

Salisbury, North Carolina  
June 5, 2012

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Paul B. Woodson Jr., Presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Susan W. Kluttz, Council Members Maggie A. Blackwell, and William Brian Miller; City Manager Doug Paris; City Clerk Myra B. Heard; and City Attorney F. Rivers Lawther, Jr.

**ABSENT:** Council Member William (Pete) Kennedy

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 Mayor Pro Tem Kluttz and Councilmember Miller.

## **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 – MT. ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH MENTORING AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Human Resources Manager Ruth Kennerly and Ms. Ester Atkins, Executive Director of the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church Mentoring and After-School program (M.A.P.), addressed Council regarding M.A.P.

Ms. Atkins explained the program is led by Rev. Dr. Nilous Avery, Pastor of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

Ms. Atkins reviewed the M.A.P. partnerships:

- North Carolina Dropout Prevention Intervention Grant
- Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church
- Generating Greater Empowerment Opportunities Community Foundation, Inc.
- City of Salisbury
- Rowan-Salisbury City School System
- Livingstone College
- Catawba College
- Food Lion
- J. C. Price American Legion
- Harris Teeter

Ms. Atkins explained the need for M.A.P.:

- The North Carolina Center for After-School Programs ranked Rowan County 66 out of 100 counties for students at risk of dropping out of high school
- Most crimes committed by juveniles occur between 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- There are few programs for middle school students

Ms Atkins noted the program serves students from kindergarten through the 10th grade. She stated 28 students from Knox Middle School and three students from West Rowan Middle School participated in the program, and she reviewed the program needs:

- Participate in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Initiative
- Funding for math, reading, and science labs and projects
- Funding for food
- Expand mentoring component
- Tuition assistance
- Cabinets, carpeting, advertising, and vehicle maintenance

Ms. Atkins indicated students were asked to write an essay explaining what M.A.P. meant to them, and she introduced Miss Aliene Blakeney, who read her essay to Council. Ms. Atkins thanked Council for its support and allowing City employees to participate in the program.

Mayor Woodson thanked Ms. Atkins for her work with M.A.P.

### **RECOGNITION – RECIPIENTS OF HISPANIC COALITION SCHOLARSHIPS**

Human Resources Manager Ruth Kennerly addressed Council regarding Hispanic Coalition Scholarships. She explained the Hispanic Coalition is a subgroup of the Human Relations Council. She introduced Hispanic Coalition member Ms. Melissa Torres to explain the program and introduce the students.

Ms. Torres acknowledged Ms. Ann Cooper and Ms. Liz Hood, members of the Hispanic Coalition. She noted the scholarships were created to encourage students to pursue their dreams and continue their education. She then introduced the recipients of the Hispanic Coalition Scholarships who were presented with their awards:

- Ms. Riccy Ardon Bustillo
- Ms. Paola Guerrero
- Ms. Berenice Ramirez
- Ms. Eunice Ramirez
- Ms. Ana Vences

Mayor Woodson congratulated the students on their achievements.

### **PROCLAMATION**

Mayor to proclaim the following observance:

VULNERABLE AND ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY June 15, 2012

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 15, 2012, the Special Meeting of May 16, 2012, and the Recessed Meeting of May 25, 2012.

(b) Temporary Street Closure – North Lee Street

Close the 400 block of North Lee Street from 3:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., Friday, June 22, 2012 to accommodate Arts Night Out.

(c) Budget Ordinance Amendment

Adopt a budget Ordinance amendment to the FY2011-2012 budget in the amount of \$8,450 to appropriate various Parks and Recreation donations.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2011-2012 BUDGET ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA TO APPROPRIATE VARIOUS RECREATION DONATIONS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 23 at Page No. 35, and is known as Ordinance 2012-20.)

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Klutz voted AYE. (4-0)

### **PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED FY2012-2013 CITY BUDGET**

Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding the proposed FY2012-2013 City Budget.

Ms. Dee Dee Wright, 418 South Caldwell Street, stated she supports the salary increase for Police Officers and Firefighters. She encouraged citizens to support the one cent sales tax increase for public safety. She indicated Council must do all it can to ensure Police Officers remain with the City.

Mr. Ben Lynch, 420 Bethel Drive, thanked City Manager Doug Paris and members of Council for being accessible to the citizens of Salisbury. He stated there are other ways to compensate employees besides a pay increase. He suggested Council encourage employees to live in the City by offering discounts on City services. He asked Council to work toward a revenue neutral budget. He noted an increase in public safety is needed and will help to ensure public safety.

Ms. Thomasina Paige, 211 Mitchell Avenue, stated she supports the budgeted tax increase regarding funds for the Police Department. She indicated increasing taxes is difficult for taxpayers, but it would be harder to reduce protection and lose the camaraderie that exists between neighborhoods and the Salisbury Police Department.

Ms. Marina Bare, 1402 Glenwood Avenue, stated she is against the proposed budget. She indicated the proposed service increase is not about public safety, and she suggested Council refuse a paycheck to save the jobs of two Police Officers. She noted a tax increase will cause citizens and businesses to move out of the City. She added the current economy is the wrong time for new equipment purchases such as air conditioning and computers. She stated the proposed budget is more about employee comfort than the City it is intended to serve.

Mr. Bob Turner, 609 Sunset Drive, stated he is against using trash collection to triple the fees citizens are required to pay. He indicated he has talked with his neighbors and at the proposed rate they will refuse the City's trash service or pool their trash together at one location. He indicated due to recycling, his trash bin is only partially full each week. He stated he supports the rate increase for employees who make less than \$50,000 per year.

Mr. Clyde Overcash, Bank Street, stated the new trash collection system will be impossible to enforce. He asked how City employees will know whose trash they are collecting since some people pull their trash across the street. He also asked who will collect the additional fees. He indicated Council does not know what citizens have to endure to live in Salisbury. He

suggested a Citizen Review Board that would allow citizens to express their hardships. He pointed out he is opposed to any increase in City fees.

Ms. Mimi Howard, 204 South Shaver Street, stated she supports the tax increase, especially for the Police Department, the Fire Department, and Code Enforcement. She noted these departments are critical to growth and development in the City.

There being no one else present to address Council, Mayor Woodson closed the public hearing. He stated he and the other members of Council have received several emails and telephone calls from citizens, and Council will listen to what they have to say and will work to do what it can to keep the City healthy. He noted the comments will be taken into consideration at Council's Budget Worksession next week.

### **SUP-01-12 – FUEL DEPOT BAR AND GRILL**

SUP-01-12 Fuel Depot Bar and Grill, 2168 Statesville Boulevard

(a) Swearing In

Mayor Woodson indicated anyone who wished to speak for or against this item must be sworn in, and he asked those who would like to speak to come forward. Mayor Woodson administered the oath to the following:

Mr. David Phillips  
Mr. Dick Huffman  
Mr. Michael Hege

(b) Ex Parte Disclosure

Mayor Woodson asked Council members if anyone had knowledge of this case they wished to disclose. There were no ex parte disclosures.

(c) Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive testimony regarding SUP-01-12.

Zoning Administrator David Phillips indicated this request is for a Special Use Permit (SUP) to be located at 2168 Statesville Boulevard for Fuel Depot Bar and Grill. He noted in regards to the production of evidence, the factual evidence must be taken into consideration when deciding for or against the SUP. He noted there are three General Standards for a decision listed in the Ordinance:

1. The use meets all required principles and specifications of the Ordinance and any adopted land use plans and is in harmony with the general purpose and intent and preserves its spirit
2. The proposed plan as submitted and approved will be visually and functionally compatible to the surrounding area
3. The public health, safety, and welfare will be assured and the proposed development

will not substantially injure the value of adjoining property and associated uses if located where proposed

Mr. Phillips pointed out this case also has an additional standard that the proposed establishment cannot be located within 500 feet of a school. He confirmed there is no school within 500 feet of this property.

Mr. Phillips displayed an aerial photograph of the property and noted it is an existing establishment. He stated the property is zoned Highway Business and the use of a private bar/nightclub is a permitted use. He noted the business has been a restaurant for many years, and the request is for a change of use, which requires an SUP since the primary use will no longer be a restaurant. He displayed ground photographs of the property and noted its location on Statesville Boulevard near the Salisbury Mall. He indicated there are residential properties located behind the establishment on Holly Avenue.

Mr. Phillips stated the applicant understands that all standards of the City of Salisbury, Rowan County, Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE), and Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), must be followed. He stated the applicant is not proposing to make any changes to the exterior of the building. He added the shopping center where the business is located has not changed very much since it was originally built in the 1980s.

Mr. Phillips stated this will be an establishment that requires a membership and will be a private club. He added the owner has indicated there will be strict standards, although the guidelines have not been presented to staff. He noted the Fire Department has established the maximum capacity for the establishment at 73. Mr. Phillips stated the owner indicates he will have greater control over the patrons who are permitted into the establishment since it will be a private bar. He added the owner has stated if there are any issues with the patrons, membership will be withdrawn and the patron will not be allowed back into the establishment.

Mr. Phillips reiterated the establishment is not within 500 feet of any school. He indicated a courtesy hearing was held at the May 8, 2012 Planning Board meeting, and no one in opposition attended. He stated staff received several telephone calls inquiring about the signs on the property. He added many of the residents indicated they already thought the establishment was a private club. Mr. Phillips stated the Planning Board voted unanimously to make a favorable recommendation for the SUP.

Mayor Woodson commented this has been a bar all along and basically will no longer serve food. Mr. Phillips stated when the current owner took over the business he began reducing the sale of food, and now he wants to put the proper paperwork in place to make sure it is legal.

Councilmember Blackwell asked if the Police Department provided any records on calls to the property. Mr. Phillips stated he contacted the Police Department but did not receive a response. He added in the information provided by the applicant, the applicant stated there were not any calls or disturbances since he took over the business.

Mayor Woodson then administered the oath to Police Chief Rory Collins.

Chief Collins stated he reviewed the history for the establishment for the past several months, and he found nothing abnormal for a business of this nature. He noted there have been 10 calls for disturbances since the beginning of 2012. He added most of the calls involved people who were intoxicated. Chief Collins stated he has confirmed there is a valid Pool Hall permit in place for the business. He added he has also spoken to people who might have intelligence information about such establishments, but he has received nothing of significance.

Councilmember Miller clarified since the status of the business is going from food and drink to drink only, it requires an SUP. Mr. Phillips agreed and noted this establishment will now be strictly a bar.

Mayor Woodson opened the floor to receive testimony.

Mr. Dick Huffman, 100 West Innes Street, Suite 300, indicated he represents Fuel Depot and Mr. Hege, who has owned the business since August of last year. Mr. Hege indicated his address is 2015 Mallard Point Drive. Mr. Huffman noted in 1994 this location was the Blues Café, then Jokers, and for the past few years has been the Fuel Depot. He stated there have been many SUPs before Council, but this one is different because the others have been for new facilities or locations that required investigation of how they would impact the neighbors. He noted this is not the situation with Fuel Depot, because there is a 20 year history of how the facility operates. Mr. Huffman stated the business was operated as a bar before Mr. Hege took over, and once he took over the business he found it was not operating as it should without the required food sales. He noted Mr. Hege then applied for the SUP in order to become a private organization. Mr. Huffman stated he believes all three of the Standards for Decision are being met. He stated it is in harmony with the general intent and purposes, and alcohol sales are allowed in the zoning district. He noted alcohol sales have taken place at this location for the last 20 years. Mr. Huffman indicated there will be no changes to the way the business has operated for the past year. He added the sale of food has decreased over the past few years, and the cost of renovating the kitchen and grease-trap would be cost prohibitive. He noted the business is part of a strip mall and will remain the same with no changes. He added the public safety will not be affected and it will not injure adjoining property owners. Mr. Huffman stated the facility has all ABC permits and has been inspected by the Fire Marshal and Police. He noted it only has a capacity of 73, and when there are bands there will be extra security on-site. He indicated the calls for Police service that have been received for this establishment have generally been made by Mr. Hege when a patron is unruly. Mr. Huffman stated Mr. Hege will have much more control because patrons will have to provide their name, address and telephone number, and if they create a disturbance they will be dismissed and not allowed entrance again.

There being no one else present to provide testimony, Mayor Woodson closed the public hearing.

(d) Findings of Fact

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to find the following Findings of Fact:

- A. The use meets all required principles and specifications of the Ordinance and any adopted plans and is in harmony with the general purpose and intent and preserves its spirit as evidenced by the following testimony:
- The site must meet all applicable regulations of the City of Salisbury and Rowan County
  - The applicant must meet all North Carolina ABC and ALE laws and regulations
- B. The proposal as submitted and approved will be visually and functionally compatible to the surrounding area as evidenced by the following testimony:
- The use will be located in an existing mixed-use building in the downtown that is visually and functionally compatible to the surrounding area and was previously used for food and alcohol consumption
  - Building space is part of existing strip center and no exterior changes are proposed
- C. The public health, safety and welfare will be assured and the purposed development will not substantially injure the value of adjoining property and associated uses if located where purposed as evidenced by the following testimony:
- Patrons will be required to have a membership
  - A strict standard of conduct will be enforced, including contact information of each member
  - The applicant is fully aware of issues related with alcohol consumption and that the public health, safety and welfare will be assured by implementation of a membership fee, and careful monitoring of patrons
  - Capacity of the business is limited to 73 people
  - Membership will be revoked if a member does anything that would interfere with public health, safety or welfare
  - No evidence has been submitted by a qualified, licensed property appraiser indicating that this, or other uses with alcohol sales has been injurious to surrounding property values
- D. The proposed establishment is not located within 500 feet of any lot containing a school.

Ms. Kluttz seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (4-0)

(e) Thereupon, Ms. Kluttz made a **motion** to issue a Special Use Permit SUP-01-12 allowing for a private club/bar use at 2168 Statesville Boulevard, Salisbury, North Carolina based on all general standards of the Salisbury Land Development Ordinance having been met. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (4-0)

### **DEMOLITION – 329 SOUTH MAIN STREET**

Senior Planner Janet Gapen addressed Council regarding demolition of a non-contributing building and accessory structures located at 329 South Main Street in the

Downtown Local Historic District. She explained the property is owned by the City of Salisbury and is located in the Downtown Local Historic District, but is not in the National Register District.

Ms. Gapen explained the property has been evaluated by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), and a certificate of Appropriateness (COA) for demolition has been issued. She indicated the structure is not considered a contributing structure since it was built in 1969.

Ms. Gapen stated a demolition hearing was held Monday, June 4, 2012. She noted Code Services Manager Chris Branham is working with the utility providers to make sure all utilities are properly disconnected. She explained demolition in the downtown area and the Downtown Local Historic District requires City Council approval. She reviewed Section 7-77 of the City Code that lists the five factors Council must consider for demolition:

- Location of the structure within the historic district
- State of repair of the structure
- Architectural and historic significance of the structure
- Overall impact of the demolition on the historic district
- Issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) by the Historic Preservation Commission

Mayor Woodson asked if the demolition is for the new Central School Office Building. Ms. Gapen stated that is correct.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to approve the demolition of a non-contributing building and accessory structures located at 329 South Main Street in the Downtown Local Historic District. Ms. Klutz seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Klutz voted AYE. (4-0)

### **AWARD CONTRACT – 300 BLOCK NORTH LEE STREET PEDESTRIAN ENHANCEMENTS PROJECT**

Urban Design Planner Lynn Raker addressed Council regarding the North Lee Street Pedestrian Enhancement Project. She explained the recommendation is for improvements to the 300 block of North Lee Street between East Liberty and Kerr Streets. She reviewed the recent history of the Rail Walk area:

- Efforts by Downtown Salisbury, Inc. (DSI) and the City of Salisbury to encourage redevelopment – Lee Street Charrette 2002, DSI Master Plan
- Significant private investment since 2006 (art studios and galleries, theater, high-tech companies, National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association (NSSA))
- Number of jobs has doubled

Ms. Raker reviewed the improvements to the 300 Block of North Lee Street:

- City and private partnership to bury overhead utilities in 2009 (approximately \$110,000)
- Urgent need for pedestrian access (sidewalks absent or inaccessible)
- Council goal to make improvements and find way without using local funding
- Received \$290,000 from the State/North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT ) contingency funds (July) for safety and economic revitalization
- Stakeholders meeting (August 2011)
- Municipal agreement executed (September 2011)
- Bid project with NCDOT approval (April 2012)
- Letter of concurrence from NCDOT (May 2012)
- City Council award of project

Ms. Raker reviewed the project highlights:

- Widen the sidewalk area by three feet on the east side (24 foot road remains two-way, informal parking on the west side)
- Raise granite curb to standard six inches
- Improve drainage – three new curb inlets, trench drain east side
- New sidewalks both sides
- New driveway surfaces
- Mid-block, at-grade crosswalk
- Pedestrian-scale lighting
- Street trees
- Electrical power sources for events
- New asphalt surface on street – bid alternate
- Street furniture as budget permits (trash cans, bike rack, etc.)
- All-way stop conversion now in test phase

Ms. Raker stated the City received three bids on the project. She noted the low bid was from Carolina Siteworks with a base bid of \$233,504.20 and an alternate bid of \$17,922.50, for a total bid of \$251,426.70. She stated staff recommends awarding the contract to Carolina Siteworks.

Mayor Woodson stated the Pedestrian Enhancement Project will be a great addition to the City.

Councilmember Blackwell reiterated Council's appreciation to State Representative Harry Warren for his work to ensure funding for the project.

Councilmember Miller thanked staff for their work on the project. He noted it is important to stay within budget, and he asked staff to communicate with Council as the project progresses.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to award a contract in the amount of \$251,426.70 to Carolina Siteworks, Inc. for the construction of the 300 Block of North Lee Street Pedestrian Enhancement Project pending concurrence by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Ms. Kluttz seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Mses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (4-0)

### **RESOLUTION – PURCHASE OF TWO TROLLEYS**

Mr. James Meacham, Executive Director of the Rowan County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Mr. Mark Lewis, Chairman of the Salisbury Tourism and Cultural Development Commission, addressed Council regarding the purchase of two trolleys. Mr. Lewis explained several years ago Council approved the establishment of a three percent occupancy tax for the Salisbury Tourism Development Authority (STDA) which generates approximately \$300,000 per year. He indicated \$100,000 is available for capital improvements inside the city limits. He noted the STDA approved a five-year capital expenditure budget that will pay for the trolleys with the occupancy tax.

Mr. Meacham reviewed the Salisbury Trolley Works:

- Effort began with a partnership between Downtown Salisbury Inc., City of Salisbury, local businesses, foundations and citizens
- In 2003 operations moved to the Rowan County Tourism Development Authority (RCTDA)
- City of Salisbury and RCTDA have partnered over the past 9 years on the program

Mr. Meacham noted the Trolley services are used for:

- Downtown Salisbury attractions
- Narrated historic tours
- Group tours
- Private rentals
- Visitor transportation
- Group and conference transportation
- Partner support
- Community and charitable outreach

Mr. Meacham stated the current trolleys need to be replaced to continue and expand tourism operation:

- Current Trolleys are 1987 Models (25 years old)
- Limited seating capacity (22 and 24 seats)
- Continuous mechanical issues (annual maintenance costs)
- Visitor experience (ride quality and comfort) needs substantial improvement

Mr. Meacham displayed pictures and noted the features of the new trolleys:

- Brand new assembled and built in Wisconsin to specifications set by the Tourism Authority, maintains look and feel of current Trolleys
- Increase capacity (30 seats, per trolley)
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant
- Gasoline powered engines (quieter)
- Increased range: engage more sites in Rowan County
- Warranty
- Turn key

Mr. Lewis reviewed an Interlocal Agreement for the proposed partnership:

- Interlocal Agreement between the City of Salisbury, the STDA and the RCTDA for the purchase and operation of two new motorized trolley units
- Agreement Highlights
  - Request for the City to purchase new units at a cost of \$294,880
  - STDA to reimburse the City the full costs over a five year period at \$58,976 per year (with City Occupancy Taxes) and in accordance with the TDA's five year capital budget
  - Ownership of Trolleys transferred to the RCTDA for the purpose of operation, marketing, insurance and maintenance

Mr. Lewis explained the funds will be occupancy tax and will not be taken out of the General Fund.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to adopt a Resolution authorizing the purchase of two trolleys from National Bus Sales and Leasing, Inc. in the amount of \$294,880 contingent upon approval by the Salisbury Tourism Development Authority and the Rowan County Tourism Development Authority. Ms. Klutz seconded the motion. Councilmember Miller explained State law dictates this source of funding can only be used for tourism related capital projects, it cannot be moved to fund other areas of the budget. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Klutz voted AYE. (4-0)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO TROLLEYS FOR SALISBURY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND ROWAN COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 14 at Page No. 24, and is known as Resolution 2012-11)

City Clerk Myra Heard noted an Interlocal Agreement was not included in the Agenda Packet, and she asked Council if it wanted to adopt the Agreement as reviewed by Mr. Lewis.

Thereupon, Mr. Woodson made a **motion** to approve the Interlocal Agreement as read. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Klutz voted AYE. (4-0)

Assistant City Manager John Sofley stated staff will bring a Budget Ordinance and a copy of the Interlocal Agreement before Council at a later meeting.

### **BYRNE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INNOVATION PROGRAM GRANT**

Community Planning Services Director Joe Morris addressed Council regarding the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Grant. He noted the Grant is funded by the United States Department of Justice and:

- Promotes the use of “evidence-based strategies” to reduce crime at its source
- Favors communities, such as Salisbury, that have received funding for Choice Neighborhood Transformation Planning
- Salisbury is eligible for up to \$600,000

Mr. Morris explained the Innovation Grant:

- Encourages community engagement
- Requires a cross-sector partnership including:
  - Fiscal Agent (City)
  - Research Partner (University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC)-Urban Institute)
  - Law Enforcement
  - Citizens of Salisbury
  - Support by United States Attorney Ripley Rand

Mr. Morris stated the Planning Team includes:

- Rev. William Turner
- Rev. Harvey Rice
- Ms. Shirley Johnson, West End Steering Committee
- Ms. Mae Carroll West End Steering Committee
- Police Chief Rory Collins, Salisbury Police Department
- Chief Bob Parnell, Salisbury Fire Department
- Mr. Sam Foust, Salisbury Housing Authority
- Mr. Jeff Jahnke, Salisbury Housing Authority
- Captain Melonie Thompson, Salisbury Police Department
- Mr. Greg Pannell, Salisbury Police Department
- Mr. Mike Dhooghe, Salisbury Police Department
- Ms. Gail Elder White, Salisbury Parks and Recreation
- Mr. Jeff Michael, UNCC Urban Institute
- Senior Planner Janet Gapen
- Community Planning Services Director Joe Morris

Mr. Morris indicated a community meeting was held May 17, 2012 at Mt. Calvary Holy Church. He noted the group discussed the need for:

- A community meeting space with public safety presence
- Police education and awareness
- Coordination of neighborhood-based youth initiatives

Mr. Morris noted funding from the grant may be used for the Council goal of a Youth Advisory Commission. He explained the grant would consist of a \$600,000 Department of Justice Grant and an \$87,923 local match for a total of \$687,923.

Mr. Morris explained the local match is not required. He pointed out 100 percent of the local funds, which are being used to augment the program, will be provided by a private foundation. He noted Police Chief Rory Collins received a \$62,000 grant from the Robertson Foundation for a school resource officer, and the West End Transformation Plan received two \$70,000 grants from the Robertson Foundation. He reviewed the Byrne Grant Project Budget:

<u>Byrne Grant Project Budget</u>		<u>Total Cost</u>
Duncan School Renovation	\$250,000	\$250,000
Knox School Resource Officer	\$46,739 for three years	\$140,217
SRO Equipment	\$29,643	\$29,643
SRO Supplies	\$15,747	\$15,747
Research and Planning	\$75,000	\$75,000
Middle School Planning Support Activities	\$15,000	\$15,000
Youth Initiative Coordination and Support	\$74,393	<u>\$74,393</u>
Byrne Grant Amount Requested		\$600,000
 <u>Department of Justice Grant</u>		 \$600,000
Robertson – Knox School Resource Officer	Start up and sustain	\$62,000
Robertson – Community Coordinator	18 months	<u>\$25,923</u>
Total Project Cost		\$687,923

Mr. Morris explained the timeline for the grant:

- Grant application due - June 7, 2012
- Notification - October 1, 2012
- 6 month research and planning phase
- 36 month total implementation schedule
- Long term sustainability will be based on success

Mr. Morris indicated the City received letters of support from:

- Mr. Ripley Rand, United States Attorney
- Mayor Pro Tem Susan W. Kluttz, Chairmen of the West End Transformation Plan Steering Committee

- Police Chief Rory Collins
- Mr. Jeff Michael, Director of the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute
- Mr. State W. Alexander, Executive Assistant to the President, Livingstone College

Mr. Morris stated staff recommends Council authorize the City Manager to apply for a Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Grant.

Councilmember Blackwell asked if the grant is competitive. Mr. Morris stated the grant is competitive, and he pointed out the grant has been advertised nationally. He commented the City has an advantage due to the size of the community, its ability to pull together partners quickly, and the community engagement that has already been established through the West End neighborhood project.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to authorize the City Manager to apply for a Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Grant. Ms. Kluttz seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (4-0)

### **PRESENTATION – GIS ONLINE MAPPING UPDATES**

Ms. Kathryn Clifton addressed Council regarding the new GIS Division website, [www.gis.salisburync.gov](http://www.gis.salisburync.gov). She noted the new website will provide easy access to the custom online mapping application and online web maps. She explained the custom online mapping solution is intended to provide all customers with a web mapping application that is easy to use. She reviewed the features of the website and noted data from the City of Salisbury can be shared online with a variety of devices such as mobile phones, iPads, and Androids.

Mayor Woodson thanked Ms. Clifton for her presentation.

### **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

#### **Zoning Board of Adjustment**

Upon a **motion** by Mr. Woodson, seconded by Ms. Kluttz, and with Messrs. Miller and Woodson and Ms. Blackwell and Kluttz voting AYE, the following appointment was made to the Zoning Board of Adjustment:

Mr. Herbert Woods

Term Expires 3/31/15

**CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

(a) Feedback FY2012-2013 City Budget

City Manager Doug Paris stated he has received a request for the total number of stormwater utilities across North Carolina. He noted a list that was distributed to Council and indicated there are 49 stormwater utilities across the state.

Mr. Paris explained he has received feedback from the business community that the business rate structure is not competitive. He stated he has challenged staff to develop options to make the business rate structure competitive, as well as compliant. He noted staff is looking for ways to lower fees for businesses in an effort to become more business friendly. Mr. Paris stated it is very important to listen to the business community because it provides the jobs that are critical to the growth of the City.

Mr. Paris indicated he also received a request regarding property tax rate increases for other municipalities in the area. He displayed a chart noting the FY2012-2013 property tax rate increases for neighboring cities:

<u>City</u>	<u>Rate Increase</u>
Salisbury	2 cents
Landis	3 cents
Winston Salem	4.25 cents
Concord	6 cents
Kannapolis	7 cents
China Grove	7 cents

Mr. Paris stated he is looking forward to the budget worksessions to be held June 12-13, 2012. He noted he has received feedback from citizens requesting detailed information on the one cent increase for public safety, and the one cent for paving. He indicated he has also received comments from citizens who feel the trash fee may be too aggressive for one year, and staff will be looking at other options. He noted staff has been challenged to look at alternatives regarding stormwater and making it more business friendly.

Mayor Woodson thanked the public for its feedback and comments.

**MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a) City Council Budget Worksession

Mayor Woodson announced the City Council will hold its Budget Worksession for the proposed FY2012-2013 City Budget Tuesday, June 12, 2012, at 1:00 p.m., and Wednesday, June 13, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at 1 Water Street.

(b) Parks and Recreation – Kiwanis Junior Open Tennis Tournament

Mayor Woodson announced the Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department will host the Kiwanis Junior Open Tennis Tournament Friday, June 15, 2012, through Sunday, June 17, 2012, at the City Park Tennis Courts, 316 Lake Drive. Those interested in participating should contact the City Park Recreation Center at 704-638-5295.

(c) High School Concerts

Mayor Woodson announced he recently attended several high school and junior high school concert events throughout the City. He noted the events were excellent and he was very impressed with the students' talent.

**CLOSED SESSION – CONSULT WITH ATTORNEY**

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

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to go into closed session to consult with an attorney as allowed by NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) and to acquire interest in real property Tax Map 005-18701, Tax Map 008-08604, Tax Map 008-092, and Tax Map 008-093. Ms. Kluttz seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (4-0)

**COUNCILMEMBER MILLER**

Councilmember Miller left the meeting at 6:00 p.m. No formal vote was taken excusing Councilmember Miller; therefore, his vote shall be recorded as affirmative hereinafter per State Statute 160A-75.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to return to open session. Ms. Kluttz seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (4-0)

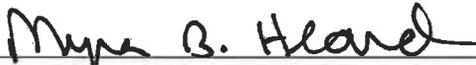
Thereupon, Mr. Woodson made a **motion** to initiate a condemnation proceeding to acquire property for the purpose of constructing sidewalks on Old Wilkesboro Road. Tax Map and Parcel identifications are 005-18701, Parcel 008-08604, for a seven foot sidewalk easement on Old Wilkesboro Road. Ms. Kluttz seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (4-0)

**RECESS**

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to recess until Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in the Salisbury-Rowan Utilities Conference Room, 1 Water Street. Ms. Kluttz seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (4-0)



Paul B. Woodson, Jr., Mayor



Myra B. Heard, City Clerk