

Salisbury, North Carolina
March 3, 2015

REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Mayor Paul B. Woodson, Jr., Presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Maggie A. Blackwell, Council Members Karen Kirks Alexander, William (Pete) Kennedy, and William Brian Miller; Interim City Manager John Sofley; City Clerk Myra B. Heard; and City Attorney F. Rivers Lawther, Jr.

ABSENT: None

Salisbury City Council met in Council Chambers in City Hall located at 217 South Main Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Woodson at 4:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Councilmember Kennedy.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Woodson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Woodson welcomed all visitors present.

RECOGNITION – SALISBURY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT KAYLA HONEYCUTT

Mayor Woodson recognized Salisbury High School Student Kayla Honeycutt for winning the North Carolina 2A Singles Tennis State Championship. He read a Proclamation proclaiming March 3, 2015 as Kayla Honeycutt Day and presented a framed copy of the Proclamation to Ms. Honeycutt. He congratulated Ms. Honeycutt and recognized Salisbury High School Principal Luke Brown who was in the audience.

RECOGNITION – SALISBURY HIGH SCHOOL LADY HORNETS GOLF TEAM

Mayor Woodson recognized members of the Salisbury High School Lady Hornets Golf Team for winning the North Carolina 1A/2A State Championship.

Mayor Woodson read a Proclamation proclaiming March 3, 2015 as Salisbury High School Lady Hornets Golf Day and presented a framed copy of the Proclamation to members of the team. He also recognized Coaches Dale Snyder and Tyler Holden.

Members of the team were Isabella Rusher, Grace Yatawara, Shelby Holden, and Caroline Parrott.

Mayor Woodson congratulated the team and stated Council is proud of all that Salisbury High School has accomplished.

CONSENT AGENDA

(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 16, 2015 and the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2015.

(b) Alley Closure – 600 Block North Church Street

Receive a petition to close an alley in the 600 block of North Church Street and adopt a Resolution setting a public hearing for April 7, 2015.

RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSED CLOSING OF AN ALLEY IN THE 600 BLOCK OF NORTH CHURCH STREET, AND SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL 7, 2015.

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 15 at Page No. 4, and is known as Resolution 2015-03)

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

CD-01-2015 – WEST END PLAZA

Planning and Development Services Manager Preston Mitchell and Zoning Administrator David Phillips addressed Council regarding Land Development District Map Amendment CD-01-2015, West End Plaza, located at 1935 Jake Alexander Boulevard. Mr. Phillips stated the

request is to rezone approximately 26 acres, 1 parcel, to establish a Conditional District (CD) Overlay to allow Government Services.

Mr. Phillips reviewed a map of the area, and he pointed out the entire mall site is 37.686 acres. He noted the request is for one parcel of the mall site, approximately 26 acres. He stated the parcels that include K&W Cafeteria and the movie theater are not included in the request.

Mr. Phillips displayed the Master Plan, and he pointed out the petitioner, Rowan County, is proposing additional landscaping in the parking area and around the proposed open storage area behind the mall. He noted the County will provide pedestrian access, a bus shelter, and a convenience cluster in the vicinity of the former J.C. Penny location.

Mr. Phillips then reviewed the interior floor plan, and he pointed out the proposed location of the three areas discussed for Government Services during the Special Use Permit (SUP) process: Facility Maintenance, Board of Elections, and Veterans Services.

Mr. Phillips displayed photographs of the West End Plaza and street photographs from Jake Alexander and Statesville Boulevards. He stated a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) project will install sidewalks along Statesville and Jake Alexander Boulevards on the side of the street near the West End Plaza.

Mr. Mitchell presented a video of the site. He pointed out the open storage area and its proximity to West Ridge Apartments, and he noted the location of the proposed convenience cluster.

Mr. Phillips explained the Conditional District Overlay:

- Floating overlay zone
- Master Plan is required
- Allows alternative design
- Certain provisions of the Land Development Ordinance (LDO) may be altered or removed
- Conditions may be added at time of approval
 - Recommended by staff and the Planning Board
 - Adopted by Council
 - Agreed upon by petitioner

Mr. Phillips stated the property is zoned Highway Business (HB):

- Defined by intense commercial development established by the fronting thoroughfare traffic
- Zoning Ordinance regulations seek to facilitate convenient access, minimize traffic congestion, and reduce the visual impact of excessive signage and parking lots

Mr. Phillips noted the HB zoning will remain with the addition of a CD Overlay:

- CD Master Plan and Overlay sets the development type and uses to what is proposed
- CD Overlay would allow all currently permitted uses, including Government Services
 - Except outdoor kennels and Class 2 and Class 3 utilities

Mayor Woodson asked for clarification regarding the exemptions for Government Services. Mr. Phillips indicated the Planning Board excluded outdoor kennels as a permitted use to ensure animals would not be housed outside of the building should the Rowan County Animal Shelter move to the West End Plaza. He noted Class 2 and Class 3 utilities were exempted to ensure the site could not be used for a landfill, recycling center, or water-sewer plant.

Mr. Mitchell presented a draft Ordinance to Council, and he noted Council has made statements of consistency since 2005, but must now explain why an item is consistent, inconsistent, or not inconsistent. He pointed out the Planning Board recommended the request is not inconsistent, while staff recommends the proposal is consistent. He reviewed the proposed language for Council to find the item consistent, inconsistent, or not inconsistent.

Mr. Mitchell reviewed the proposed floor plan, and he noted the proposed use for each area. He stated Government Services would make up approximately 11.4 percent of the total area while business retail, including restaurants, would make up 76.61 percent. He pointed out the West End Plaza has a total of 335,000 square feet. He noted the County is proposing to use 38,414 square feet for Government Services. He indicated if the request is approved as submitted, the County will be locked into the original request with the option to add an additional 10 percent without having to come back before Council. He explained Government Services usage of over 10 percent would require a full amendment before Council.

Councilmember Miller asked if the amount of space proposed for Government Services equals 38,414 square feet. Mr. Mitchell stated that is correct.

Mr. Mitchell noted there are two processes by which a CD can be changed:

- A revision is an insignificant change
 - 10 percent or less
- An amendment is a major change
 - Over 10 percent and must be brought before Council

Mr. Mitchell pointed out the support for consistency:

- Providing a convenience cluster: bus shelter/bike racks meets
 - General Policy Recommendation 4
 - Commercial Policy C-9
- Working with Rowan County to consolidate services and adaptively re-use a neglected, abandoned mall meets
 - Intergovernmental Cooperation Vision Statement
- Mixture of uses percentage meets
 - Commercial Policy C-23

- Additional consistency could be gained by:
 - County re-affirming commitment to downtown Salisbury by addressing
 - Downtown Policy D-6: Local, State, Federal governments maintaining tangible presence downtown

Mr. Mitchell added if Council were to find the petition inconsistent:

- Appropriate landscaping of large, un-landscaped parking areas
 - Commercial Policy C-8
 - Can be remedied with additional landscaping, shade trees, shaded pedestrian corridors

Mr. Mitchell stated the petition includes a mall with large asphalt parking areas. He added the County is proposing some additional trees but no shade trees or trees of real significance. He noted the inconsistency could be remedied with additional landscaping, shade trees, or shaded pedestrian corridors. He noted staff does not think the landscaping would be enough to find the request inconsistent.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell asked for clarification regarding the Intergovernmental Cooperation Vision Statement. Mr. Mitchell noted the Intergovernmental Cooperation Vision Statement from the Vision 2020 Plan states:

- We see Salisbury as an integral part of a greater region. As such, we see our City working constructively with nearby towns, Rowan County, and other surrounding counties on a collective regional vision. In particular, we see continued cooperation on issues such as water quality, air quality, transportation, education, economic development, tourism, community appearance, land preservation, and other growth management issues

Mr. Phillips noted the recommendations:

- Technical Review Committee (TRC) met on February 12, 2015
 - Recommends approval as submitted to allow the use of Government Services and to approve the Master Plan
 - Plan is consistent with Vision 2020 plan
- Planning Board recommends approval with provisions:
 - Outdoor storage area to have complete visual separation
 - Exclude the uses of outdoor kenneling, Class 2 and Class 3 Utilities
 - Planning Board did not discuss square footage

Mr. Phillips noted the Planning Board decided to allow staff to approve the type of material used for complete visual separation. He added the LDO states complete visual separation can be provided by an opaque fence, landscaping, or a combination of the two. Ms. Blackwell asked about the timeframe for complete visual separation by landscaping. Mr. Phillips noted the petitioner has three years to provide complete visual separation. He pointed

out complete visual separation will be needed along the sideline near the West Ridge apartment complex. He added the land behind the West End Plaza is vacant so nothing will be disturbed by storage.

Mayor Woodson asked why Class 2 and Class 3 utilities were brought into the discussion. Mr. Phillips stated during the SUP process it was noted that Government Services includes many things separated by City Ordinance into Class 2 and Class 3 utilities. He indicated the Planning Board wanted to make sure Government Services at the West End Plaza included office-type facilities.

Mr. Mitchell noted the Planning Board did not consider the floor plan for the West End Plaza. He explained if Council adopts the floor plan, the threshold for Government Services would be 38,414 square feet, and if Council does not adopt the floor plan, the threshold for Government Services will be the full 335,000 square feet. He emphasized Council must decide if it wants to adopt the floor plan. Mayor Woodson stated if Council adopts the floor plan the County can actually use 41,000 square feet as Government Services. Mr. Mitchell indicated that is correct.

Councilmember Alexander noted the County canceled its contracts to prepare space in the West End Plaza for the Board of Elections and Veteran Services. She asked if it matters where the Board of Elections and Veteran Services are located in the facility should Council adopt the Ordinance. Mr. Mitchell stated if the floor plan is adopted it becomes part of the Ordinance. He added Council could grant the County permission to move the square footage while staying within the proposed limits.

Mr. Mitchell clarified the Planning Board recommends eliminating the floor plan and allowing Government Services in the entire building. He explained the floor plan was submitted as part of the petition, and Council could request the percentage mixture without the floor plan.

(b) Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding CD-01-2015, West End Plaza.

Rowan County Attorney Jay Dees, 121 East Kerr Street, and Rowan County Planning Director Ed Muire, 402 North Main Street, addressed Council. Mr. Dees clarified the CD request was submitted for the entire building, and the floor plan was included to show the County's initial intent. He noted the County heard Council's concerns and request for engineering and floor plans, so the County submitted its proposed intent. He stated the interior floor plans were reviewed and approved by the inspections department. Mr. Dees noted Mr. Muire is working with City Transit Manager Rodney Harrison to determine the final location of the convenience cluster, and he pointed out a second convenience cluster could be included on the site. He indicated the County may want to partner with the City for a sidewalk project. He stated he understands if Council limits the square footage, but getting into the detail of where the 38,000 square feet would be located makes it difficult for the County to plan. Mr. Dees stated Rowan County recognizes Salisbury as the seat of Rowan County. He pointed out the Rowan County Courthouse and supporting services are downtown, and both are critical functions that support a County Seat. He added the County is working to keep its probation offices near the

courthouse. Mr. Dees added the plan was reviewed by TRC and the Planning Board who added conditions. He stated he met with the Commission last night, and they agreed to the conditions proposed by the Planning Board. He pointed out approval was unanimous by the Planning Board. Mr. Dees noted the County is hopeful Council will approve the CD Overlay for the entire site. He stated the County would take any conditions Council would suggest into consideration.

Mr. Muire encouraged Council not to adopt the floor plan because much of the facility is vacant. He explained if Council adopts the floor plan it would prevent the County from occupying vacant floor space. He stated the floor plan was submitted as part of the process to show the County's intent. He indicated the County is not sure where everything will go, and other spaces in the West End Plaza could be used for Government Services.

Rowan County Commission Chair Greg Edds stated he looks forward to partnering with the City to transform the West End Plaza into a community asset. He added the County realizes approval of the entire floor plan requires trust, and the County is reaching out to the City. He noted he was pleased the Planning Board voted unanimously to rezone the entire facility. He emphasized rezoning the West End Plaza would be a great step forward for the relationship between the County Commission and Council. He asked Council to support the CD Overlay requests.

Ms. Alexander asked if Council should find the petition consistent, would the Commission reaffirm its commitment to Downtown Salisbury and the following policy:

- Downtown Policy D-6: Local, State, and Federal governments maintaining tangible presence downtown

Mr. Edds noted there was a tremendous amount of conversation regarding the West End Plaza in 2014. He added there were rumors the County planned to move the Courthouse and Clerk of Court to the West End Plaza. He stated the County's intent is to extend the life of the Courthouse for downtown Salisbury. He pointed out the legal community has made a tremendous investment in downtown. He emphasized the County supports the City, and Salisbury is the hub of Rowan County. He noted the Commission has viewed three drafts of its space needs study, and it realizes multiple departments will have significant space needs. Mr. Edds indicated the County will receive a Master Plan from its architectural firm in April. He explained the designs that were submitted were put on hold because the Veterans Services Office and Board of Elections may not end up in those spaces since they are separated by the entire mall. He added the County may have needs for some departments that require more square footage and would use the spaces proposed for the Veterans Services Office and the Board of Elections. He emphasized it would be counterproductive to put them in temporary spaces. He noted the community requested a Master Plan, and the County will deliver a Master Plan and sell it to the community.

Mr. Edds commented the Commission has no plans to move people out of downtown Salisbury. He explained the Department of Social Services and the Health Department could need over 100,000 square feet in the next five years.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell asked if the increased space need is due to the recession. Mr. Edds stated some of the increased space need is due to the recession. He added the architectural firm will present its final report to the Commission at its March 16, 2015 meeting, and he invited Council to attend. He commented the proposed changes will extend the County's presence in downtown Salisbury by decades.

Ms. Alexander asked if the decision should be tabled until the study is presented in two weeks. Mr. Edds explained special meetings were called and if the decision is delayed those meetings would be pointless. He added the Commission and Council are building a relationship. He stated the County is asking Council to allow the plans to move forward and trust the County will do what it says. Mr. Edds emphasized the Commission's actions are on display for the community to see. He asked Council to rezone the entire facility today. He noted he would like to reach out to Council in the future regarding projects at the mall. He pointed out the decision has been delayed long enough and there needs to be resolution with the West End Plaza so the City and County can work together to create a thriving tax base, focus on sustainable jobs, and improve the education system. He thanked Council for working with the County.

Ms. Dee Dee Wright, 418 South Caldwell Street, stated she served on the Planning Board for seven years. She noted the County has done what Council has asked it to do. She asked Council to approve the County's request.

There being no one else to address Council, Mayor Woodson closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Kennedy stated the Department of Social Services needs more space. He added if Council and the County Commission work together to create jobs, the Department of Social Services may not need additional space. He emphasized creating jobs is the key to future success for the City and County.

Councilmember Miller stated he is considering the request as he would any petition. He noted if the petitioner were a business, the request to use the full facility to meet its needs would make perfect sense. He added the request to eliminate the floor plan from the Ordinance is reasonable and consistent. He indicated the policy states the County should maintain a tangible presence and commitment to the downtown, and he pointed out the County is doing that. He added it would not make sense for the County to sell the jail and move to another location incurring additional expense. Mr. Miller explained the County has too much invested in the infrastructure, and he believes the County has made a tangible investment in downtown. He noted he trusts the current Commission and believes Mr. Edds when he says there is no intent to upset the downtown job structure. He stated he supports approval of the CD Overlay, and although he is not going to change the requirements, he would like to see additional landscaping on the property. He noted he is ready for Council to move toward a more trusting relationship with the County.

Ms. Blackwell agreed with Mr. Miller, and she pointed out this is a new Commission. She noted Council received private and public affirmations from the County, and she does not see a reason to reject the proposal. She stated she will vote in support of the CD Overlay.

Mayor Woodson noted the CD Overlay is about trust. He commented additional landscaping would improve the facility. He pointed out Council must ensure the downtown will stay intact for its citizens. He added he also supports the request.

Ms. Alexander stated after hearing Mr. Edds speak about the County's commitment to downtown she is satisfied. She agreed with Mr. Kennedy that if funding could be used for incentives to attract businesses and provide jobs, the County may not need 100,000 square foot for the Department of Social Services and the Health Department.

Mr. Miller stated the City Council hereby finds and determines that adoption of an Ordinance to rezone the property as described herein by establishing a Conditional District Overlay is reasonable, in the public interest, and is consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the Vision 2020 Comprehensive Plan for the following reasons:

1. According to the proposed plan, General Policy Recommendation 4 (GPR-4) and Commercial Policy C-9 have been met by the provision of a convenience cluster with bus shelter and bike racks
2. According to the proposed plan and the commitment to adaptively re-use a struggling retail mall for further purposes, the Intergovernmental Cooperation Vision Statement has been met by collectively and constructively cooperating with Rowan County to consolidate county services and prevent further decline of a neglected and abandoned mall, and
3. Downtown Policy D-6 has been met by Rowan County affirming its commitment to downtown Salisbury by maintaining a tangible presence and commitment to the downtown through the location of the County's major municipal offices here

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to adopt an Ordinance amending the Land Development Ordinance and the Land Development District Map of the City of Salisbury, North Carolina, by rezoning approximately 27 acres (1 parcel) at 1935 Jake Alexander Boulevard West, by establishing a Conditional District Overlay to allow Government Services and other specific uses in the former Salisbury Mall, to include the following permitted uses that all Highway Business (HB) uses labeled permitted by right (P), permitted subject to additional standards (PS), and permitted as new development only (PND), including the use of Government Services are permitted within this Conditional District Overlay, except for the following: Outdoor Kennels, Class 2 Utilities, and Class 3 Utilities. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion.

Ms. Blackwell asked if Council would need to require a permeable screen in the back. Mr. Miller stated what was established at Planning Board is sufficient. Ms. Blackwell noted the Planning Board included screening. Mr. Mitchell indicated the Planning Board recognized the plan provided complete visual separation which would be left to staff interpretation. Ms. Alexander added she would prefer staff handle the screening details. Mr. Miller clarified complete visual separation will be determined by staff who will work with the County for its implementation. Mr. Mitchell stated that is correct, and he pointed out complete visual separation is included in the plan.

Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE.
(5-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE AND THE LAND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT MAP OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA, REZONING APPROXIMATELY 27 ACRES (1 PARCEL) AT 1935 JAKE ALEXANDER BOULEVARD WEST BY ESTABLISHING A CONDITIONAL DISTRICT OVERLAY TO ALLOW 'GOVERNMENT SERVICES' AND OTHER SPECIFIC USES IN THE FORMER SALISBURY MALL.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No.7-8 , and is known as Ordinance 2015-05)

PARKING – 200 BLOCK NORTH FULTON STREET

Traffic Engineering Coordinator Vickie Eddleman explained staff received a request from First Baptist Church to restrict parking in front of a newly installed handicap ramp. She displayed a map of the area, and she pointed out the parking space to be eliminated is located in the 200 block of North Fulton Street.

Ms. Eddleman stated staff recommends adopting an Ordinance amending Section 13-338, Parking Prohibited at all times, of the City Code.

Mayor Woodson stated parking will be prohibited seven days a week. Ms. Eddleman agreed.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to adopt an Ordinance amending Section 13-338, Article X, Chapter 13, of the Code of the City of Salisbury, relating to parking prohibited at all times. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13-338, ARTICLE X, CHAPTER 13, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, RELATING TO PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 9, and is known as Ordinance 2015-06)

BICYCLE LANES – CONFEDERATE AVENUE AND CLUBHOUSE DRIVE

City Engineer Wendy Brindle stated staff met with the neighborhood surrounding Confederate Avenue to discuss traffic concerns during the past year. She explained Confederate Avenue is used as a short-cut by motorists traveling from West Innes Street to Main Street, and neighbors are concerned about traffic speed. She indicated the posted speed limit is 25 mph with speed studies showing an 85th percentile speed of 35 mph. She added people like to walk in the area which does not have sidewalks.

Ms. Brindle noted one of the options discussed is to add bicycle lanes to Confederate Avenue to narrow the lanes and possibly slow traffic. She explained Confederate Avenue is 30 feet wide and 4 inch striping would be needed on each side of the street to create 11 foot travel lanes and 4 foot bike lanes. She noted the neighborhood submitted a petition signed by 65 percent of the property owners who support the request.

Ms. Brindle referenced the 2009 Comprehensive Bicycle Plan, and she pointed out Confederate Avenue is included in two of the bicycle loops recommended in the Plan. She added the recommendation for bicycle lanes on Confederated Avenue is consistent with the Bicycle Plan and recommended as a high priority improvement.

Ms. Brindle displayed a map of the area, and she pointed out sharrows planned for Fulton Street, to be implemented in the spring, and their proximity to Confederate Avenue.

Ms. Brindle noted property owners and business owners will be contacted as the treatments are implemented. She added some treatments such as road widening are more severe but the plan recommends sharrows in the interim. She noted staff is recommending the installation of bicycle lanes on Confederate Avenue between Henderson Street and Club House Drive.

Councilmember Kennedy asked if trucks are allowed in the area. Ms. Brindle noted trucks are currently restricted in the area.

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** to approve bicycle lanes on Confederate Avenue between Henderson Street and Club House Drive for installation Spring 2015. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

CONTRACT – CCI SYSTEMS

Purchasing Manager Anna Bumgarner noted staff is requesting Council consider a sole source contract to upgrade network CORE routers. She explained North Carolina General Statutes allow local governments to purchase from a sole source when a product is available from only one source or will standardize existing equipment. She added this purchase will standardize existing network equipment for the City.

Director of Broadband and Infrastructure Services Kent Winrich explained the CORE Routers handle Fibrant and City data traffic. He added the router setup and maintenance are critical to operations. He stated staff is working with CCI Systems on the present routers and want to upgrade to routers with greater capability. He added CCI Systems has extensive knowledge of the City's network and equipment, and the City enjoys a great working relationship with the company.

Mayor Woodson noted the contract cannot be bid because it would be difficult to synchronize the equipment. Mr. Winrich explained staff would have to teach another company about the Fibrant infrastructure and City network.

Interim City Manager John Sofley pointed out the request is for physical equipment and the price is the same no matter where it is bought. He added the service makes the difference.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell pointed out CORE Routers are included in the City budget.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to adopt a Resolution authorizing a contract in the amount of \$194,795.44 with CCI Systems as a sole source provider. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH CCI SYSTEMS AS A SOLE SOURCE PROVIDER.

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 15 at Page No. 5, and is known as Resolution 2015-04)

INTERIM CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

(a) Winter Storm

Interim City Manager John Sofley commended staff for its work during the recent snow storm. He noted staff did a wonderful job clearing the snow and ice. He recognized the Public Service, Parks and Recreation, Salisbury-Rowan Utilities (SRU), and Infrastructure Service employees who worked together to remove the snow. He noted it took an incredible amount of teamwork to ensure the streets and sidewalks were safe for citizens.

Mayor Woodson thanked staff for its work. He noted he heard from many citizens who were pleased with staff's work to clear the roads.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Memorial Service – Fallen Firefighters Victor Isler and Justin Monroe

Mayor Woodson announced the Salisbury Fire Department will honor fallen Firefighters Victor Isler and Justin Monroe Saturday, March 7, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. The Memorial will take place at the Salisbury Firefighters Memorial located at 1402 South Main Street. The public is invited to attend.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Woodson requested Council go into a closed session to consult with an attorney as allowed by NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3).

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** to go into closed session. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** for Council to return to open session. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

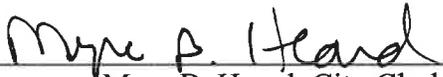
Mayor Woodson announced no action was taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Kennedy seconded by Ms. Alexander. All council members in attendance agreed unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.



Paul B. Woodson, Jr., Mayor



Myra B. Heard, City Clerk