

Salisbury, North Carolina  
May 18, 2021

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Karen K. Alexander, Presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Al Heggins, Council Members William Brian Miller, David Post and Tamara Sheffield; City Manager W. Lane Bailey, City Clerk Kelly Baker; and City Attorney J. Graham Corriher.

**ABSENT:** None.

In response to the State of Emergency declaration related to the spread of COVID-19 and to limit physical interactions and the potential spread of COVID-19 the Salisbury City Council met electronically. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Alexander at 6:00 p.m. A moment of silence was taken.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Alexander led participants in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

## **RECOGNITION OF VIEWERS**

Mayor Alexander welcomed all viewers.

## **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Mayor Alexander noted the following changes to the Agenda:

Postpone item 11 – Council to consider approving final subdivision plat S-01-21 for Ashton Manor Phase I, accept the streets for maintenance and adopt an **ORDINANCE** establishing stop conditions.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Thereupon, Councilmember Post made a **motion** to adopt the Agenda as corrected. Upon a roll call vote Mayor Alexander voted AYE, Mayor Pro Tem voted AYE, Councilmember Miller voted AYE, Councilmember Post voted AYE, and Councilmember Sheffield voted AYE. (5-0)

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Alexander proclaimed the following observances:

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK	May 16-22, 2021
VETERANS MEMORIAL DAY	May 31, 2021

**CONSENT AGENDA**

(a) Minutes

Adopt Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 4, 2021, the Regular Meeting of May 4, 2021, and the Special Meeting of May 6, 2021.

(b) Budget Ordinance Amendment – Hurley Park Donations

Adopt a budget Ordinance Amendment to the FY2020-2021 budget in the amount of \$15,750 to appropriate donations received for Hurley Park.

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020-2021 BUDGET ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA TO APPROPRIATE DONATIONS TO HURLEY PARK.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 29 at Page No. 85, and is known as Ordinance 2021-30.)

(c) Contract Extension – Motorola

Authorize an extension of a maintenance contract with Motorola for one year in the amount of \$252,934 for the City’s telecommunication system.

(d) Mutual Aid Agreement – Centralina Regional Council

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Police Chief to renew a mutual aid agreement through the Centralina Regional Council.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE POLICE CHIEF TO ENTER INTO LAW ENFORCEMENT MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 16 at Page No. 7, and is known as Resolution 2021-07.)

(e) Police Officer Retirement

Award Officer Shanita Millsaps her sidearm and badge in recognition of her retirement from the Salisbury Police Department May 1, 2021.

(f) Request for Voluntary Annexation

Receive a request for voluntary annexation of PFJ, LLC parcels 408-024 and 408-089 and adopt a Resolution instructing the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the request.

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO INVESTIGATE A PETITION RECEIVED UNDER NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL STATUTE 160A-58.1, FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION OF 8.754 ACRES, LOCATED OFF OF FAITH ROAD AND IDENTIFIED ON TAX MAP 408 PARCELS 024 AND 089.

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 16 at Page No. 8, and is known as Resolution 2021-08.)

(g) Encroachment – AT&T

Approve encroachment agreements with AT&T for directional bore and duct on North Arlington Street and Brenner Avenue.

(h) 300 Block of Harrel Street

Adopt a Resolution accepting an offer of dedication for the right-of-way in the 300 block of Harrel Street, and adopt an Order to close an unimproved right-of-way.

RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF AN OFFER OF DEDICATION FOR PUBLIC USE OF AN UNIMPROVED RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE 300 BLOCK OF HARRELL STREET.

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 16 at Page No. 9, and is known as Resolution 2021-09.)

ORDER CLOSING AN UNIMPROVED RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED IN THE 300 BLOCK OF HARRELL STREET.

(The above Order is recorded in full at the Register of Deeds and maintained in the City Clerk's Alley Closing File dated May 18, 2021.)

Thereupon, Councilmember Sheffield made a **motion** to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote Mayor Alexander voted AYE, Mayor Pro Tem Heggins voted

AYE, Councilmember Miller voted AYE, Councilmember Post voted AYE, and Councilmember Sheffield voted AYE. (5-0)

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Alexander opened the floor to receive public comments.

There being no one else to address Council, Mayor Alexander closed the public comment session.

### **LAND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT MAP AMENDMENT Z-01-2021**

Development Services Manager Teresa Barringer addressed Council regarding Land Development District Map Amendment Z-01-2021. She noted the request is to rezone 7.55 acres located adjacent to North Craige, West Henderson, North Caldwell and Hobson Streets from General Residential (GR) and General Residential/Open Space Preserve (GR/OSP) to OSP. She pointed out the five parcels that will be combined into one parcel.

Ms. Barringer noted Hurley Park was created when multiple families donated various parcels for the intent of preserving the area. She indicated once the rezoning petition takes place, a minor site plan will be submitted to staff. She explained the proposed structure is for the Hurley Park Operations Center, and she noted the floor plans include two offices, a meeting room, two ADA unisex restrooms, a staff kitchen and a maintenance workshop. She added an attached or detached workshop area will be installed to house equipment. Ms. Barringer pointed out this request is a downzoning, and she explained the difference from GR to OSP zoning.

Ms. Barringer stated this proposal meets Vision 2020 Policies P-1 and P-4.

Councilmember Post asked how many acres Hurley Park will be once the rezoning takes place. Parks and Recreation Director Nick Aceves commented Hurley Park will consist of 18 acres. He noted the acreage has always been considered a part of the park, but the parcels were incorrectly rezoned many years ago.

b) Mayor Alexander convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding Land Development District Map Amendment Z-01-2021.

Ms. Jane Ritchie noted she is chairman of the Hurley Park Advisory Board. She provided history regarding Hurley Park and the parcels being requested to be rezoned. She stated she hoped the parcels will be rezoned to benefit the neighborhoods and the park.

There being no one else to address Council, Mayor Alexander closed the public hearing and indicated comments regarding Z-01-2021 will be accepted for 24 hours from the close of the public hearing.

## **LAND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT MAP AMENDMENT Z-02-2019**

Development Services Manager Teresa Barringer explained the Land Development District Map Amendment Z-02-2019 was first brought to Council on March 17, 2020, but due to COVID-19 the project was put on hold. She noted the request is for Council to consider rezoning six parcels at the corner of West Marsh and South Ellis Streets from General Residential (GR-6) to Urban Residential (UR-12) and two parcels from GR-6 and Historic Residential (HR) to HR only.

Ms. Barringer noted concerns from a neighbor in the proposed rezoning district about a multifamily or an apartment complex being placed on the rezoned properties. She added the apartments already in place on the property cannot have any additional dwellings due to the property being at its maximum density.

Ms. Barringer pointed out the Planning Board committee felt UR-12 was more consistent with the zoning pattern in the neighborhood. She noted the existing parcels are at maximum density and their size will not allow additional multi-family use. She also reviewed where the National Registry and the Local Historic District boundaries are located, and she added the rezoning will not change these boundaries. She stated the purpose of the request is to clean-up the split zonings in the area. She pointed out the differences of each of the zoning districts.

Ms. Barringer stated the Planning Board voted unanimously at its February 25, 2020 meeting to approve with a motion that the plan is consistent with the Vision 2020 Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Sheffield asked how properties become split-zoned. Ms. Barringer noted the properties could have originally been multiple parcels and the zoning remained the same when they were combined. She added staff works on mapping to find these areas to bring to Council to clean up.

Councilmember Miller asked if a multifamily residence or apartment complex would be allowed if parcels are combined with more acreage under the UR-12. Ms. Barringer noted looking at density it could, but five units or more are considered an apartment building and would not be allowed under the Land Development Ordinance.

b) Mayor Alexander convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding Land Development District Map Amendment Z-02-2019.

Mr. Silverio Confesor pointed out he has taken care of the property the past year waiting for approval.

There being no one else to address Council, Mayor Alexander closed the public hearing and indicated comments regarding Z-02-2019 will be accepted for 24 hours from the close of the public hearing.

## **ELLA BROWN CANON HOUSE – NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

Planner Emily Vanek addressed Council regarding the nomination of the Ella Brown Cannon House located at 202 South Fulton Street to the National Register of Historic Places.

Ms. Vanek clarified this is not a Local Historic Landmark application but an application to the National Historic Register.

Ms. Vanek noted, as the Certified Local Government, the Historic Preservation Commission and City Council are required to receive public comment and provide a report to the State Historic Preservation Office. She noted the Ella Brown Cannon House was constructed in 1906 and is considered a Southern Colonial Revival style. She stated the house is located within the West Square Local Historic District and the Salisbury National Historic District.

Ms. Vanek stated the application proposes the property be listed under Criterion C as a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or represents the work of a master, possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

b) Mayor Alexander convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding eligibility for listing the Ella Brown Cannon House located at 202 Fulton Street in the National Register of Historic Places.

There being no one to address Council, Mayor Alexander closed the public hearing and indicated comments regarding the recommendation will be accepted for 24 hours from the close of the public hearing.

#### **UPDATE – SALISBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Police Chief Jerry Stokes presented information to Council regarding staffing and crime rates for 2020. He noted he expects 13 to 14 vacancies by May 31, 2021, and he discussed the difficulty in finding qualified applicants. He reviewed demographics for the Department and noted the separations are currently outpacing the new hires. He commented the turnover rate for the first quarter was almost 5%, and if the trend continues the Police Department is on track to see a 20% turnover rate by the end of the year. He pointed out the national turnover rate for law enforcement officers is 10.8%.

Chief Stokes reviewed violent crime statistics for 2020 and noted murder and aggravated assaults had increased while rape and robberies had decreased. He stated all three of these had increased in 2021. He indicated gun crimes have increased in 2021 compared to both 2020 and the 2017-2019 average. He also referred to overdoses since the beginning of 2020 and noted April 2021 had the highest number of overdoses since November 2020.

Chief Stokes reviewed some of the accomplishments of the Police Department since 2016 and referred to the review of agency crime response conducted by the United States Department of Justice. He noted he will apply for a second engagement in 2021. He noted the Department received Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) accreditation in 2016 and 2020. He explained the accreditation involves review of policies which must meet or exceed national standards. He also reviewed the grants the Department had received. He noted victim services had improved significantly with the creation of the Victim Advocate position and

the partnership that had been created with the Family Crisis Council, who is now housed in the Police Department building.

Chief Stokes discussed the specific training that has taken place since 2016 and the current or completed process improvements:

- Currently in a policy development and review process for response to demonstrations and unlawful assemblies with the United States Department of Justice Collaborative Reform Initiative, Technical Assistance Center
- National Police Work Dog Association will be providing a review and assessment of the K9 program and policy through the North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police
- North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police will be providing assistance reviewing and assessing agency policy on discipline and promotion
- WPR Consulting is completing an assessment of internal diversity and inclusion within the Department and will be submitting a report to Chief and City Manager with a public report to Council
- Completed a School of Government officer wellness assessment regarding stress from pandemic, police reform, and handling demonstrations/riots

Chief Stokes noted the achievements of the Police Chief’s Advisory Board and commented they are currently developing objectives and goals for improved Police community engagement in 2020-2021.

Chief Stokes discussed use of force applications with Council and explained there has been difficulty in collecting accurate data. He noted the software that is used has limited capabilities, and he had to review each incident individually to determine demographic information for the applications. He reviewed officer involved shootings from 2016-2021. He stated in 2016 there were two officer involved shootings and both were Black males; in 2017 there were three incidents involving one white male and two Black males; in 2018 there were two incidents, one involving a Black male and the second involving a male whose race was classified as other. He added there have been no officer involved shootings since 2018.

Chief Stokes reviewed data for force applications from 2015 through 2021. He noted in 2015 the Police Department did not track display of weapons, and there was no supervisory review of the applications. He noted in 2017 staff began more closely tracking display of weapons and implemented supervisory review. He stated the totals for 2017 through 2021 were:

Year	White Males	White Females	Black Males	Black Females	Hispanic Males	Hispanic Females	Unknown	Total
2017	29	4	26	5	2	1	0	54
2018	10	2	29	7	0	1	1	50
2019	9	0	30	9	1	0	0	49
2020	5	1	12	0	2	0	1	21
2021	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	5

Mayor Pro Tem Heggins thanked Chief Stokes for his presentation and asked about the difference between stop sticks and spikes. Chief Stokes noted they are the same devices, but the names are used interchangeably.

Mayor Pro Tem Heggins indicated Chief Stokes stated the Use of Force policy was last updated in 2020. She asked what significant changes to the policy were made. Chief Stokes stated the most significant change came from CALEA which banned chokeholds. He stated the practice of chokeholds was not allowed, but it was not specifically prohibited in the policy. He added the policy was changed to specifically state chokeholds were not allowed.

Mayor Pro Tem Heggins referred to section 3.10 of the Use of Force Policy regarding the use of objectively reasonable and justness in determining the use of force as provided by guidance from the Supreme Court Case *Graham vs. Connor*. She asked for an example of something that would be considered unreasonable. Chief Stokes commented he cannot give a specific example. He noted in determining the use of force there are three factors officers are taught to consider: seriousness of the offense, danger to the public, and if a person is a danger or is fleeing an officer. He stated circumstances are different for each incident, and the determination is completely dependent on the event and the circumstances surrounding it. He commented there might be a use of force application he would never want an officer to use, but there could be a crisis event where the use of that force application would be appropriate to save a life.

Mayor Pro Tem Heggins asked how often officers are trained in use of force and if they use scenarios or a scale for determining the application of force to be used. Chief Stokes stated there used to be a continuum of force model which used a scale for escalation, but that model is outdated and should not be used. He stated training is provided to officers for how the three factors should be used in assessing public safety and danger. He commented the use of scenarios is the best hands-on training to teach officers how to respond with appropriate use of force. He added use of force incidents are also reviewed and used as teaching tools with officers.

Mayor Pro Tem Heggins commented the training described by Chief Stokes has raised her level of confidence that officers are comfortable using the tools they have been given.

Mayor Pro Tem Heggins indicated she would like to know how many lawsuits have been filed against the City since 2015 regarding use of force, and how many complaints have been filed with Internal Affairs regarding inappropriate use of force.

Councilmember Miller asked if there are opportunities for continuing education updates. Chief Stokes stated North Carolina requires officers to complete 24 hours of continuing education each year. He noted the Salisbury Police Department also requires officers to certify with any of the weapons they carry. He commented he is working to build a training regime for staff, but it has been difficult with the staffing challenges. He stated his two major focus areas have been staff and crime response, but he is working to move toward additional training for force and skills to move the Department forward.

Councilmember Post asked how the City's staffing trends compare to other areas. Chief Stokes indicated the problem is a national one, and Salisbury's numbers follow other cities. Mr.

Post commented Deputy Chief Shon Barnes was successful in engaging the community through community policing and he hopes the program will continue.

Councilmember Sheffield stated many of the issues have been connected to the pandemic, and she asked if the City's statistics are similar to Rowan County's. Chief Stokes commented there are years when the County is under the state or national average, but since the City is the County seat it tends to have a concentration of crime. Councilmember Sheffield encouraged Chief Stokes to have patience and remain diligent in his search for qualified officers, and she added Council will continue to support the Police Department.

Mayor Alexander questioned if there is something the City can do to work with other organizations to provide training to the community for interactions with the Police. Chief Stokes stated he is working with Dr. Roy Dennis and Ms. Mae Carroll to develop a program for community training and engagement.

Council thanked Chief Stokes for his report.

### **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

No appointments were made.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

City Attorney Graham Corriher had no report for Council.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Lane Bailey presented the proposed FY21-22 budget to Council. He noted the budget has been a challenge because of COVID-19 but based on the increase in sales tax revenue and development permits, he is optimistic about the community's ability to rebound from the pandemic.

Mr. Bailey noted departments were asked to make deep cuts to help balance the budget. He stated he anticipates finishing the current fiscal year with approximately \$1.5 to \$1.7 million in surplus which will be returned to Fund Balance. He indicated appropriating that surplus in FY21-22 will provide a means to address some of the staffing challenges and allow the completion of capital projects. He pointed out the proposed budget for FY21-22 maintains the current tax rate of \$0.7196.

Mr. Bailey indicated General Fund contributions to the Transit Fund and Broadband Fund continue to have a significant impact on the budget. He stated the proposed budget includes a \$2,945,040 transfer to the Broadband Fund, which is equivalent to 9.51 cents of the tax rate. He noted staff is exploring options to refinance the debt in order to reduce the tax burden for the remainder of the term. He stated if refinancing is possible, staff will bring the information to

Council in the new fiscal year after the budget is adopted. He commented the budget also includes a transfer of \$630,000 to the Transit Fund. He explained of the \$630,000, \$510,000 is from property tax, which is equivalent to 1.64 cents of the tax rate, and the remaining \$120,000 is from vehicle tax.

Mr. Bailey recommended the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) again be postponed until a later date due to the uncertainties of the pandemic. He pointed out one of the largest items on the CIP is construction of Fire Station 3, and he stated it might be eligible for American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds, but the guidance for use of the funds is still under review. He added another major capital project that will have to be addressed is the construction of a second platform at the Depot. He indicated Council has committed to the project and staff will continue to review funding options.

Mr. Bailey reviewed the General Fund expenditures. He noted the proposed budget appropriates Fund Balance in the amount of \$1,266,950, and staff anticipates this will reduce the Fund Balance of the General Fund to 31.59%, which is well above the Local Government Commission minimum requirement of 8% and above the Council recommended minimum of 24%. He pointed out the one-time capital projects in the amount of \$909,923:

• Roof/HVAC Projects	\$496,428
• Main/Innes Street Improvements	\$250,000
• Police LiveScan and Video Software	\$82,495
• Old Concord Sidewalk	\$31,000
• Bell Tower Green	\$50,000

Mr. Bailey indicated the remaining \$357,027 Fund Balance appropriation will be used to provide a 5% increase for sworn police officers and 5% to 15% increase for certain positions in Public Works in order to address recruiting and retention challenges.

Mr. Bailey stated he recommends a 2% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase for employees effective January 1, 2022. He indicated the City has outstanding employees, and he expressed his pride in their work and the seamless service they provided in spite of the pandemic challenges.

Mr. Bailey noted the City entered into a new recycling contract last year, but the market for recyclables has continued to decline. He indicated Salisbury is one of the few municipalities in the region whose curbside collection program includes waste, single stream recycling, and limb and yard waste. He recommended a fee increase of \$1.15 per month, from \$19.06 to \$20.21, for residential curbside collection sites with one waste container and one recycling container. He added commercial rates will increase \$1.18 per month, from \$19.62 to \$20.80.

Mr. Bailey stated the Municipal Service District (MSD) has a separate tax rate of \$0.176, and he recommend maintaining the current rate to assist in promoting substantial projects such as the Empire Hotel.

Mr. Bailey indicated Salisbury-Rowan Utilities (SRU) remains committed to its mission to provide high quality water and wastewater service to our customers throughout Rowan County

while providing excellent customer service to rate payers. He stated major facility upgrades, as well as rehabilitation and replacement projects are continuing through SRU's 10-Year CIP, which prioritizes and forecasts future capital needs. He noted SRU continues to implement a multi-year effort to rehabilitate aging gravity sewer lines throughout the system in an effort to reduce inflow and infiltration.

Mr. Bailey stated that staff is focused on maintaining fair and equitable rates for consumers, and he added it is costly to treat water and wastewater in compliance with state and federal regulations and also deliver excellent service. He indicated as a result of the cost, he recommended a 2% water and sewer increase based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for urban consumers for the South Region (CPI-U). He noted an average monthly residential water and sewer utility bill, for a customer using 4,000 gallons, would be \$60.59. He added this is an increase of \$1.16 or about 3.8 cents per day.

Mr. Bailey commented the Stormwater Department is currently working with HDR Consultants to develop a CIP. He pointed out the City experienced several significant flooding issues during the last year that reflect the need for continued Stormwater maintenance and improvement projects. He noted he is proposing a rate increase of \$.08 to offset inflation and to provide funds for Stormwater projects. He added this is based on the 2% CPI increase. Mr. Bailey stated Stormwater projects might be eligible for ARP funds as the guidance is reviewed.

Mr. Bailey informed Council the proposed budget includes a General Fund contribution to the Fibrant Fund of \$2,945,040 in order to balance the fund. He added the recommended budget includes \$300,000 in principal debt payment toward the inter-fund loan to the Water & Sewer Fund, plus 1% interest. He stated the partnership with Hotwire continues to move forward, and Hotwire has been able to provide reduced rates for lower income users that the City would not have been able to provide. He pointed out the pandemic has emphasized the importance of having an internet connection.

Mr. Bailey stated the majority of funding for Transit is provided through federal and state grants, and he noted the proposed budget includes a General Fund contribution for FY21-22 of \$630,000. He explained that Transit received Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funds in FY20-21, which reduced the General Fund contribution in the current year, but the State cut its State Maintenance Assistance Program funds in response. He stated \$111,125 of the grant funds will be used to balance the FY21-22 budget. Mr. Bailey pointed out Transit operated fare free for FY20-21 resulting in the loss of budgeted revenue. He commented the proposed budget includes six months of fares and ticket sales.

Mr. Bailey noted Delta sheets are included in the budget message that indicate significant changes in the General Fund, Water/Sewer Fund, Stormwater Fund and Transit Fund. He commented it appears May 26, 2021 will work for a budget work session to review the budget in detail with Council. He also asked Council to set a public hearing on the proposed budget on June 1, 2021.

Councilmember Post indicated he would make a motion to set a public hearing. Mr. Bailey asked Council about the format of the next meeting and if Council wished to continue to meet virtually or return to an in-person meeting.

Mayor Alexander asked Council their preference for the June 1, 2021 meeting. Councilmember Post stated he thinks Council should wait until July to transition. He commented it is difficult to know who has been vaccinated, and it could put people at risk.

Councilmember Miller commented he would honor Mr. Post's request to wait until July. He stated Council needs to determine when it will return, but as long as there is a date determined he supports waiting.

Councilmember Sheffield stated only 28% of the County has been vaccinated. She added over 100 people have participated in public comment since Council began its virtual meetings, and she does not think meeting virtually has kept people from participating. She agreed Council needed to work on a date to come back together for its meetings.

Mayor Pro Tem Heggins stated she agrees July seems like a reasonable time to come back together.

Mayor Alexander stated the equipment is in place in Council Chambers to allow Council to be present in the Chamber and still use Zoom if someone wants to participate virtually. She added she thinks there has been higher participation in the virtual format than in many cases where meetings were held in Council Chambers.

By consensus, Council agreed to work towards July 20, 2021 for meeting in person with the understanding they will continue to monitor the cases and data.

Thereupon, Councilmember Miller made a **motion** to set a public hearing for June 1, 2021 to receive public input on the proposed budget via Zoom. Upon a roll call vote Mayor Alexander voted AYE, Mayor Pro Tem Heggins voted AYE, Councilmember Miller voted AYE, Councilmember Post voted AYE, and Councilmember Sheffield voted AYE. (5-0)

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Sheffield congratulated Officer Shanita Millsaps on her retirement and thanked her for her service.

Councilmember Miller commented it is good to see new faces as part of the Planning Team.

Councilmember Post commented on a solarization program being implemented in Asheville and stated he will provide the information to staff.

### **MAYOR PRO TEM COMMENTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Heggins congratulated Officer Millsaps on her retirement. She also congratulated Judge Anna Mills Wagoner on her retirement and for her service to the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Heggins indicated the Public Art Committee gathered a selection committee to review submission for the Paint the Pavement initiative. She noted there were 32 submissions, and she thanked Ms. Whitney Williams and Ms. Taylor Ellerbee for their work on the project.

**MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS**

Wine About Winter

Mayor Alexander announced Downtown Salisbury, Inc. will host the 8th Annual Wine About Winter event Friday, June 18, 2021 from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Tickets include a tasting pass, signature Wine About Winter tasting glass and a carrying bag. For ticket sales and detailed information visit [www.downtownsalisburync.com](http://www.downtownsalisburync.com) or call (704) 637-7814. Tickets are \$22.50 in advance and \$30 the day of the event.

Salisbury High School Parade

Mayor Alexander announced there will be a parade Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in downtown Salisbury to honor the State Championship football team and two State Championship swimmers from Salisbury High School. She invited Council to join other elected officials at the square to congratulate the State Champions. She also thanked staff for their assistance to make the parade possible.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilmember Post. All Council members in attendance agreed unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

  
Karen Alexander, Mayor

  
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Kelly Baker, City Clerk