

Salisbury, North Carolina
May 4, 2010

REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Mayor Susan W. Kluttz, Presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Maggie A. Blackwell, Councilmen William (Pete) Kennedy, William Brian Miller, and Paul B. Woodson, Jr.; City Manager David W. Treme; City Clerk Myra B. Heard; and City Attorney F. Rivers Lawther, Jr.

ABSENT: None

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kluttz at 4:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Kluttz recognized all visitors present.

RECOGNITION – PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS ART CONTEST WINNERS

Ms. Teresa Vinson, Project SAFE Neighborhoods (PSN) Community Resource Specialist, informed Council that PSN recently partnered with Rowan-Salisbury Schools, the Salisbury Mall, and Waterworks Visual Arts Center to sponsor a middle school art contest. She indicated that the theme for the art contest was “No Guns, No Gangs, No Drugs, and No Violence.” Ms. Vincent pointed out that this age group was chosen because gangs generally recruit this age group and PSN wanted to make the children aware and confident to say no to gangs. She noted that the artwork was displayed in the Salisbury Mall and at the Waterworks Visual Arts Center.

Ms. Vinson thanked Ms. Tina Mashburn from the Rowan-Salisbury School System for working to involve all of the schools and Police Chief Rory Collins for providing everything needed to complete the project.

Ms. Vinson introduced the winners of the PSN Art Contest as Mayor Kluttz presented each winner with a certificate:

5 th Place	Alexis Bradshaw, Corriher Lipe Middle School
4 th Place	Jaquan Jones, Knox Middle School
3 rd Place	Maddy Barrier, Knox Middle School
2 nd Place	Adison Collins, Southeast Middle School
1 st Place	Maddie Cooley, Southeast Middle School

Mayor Kluttz commented that Council is proud of the beautiful artwork from all the contestants. She thanked the PSN Intervention Team for their hard work to reduce gun violence and their gang prevention efforts. Mayor Kluttz thanked the winners' families and school personnel for supporting the students.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Kluttz proclaimed the following observances:

MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK	May 2-8, 2010
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	May 6, 2010
NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK	May 9-15, 2010
NATIONAL POLICE WEEK	May 9-15, 2010
PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY	May 13, 2010
LET'S GET CONNECTED DAY	May 15, 2010
NATIONAL PRESERVATION MONTH	May 2010

CONSENT AGENDA

(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve Minutes of the Regular meeting of April 20, 2010.

(b) Budget Ordinance Amendment

Adopt a budget Ordinance amendment to the FY2009-2010 budget in the amount of \$1,806 to appropriate various Police funds.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2009-2010 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. 22 at Page No. 41, and is known as Ordinance 2010-20.)

(c) Budget Ordinance Amendment

Adopt a budget Ordinance amendment to the FY2009-2010 budget in the amount of \$296,052 to appropriate 2009 Justice Assistance Grants and a 2009 Coverdale Forensic Grant.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2009-2010 BUDGET ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA TO APPROPRIATE 2009 POLICE GRANTS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 22 at Page No. 42, and is known as Ordinance 2010-21.)

(d) Street Closure

Close the 100 block of East Fisher Street and half of the 100 block of South Lee Street Thursday, May 6, 2010, Thursday, June 3, 2010, Thursday, July 15, 2010, Thursday, August 19, 2010, Thursday, September 16, 2010 and Thursday, October 21, 2010 from 4:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. for the Brick Street Live Concert Series.

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

RECOGNITION-DIXONVILLE CEMETERY COMMITTEE AND UPDATE REGARDING DIXONVILLE CEMETERY MEMORIAL PROJECT

Ms. Janet Gapen, Senior Planner, updated Council regarding the Dixonville Cemetery Memorial Project. Ms. Gapen reviewed the history of the Cemetery, the Committee, and the goals of the Committee:

- Dixonville Cemetery History
 - Prominent anchor of East End and Dixonville
 - Closely associated with Lincoln School
 - Urban renewal 1960's
 - Cemetery and school are some of the few vestiges of the neighborhood history
 - Deeded to City in 1874
 - Over 450 interments recorded since 1910
 - Oldest headstone 1851
 - Cemetery closed 1960's
 - Relatively few headstones remaining
 - Cemetery Division maintains grounds

- Dixonville Cemetery Committee
 - Extensive research – Betty Dan Spencer
 - Volunteer committee formed 2006
 - Goals and Objectives developed
 - Headstones repaired and leveled
 - Initial work \$10,000 Community Development Block Grant
 - Granite retaining walls installed
 - 2009 Arbor Day tree planting
 - New roadside marker
 - Dedication May 30, 2009

- Future Objectives
 - Repair and replace fencing
 - Perimeter screening
 - Additional landscaping
 - Retain and strengthen visual tie to school
 - Consider recreating paths
 - Deter vandalism
 - Tree preservation strategy
 - Interpret history
 - Create a lasting record of the names of the deceased

- 2010-2011 Council Goals – Outcome 2, Goal 5:
 - Develop a fundraising plan in partnership with the Dixonville Cemetery Task Force

Ms. Gapen noted that this report concludes the work undertaken by the Cemetery Committee and in order to begin work on Council's 2010-2011 Goal, staff would like Council to appoint a Dixonville Cemetery Memorial Project Task Force to begin work on efforts to install a monument memorializing those interred in the cemetery. She reviewed the range of activities to be addressed by this new, more formalized task force:

- Adopt meeting schedule
- Preliminary planning
- Fundraising
- Public input
- Design process
- Construction
- Project completion and reporting
- Call for additional volunteers to serve
- Persons with personal or family ties to area
- Contact the City Clerk's Office
- Accepting applications through June 1
- Council appointments in June

Mayor Kluttz indicated that she is grateful to those in the community who have worked on this for many years and she thanked Ms. Betty Dan Spencer for her extensive research on the Cemetery. She noted that when the marker for the Cemetery was dedicated in May 2009, Council made a commitment that it wanted the work on the Cemetery to continue and adopted this as a goal during its Retreat in February 2010. She stated that she feels this is an important project for the City and she looks forward to its completion. Mayor Kluttz asked that those interested in participating on the Dixonville Cemetery Memorial Project Task Force to contact the City Clerk's Office.

Mayor Kluttz then recognized the members of the Dixonville Cemetery Committee and presented each with a certificate of appreciation:

Ms. Greta Connor
Ms. Linda Davis
Mr. James Donaldson
Mr. Fred Evans
Ms. Janet Gapen
Ms. Ruby Miller
Mr. Joe Morris
Mr. William Peoples
Ms. Barbara Perry
Ms. Emily Perry
Ms. Lynn Raker
Ms. Sara Robinson
Ms. Sandra Russell
Ms. Betty Dan Spencer

Mayor Kluttz also recognized Colonel Stafford I. Pemberton from Washington, D.C. for his \$5,000 donation for the Dixonville Cemetery Memorial project.

Mayor Kluttz stated that she hopes the community will understand the importance and significance of this project and that people of all races will come together to support this project.

PRESENTATION – DOWNTOWN SALISBURY INC. 2010 MASTER PLAN

Ms. Paula Bohland, President of Downtown Salisbury Inc. (DSI), and Mr. Pete Bogle, Chair DSI Design Master Plan Committee, addressed Council regarding the DSI 2010 Master Plan. Ms. Bohland and Mr. Bogle reviewed the Master Plan:

- Corporate Sponsors
 - F&M Bank
 - The Blanch and Julian Robertson Family Foundation
 - Salisbury Post
 - Historic Downtown Salisbury

- Downtown Salisbury, Inc. Design/Master Plan Committee
 - Pete Bogle, Chair
 - Janie Allen
 - Ted Goins
 - John Ketner
 - Joe Morris
 - Edward Norvell
 - Lynn Raker
 - Scott Robinson
 - Michael Young

- 2001 Plan – From Seven Strategies To One Great Downtown
 - A place to experience history
 - A place of lasting impressions
 - A place of business
 - A place to shop and dine
 - A place to live
 - A place to gather as a community
 - A place to create and learn

- Completed – 2001-2003
 - Grand opening of Gateway Center
 - Develop plan for East Innes Street landscaped medians
 - Begin bridge construction and enhancements
 - Develop plans for improvements at the Square
 - Establish the Downtown brand through log, graphics
 - Begin implementation of way-finding signage system
 - Implement Visual Corridor Overlay (East Innes Street, South Main Street)

- Completed – 2003-2008
 - Complete bridge enhancements
 - Construct East Innes landscaped medians
 - Implement unified streetscape: Fisher Street

- Partially Completed or Not Completed
 - Construct improvements at Square
 - Implement unified streetscape 200 block of Main Street
 - Develop South Main Gateway
 - Expand way-finding signage program

- Master Plan Process
 - April 23, 2009 – trip to Greenville, SC
 - May 7, 2009 – trip to Asheville, NC
 - May 28, 2009 - Planning Session One
 - Approximately 100 participants
 - Speaker and brainstorming session

- Over 400 ideas generated
- Ideas were prioritized by the participants
 - Highest Priority
 - Make Main Street more pedestrian friendly – lighting, benches, sidewalk width, streetscape, lane widths – 20 votes
 - Reclaim Main Street from North Carolina Department of Transportation – 9 votes
 - Reduce number of traffic lanes and increase pedestrian area – 6 votes
 - Take Innes Street from North Carolina Department of Transportation for local autonomy – 4 votes
 - Two-lane traffic – Main and Innes Streets – 4 votes
 - Make 100 block of Main Street and Innes Street two lanes (“Crossroads of Salisbury”) – 2 votes
 - Transform Main Street from highway to pedestrian friendly, slow traffic – 3 votes
 - Left turns at the Square – 2 votes
 - Highest Priorities
 - Making Main Street more pedestrian friendly
 - Civic/Event/Multi Use Center
 - Streetscape Improvements
 - Increase parking
 - Work on derelict buildings
 - Festival
 - Public restrooms
- Design/Master Plan Committee combined similar goals
- Goals are placed within the seven strategies and are slightly revised based on the goals
- Committee begins work to make the map reflective of the goals
- June 23, 2009 - Planning Session Two
 - Approximately 70 participants
 - Breakout sessions based on the seven revised strategies
 - Groups of 10-11 participants further define and prioritize goals
 - All participants are once again asked to vote for their priorities from amongst all of the goals.
 - Highest Priorities
 - Diverse, safe residential housing
 - Streetscape
 - Conference Center in existing building in 300 block of South Main Street
 - Support surrounding neighborhoods
 - Public restrooms
 - Recruitment of employers
- March 23, 2010 – Planning Session Three
 - Approximately 100 attendees

- Presented proposed final Strategies and Goals, reviewed map
 - Widespread approval
 - Five comments suggesting crosswalks in the 100 blocks of North and South Main Streets
 - Bus trips to Greenville, S.C. and Asheville, N.C.
 - Three well attended sessions
 - Approved by Downtown Salisbury, Inc. Board on April 27, 2010
 - Adopted by City Council
 - Final Step: Printed document
- Final Goals and Strategies
 - A Place to Experience History - Downtown Salisbury is the foremost historic center of the Piedmont, a place where residents and visitors experience over 250 years of history through architecture and creative interpretation.
 - Strengthen ties to surrounding neighborhoods and support their continued development
 - Install historically inspired interpretative and informative public art
 - Publicize our history through tours, marketing and products that brand the community
 - Commemorate McCay Law Office and Andrew Jackson
 - Develop Confederate Prison Interpretive Center
 - Restore Presbyterian bell tower
 - Designate an organization to lead cultural and history development
 - Implement interpretive markers for historic tour routes
 - Reopen the Empire Hotel as a historic hotel
 - Expand hours for house museums and Grimes Mill
 - Organize special weekend tour packages: churches, African-American history, Civil War, etc.
 - Develop storytelling, dramatization of Salisbury history
 - A Place of Lasting Impressions - Downtown Salisbury is becoming known throughout the region as a premier place to visit, shop, live and work. Create an attractive, pedestrian friendly area with good safe sidewalks, benches, public art, and nightscape lighting.
 - Improve vehicular accessibility while maintaining a pedestrian friendly atmosphere
 - Create informative, well designed signage for pedestrians and motorists
 - Create well defined entrances to the downtown
 - A Place of Business - Downtown Salisbury is the largest, most diversified employment center in Rowan County and will continue to attract new jobs and investment.
 - Form a cooperative recruitment effort for major employers including Downtown Salisbury, Inc., Economic Development Commission and the Chamber of Commerce
 - Expand center city development outward and include adequate amenities such as parks and common space

- Construct parking deck, south of Innes Street and East of Main Street
 - Enact a downtown commercial maintenance code with proper enforcement
 - Update the business recruitment package
 - Create a “How to Start a Business in Downtown Salisbury” brochure
 - Improve pedestrian connections to parking (alleys and mid block cross walks)
 - Assemble targeted sites for future office development
- A Place to Shop, Dine and Play - Downtown Salisbury is a successful retail, dining and entertainment center for both residents and visitors. Its success is based on a unique collection of businesses that offer quality goods and personal service, a quality pedestrian environment in an authentic historic setting, and retaining our role as the center for community activities, entertainment and events.
 - Construct public restrooms in a central location
 - Create and implement integrated regional marketing strategy
 - Create mid-block crosswalks to encourage safe pedestrian movement
 - Encourage customer friendly, uniform business hours
 - Increase short term parking availability
 - Improve maintenance of sidewalks, alleys and parking areas
 - Complete intersection improvements for pedestrians
 - Continue targeted retail recruitment
 - Maintain the downtown as a safe place to live, work and play
- A Place to Live - Downtown Salisbury is a lively urban residential district with retail, dining, parks and other amenities that work together to serve its growing 24-hour population.
 - Maintain the Downtown as a diverse, lively urban residential district that serves a growing 24-hour population
 - Expand diverse, livable and safe, residential housing stock within a larger radius
 - Develop a railroad greenway and arboretum
 - Encourage business growth to provide services and conveniences that meet the needs of downtown residents
- A Place to Gather as a Community - Downtown is the heart of Salisbury and Rowan County – the place where people of all ages gather as a community to celebrate their shared history, culture and values.
 - Create a large indoor assembly space downtown
 - Create a special events committee to oversee and organize signature festivals and niche events
 - Create a large green space in a central location to serve as a multipurpose park and outdoor assembly area
 - Relocate parking in front of Depot and build Station Square gathering space

- Encourage the use of streets for special events
 - Study and recommend alternative routes for trucks
 - Encourage cooperative efforts among downtown institutions to create youth programs
- A Place to Create and Learn - Downtown Salisbury is achieving regional prominence as an arts and cultural center by developing and promoting a multitude of arts, businesses and activities.
 - Increase college participation and student involvement in all programs and activities
 - Publicize the genealogy resource at the Main Branch of the Rowan County Public Library
 - Create a public arts school program in downtown Salisbury
 - Encourage high schools and colleges to create downtown learning centers which provide a “living classroom experience”
 - Become a regional leader in promoting and educating the public concerning the connection between historic preservation and environmental sustainability
- Proposed Map
 - The map is conceptual and flexible
 - The map is a guide and does not necessarily reflect the final, finished design
 - Every detail and concept from the strategies and goals is not on the map
 - The map shows long term strategies where there may also be short term strategies
 - The map is color coded in an effort to aid usability
 - The new legend does not imply that “proposed for rehabilitation” buildings are in “serious need of repair”
 - Many are listed in this category because they have unused or underutilized space

Mayor Kluttz thanked DSI, the Master Plan Committee and those who participated in the development of the Master Plan for their hard work. She stated that the number of people who participated in the Plan process indicates how many citizens care about the downtown area, and added that a strong downtown is vital for a successful City. She emphasized that the ideas described in the plan have not been formally established, but are simply part of a Plan for future planning purposes.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell indicated that she attended the Master Plan meetings and was thrilled to see the excitement of the participants. She thanked the Committee and for their work to develop the new Master Plan.

Councilman Miller indicated that he has been involved with DSI for over ten years and is happy to have had a role in this and looks forward to what lies ahead for downtown Salisbury.

Thereupon, Mr. Woodson made a **motion** to adopt the Downtown Salisbury Inc., 2010 Master Plan as presented. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, Woodson, and Meses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (5-0)

UPDATE – SALISBURY CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

Ms. Karen Alexander, President of KKA Architecture, updated Council regarding construction of the new Salisbury Customer Service Center. Ms. Alexander indicated that the project is tracking on time and that there is a conditional occupancy for the data room where contractors are installing wiring today.

Ms. Alexander displayed renderings of the service center's interior and specifically described the lobby area which includes:

- 6 LED Televisions - can be used to advertise different departments in the facility
- Soft palette of earth tones
- Quartz Counter Tops – long lasting material that has an anti-microbial quality
- Cabinets made with a natural finish
- Forest Certified Wood is being used on the project

Ms. Alexander indicated that the project is on track to be a Silver LEED certified facility, but she hopes that it will surpass that for a Gold certification. She stated that the flooring includes a slate-type tile and carpet tiles that can be easily removed and replaced. She noted that all scrap metal, cardboard, bricks and mortar are being recycled and that this project is diverting tons of material from the landfill.

Mayor Kluttz stated that the facility is attractive and she likes the descriptions of what has been done to make the building environmentally friendly.

Ms. Alexander indicated that the facility has solar panels for the hot water system and the truck bays have hydronic radiant floor heating system. She pointed out that energy produced by heat in the data room will be re-circulated to heat other parts of the building. Ms. Alexander commented that all of the brick is 100% recycled materials made in Salisbury at Taylor Clay Brick Company and the recycled concrete blocks are from Johnson Concrete Company.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell asked if the scrap lumber from the site is being recycled. Ms. Alexander indicated that the trees removed from the site was sent to recycling companies or used as mulch on site.

Councilman Kennedy asked if there is an approximate completion date for the project. Ms. Alexander indicated that the project should be final in the beginning of September, 2010.

Mayor Kluttz thanked Ms. Alexander for all the work she has done on the project.

UPDATE – IRS VITA SITE – LOU MANNING

Mr. Lou Manning, Park Avenue Redevelopment Corporation, gave Council an update regarding the IRS Volunteer Tax Agency (VITA) at Park Avenue Center. Mr. Manning read a letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) commending the program. He indicated that this year the volunteers prepared 334 returns, with filers receiving a total of \$213,852 in refunds. Mr. Manning thanked his staff and volunteers for their work with the program.

Mr. Manning announced that the Enrichment Program participants will have a graduation ceremony Thursday, May 6, 2010. He indicated that 22 students and eight instructors participated in the program this year.

Mayor Kluttz thanked Mr. Manning for his leadership and the volunteers who give so much for both of these causes.

REQUEST FOR ENCROACHMENT – 121 EAST INNES STREET

Ms. Wendy Brindle, Traffic Engineer, addressed Council regarding a request to allow a projection over a public alley to accommodate an exhaust fan at a new bakery at 121 East Innes Street. She stated that in accordance with Section 22-18 of the City Code, City Council may allow projections over a public alley if they make the following findings:

- The construction or installation must not in any way hinder, obstruct or delay or in any way endanger the free and safe use of a public sidewalk or right-of-way
- Inside the primary fire limits, the structure shall be made entirely of noncombustible material
- The traffic engineer shall advise the City Council as to whether the proposed structure will obstruct the view of motorists using any street, private driveway or approach to any street intersection
- The structure may extend over public property for a distance of not more than five feet, provide no structure or any part thereof shall be placed closer than two feet from the face of the curb on any street right-of-way
- The structure shall maintain a clear height of a minimum of eight feet above the public sidewalk or right-of-way

Ms. Brindle reviewed photographs of the site and indicated that the request meets all of the findings. Ms. Brindle pointed out that a similar request was approved by Council in 2008 for a business on the opposite side of the alley. She stated that Section 22-19 of the City Code requires the petitioner to agree to maintain the projection in good repair, keep it in a safe condition, and assume, in writing, responsibility for any injury or death of persons or damage sustained as a result of the use of such project. Ms. Brindle pointed out that the petitioner has

provided the letter and indicated that staff believes the standards have been met and recommends approval of the request as submitted.

Thereupon, Mr. Woodson made a **motion** to approve an encroachment over a public alley at 121 East Innes Street in accordance with Sections 22-18 and 22-19 of the City Code. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, Woodson, and Mses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (5-0)

PRESENTATION – DOOR TO DOOR CENSUS PROCESS

Ms. Kathryn Clifton, GIS Coordinator, updated Council regarding the 2010 Door-to-Door Census. She noted that the 2010 mail response rate is higher than that of the 2000 Census. Ms. Clifton reviewed the door to door Census process:

- Mail Response Rate
 - Percentage of forms mailed back by households that received them
- Door-To-Door Visits
 - Census takers have already begun door-to-door visits
 - Will continue through mid-July
- Identifying a Census Taker
 - ID badge
 - Shoulder bag with Department of Commerce seal
 - Binder with addresses of people who did not respond
- Responding to a Census Taker
 - Census taker fills out form at each address
 - Census taker will visit home up to three times, and also call three times
 - Notice of visit door hanger to schedule an appointment
- Where can I get Help?
 - Regional Census Office
 - Charlotte, NC
704-936-5300
 - Toll-Free Number –
 - 1-866-872-6868 (English)
 - 1-866-928-2010 (Spanish)

Mayor Kluttz thanked Ms. Clifton for the information. Councilman Woodson asked when the door-to-door visits will conclude. Ms. Clifton indicated that all home visits should be finished by July, 2010.

APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

This item was postponed

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

(a) Old Plank Road Update

Mr. Dan Mikkelson, Engineering and Development Services Director, updated Council regarding cul-de-sac construction on Old Plank Road. Mr. Mikkelson reviewed a map of Old Plank Road and its location adjacent to Livingstone College. He indicated that Livingstone College acquired the former Hood Seminary building, now known as the Wall Center, which is separated from the Livingstone campus by Old Plank Road. He explained that Livingstone officials are concerned about cut-through traffic and requested that Old Plank Road be closed. He noted that Council agreed to the closure if Livingstone College would install a cul-de-sac for the portion of the road closest to Craige Street where several residences are located. He pointed out that the College has recently purchased the home at the end of street where the proposed cul-de-sac would be located and the closed portion of road can be moved toward Craige Street. Mr. Mikkelson stated that this would eliminate the requirement for a cul-de-sac. He indicated that staff will meet with Livingstone representatives and the Fire Department to discuss access for the Wall Center. Mr. Mikkelson stated that once staff meets with the Fire Department the College will need to gain neighbor support and must submit a petition requesting the formal street closure. He noted that Livingstone College hopes to have the street closure completed this summer in conjunction with the opening of the Wall Center.

City Manager David Treme thanked Dr. Jimmy Jenkins, President of Livingstone College, and staff and indicated that these changes are beneficial to both the community and the College. He stated that he is thankful for Livingstone College's efforts to minimize costs.

(b) Juneteenth Celebration

City Manager David Treme indicated that he received a request that the City co-sponsor the Juneteenth Celebration which will be held at Kelsey-Scott Park June 19, 2010. He asked Council's consideration for this request.

Councilman Kennedy stated that the celebration has taken place for many years and due to the current economy, sponsorships have reduced and funds are not available as in the past. He suggested that perhaps in the future this event could be supported by the Human Relations Council or that the Juneteenth Committee seek a non-profit designation and request funds from Council. Mr. Kennedy recommended Council support the Juneteenth Celebration this year and explore other options to support the celebration in the future.

Mr. Treme indicated that the City normally charges a fee for use of City facilities, but the fee will be waived for the event as the City's contribution as a co-sponsor.

Mayor Kluttz stated that co-sponsoring the event sends a message to the community that this celebration is important.

Councilman Miller asked the amount of the facility fee. Mr. Treme indicated that the fee for the facility is approximately \$100.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to support the Juneteenth Celebration. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, Woodson, and Mses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (5-0)

(c) Community Development Corporation Request

Ms. Janet Gapen, Senior Planner, addressed Council regarding a request to donate property to the Salisbury Community Development Corporation (CDC). Ms. Gapen indicated that as part of the City's participation in the Cabarrus-Rowan HOME Consortium, the City must provide a local match or contribution to assist in providing affordable housing. She stated that the amount of the match is 25% of the funds received from the HOME program and typically ranges from \$20,000 - \$25,000. She noted that the match can be met from General Fund contributions or property donations and any funds in excess of the match can be carried over to subsequent years. She pointed out that in recent years the City has met this match through a donation of property with a value of approximately \$167,000 to the CDC in 2002. She indicated that those funds have now been depleted.

Ms. Gapen stated that staff has identified five adjacent parcels in the Jersey City community that are suitable for recombination in order to create building lots for affordable housing. She noted that these lots have a combined value of \$104,894 and can be donated to the CDC and used as the City's match requirement for the HOME program for approximately three to four years. She pointed out that if donated, the lots will be used to build affordable housing.

City Manager David Treme indicated that this donation will add valuable property for the CDC and will also allow the City to use the parcels as a match requirement for the HOME program. He recommended Council approve the donation of this property to the CDC for low and moderate income housing.

Thereupon, Mr. Kennedy made a **motion** to donate the aforementioned lots on Best Street to the CDC to be used for building affordable housing. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, Woodson, and Mses. Blackwell and Kluttz voted AYE. (5-0)

(d) Senior and Veteran Housing

City Manager David Treme stated that during the public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) budget, staff discussed low to moderate income housing needs for the community and identified senior housing as one of the greatest needs. He indicated that the City committed a \$75,000 loan over a two year period from the HOME Program to a developer of a senior housing project to be located between Jake Alexander Boulevard and Highway 150. He pointed out that the low interest loan is to be paid back over a 20 year period.

Mr. Treme stated that he has had discussions with representatives from the Veteran's Administration (VA) and a private developer who were exploring transitional housing for veterans. He noted that they were not ready to request funding this year, but were requesting consideration for the project next year. He stated that a need for transitional housing for veterans has also been identified.

Mr. Treme indicated that he recently met with a developer for a senior housing project in the Salisbury Mall area, which would supplement the Westridge apartment complex. He pointed out that the developer requested a match from the City of a \$150,000 loan for the same purpose as the senior housing project approved in the CDBG budget. He noted that the City has committed its available CDBG funds and requested Council allow him to explore options to provide the loan that would have the least impact on the General Fund. Mr. Treme indicated this senior housing project could be a \$4-5 million project that would help meet the community's low to moderate income housing needs. He asked for an opportunity to determine how this might be accomplished in a way that will be approved by the North Carolina Housing Fund and the United States Housing and Urban Development Department. Mr. Treme stated that with Council's approval, he will explore the best options possible for the City to accomplish the project with little to no impact on the General Fund.

By consensus, Council agreed for Mr. Treme to proceed to determine findings for the project.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) **Brick Street Concert Series**

Mayor Kluttz announced that the Brick Street Concert Series on Fisher Street will present nationally touring Country star and American Idol finalist, Bucky Covington Thursday, May 6, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

(b) **Spring Night Out**

Mayor Kluttz announced that Downtown Salisbury, Inc. will host Spring Night Out Friday, May 7, 2010 from 5:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in downtown Salisbury.

(c) **Peace Officers Memorial Service**

Mayor Kluttz announced that the Rowan County Peace Officers Memorial Service will be held Thursday, May 13, 2010 at 12:00 noon at First Presbyterian Church, 308 West Fisher Street. The public is invited and encouraged to attend the service.

(d) **North Carolina Historic Preservation Funds Press Conference**

Mayor Kluttz announced that North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources Secretary Linda Carlisle, will hold a statewide press conference at the Salisbury Train Station Thursday, May 6, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. to announce the recipients of the 2010 Historic Preservation Fund Grants. She indicated that Salisbury is one of nine participants from across the State to receive the grant.

(e) Primary Election Day

Mayor Kluttz announced that today is primary election day and she encouraged everyone to vote.

(f) Shober Bridge Update

Councilman Woodson asked Mr. Dan Mikkelson, Engineering and Development Services Director, when the repairs necessary to re-open Shober Bridge will be made. Mr. Mikkelson indicated that Norfolk Southern Railroad has approved all of the paperwork for the repairs but staff must wait for Norfolk Southern to schedule a pre-construction meeting before it can proceed.

Mayor Kluttz stated that waiting for a response in order to repair and open the bridge is very frustrating for the City and asked if anything can be done to expedite the process. She noted that having the bridge closed creates a public safety issue. Mr. Mikkelson indicated staff has been polite to Norfolk Southern and at this point must wait for them to respond.

City Manager David Treme stated that the City is vigilant in its discussions with Norfolk Southern. He noted that he has shared Council's concerns for public safety with the Railroad and he is disappointed that they have not responded more quickly on this important issue. Mayor Kluttz suggested Council send a letter expressing its concerns regarding public safety and the urgency of this matter.

Councilman Kennedy suggested that a delegation from the City meet with Norfolk Southern.

Mayor Kluttz asked that staff continue to work on this issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Woodson, seconded by Mr. Kennedy. All council members in attendance agreed unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Susan W. Kluttz, Mayor

Myra B. Heard, City Clerk