nationwide to receive the grant, which will be announced soon through a press release. The press release explains that this endeavor was in combination with the North Carolina State University College of Textiles. A total of \$4 million was awarded to "create new processes, ideas and job creation that will foster America's growing footprint." City staff worked with Arden's engineering department, which is located here in Sanford. Mr. Mann noted that this is an example of one benefit of the association. He hopes that the message that the City is trying to help our business partners in Sanford is received, and he thanked the Council for their help in promoting this message.

Council Member Buckels noted that he has received comments of appreciation from constituents for responses by city staff and personnel and thanked those who have helped to do this work.

Council Member Wyhof stated that the Environmental Affairs Board met this evening in order to discuss the public comment period for the rules on fracking. There is a meeting this Friday, August 22, at 5:00 for public comments, so if anyone is interested in speaking, please arrive early to sign up for an opportunity to do so. She also stated that the Environmental Affairs Board will be following up after the meeting with a set of written comments.

Council Member Taylor echoed Ms. Wyhof's comments and stated that the period for the submission of written comments was extended through September 30. Mr. Taylor informed Council that he will be attending two of the four Mining and Energy Commission hearings in order to avoid a quorum. The meetings he will be attending are those in Reidsville and Sanford. He wanted to encourage everyone with an interest, whether "for" or "against," to attend and make their views known and encouraged everyone to act with respect and decorum. The process is tedious and he is very pleased with the participation throughout the rule-making process. Thousands of hours have gone into establishing the rules, which, he acknowledged, are not perfect. A fourth meeting location has been added in Cullawhee at the request of the Mining and Energy Commission, which was met with resistance at the State level.

Mayor Mann closed the meeting by stating that the City was very busy at this time and several things are happening with many good things yet to come.

ADJOURNMENT

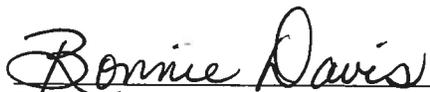
Council Member Jimmy Haire made the motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Council Member Wyhof, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



T. CHET MANN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



BONNIE DAVIS, CITY CLERK