

Salisbury, North Carolina  
December 1, 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; City Manager W. Lane Bailey; 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 invocation was given by Dr. Albert Aymer, President Emeritus Hood Theological Seminary. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Woodson at 4:00 p.m.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Police Honor Guard presented Colors and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

## **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Mayor Woodson welcomed all visitors present. He recognized North Carolina Secretary of Cultural Resources and former Mayor Susan W. Kluttz, former Mayor Sonny Allen, State Representatives Carl Ford and Harry Warren, Rowan County Commission Chair Greg Edds, Vice-Chair Jim Greene, Commissioner Craig Pierce, and Rowan County Sheriff Kevin Auten who were in the audience.

## **REMARKS FROM FORMER COUNCIL**

Councilmember Kennedy thanked God and his wife Hazel for allowing him to serve the citizens of Salisbury for 22 years. He also thanked the voters who elected him to office. He noted during his time in office he served as Vice-Chair of the Risk Management Board of Trustees, Chair of the Salisbury Community Action Agency, and as a member of the Rufty-Holmes Senior Center Board. He explained Rufty-Holmes Senior Center Board waived the age requirement to allow him to serve on its Board at age 52, and he served for 22 years. He acknowledged his family, daughter Walillian who lives in the City, son Ray Jr. who lives in Chicago, and daughter Jacklyn who lives in New York. He thanked the citizens for allowing him to serve the City for 11 terms and 22 years, and he added he worked to leave a legacy for future generations.

Mayor Woodson thanked Mr. Kennedy for his service to the City, County, and State. He also thanked his wife Beth, daughter Kristy, and Vogue Cleaners Manager Suzi Hunter for their help which allowed him to serve as Mayor. He recognized City Clerk Myra Heard, Deputy Clerk Kelly Baker, and Senior Office Assistants Kelli Doyle and Connie Snyder for their support during his time in office. He also recognized former Councilmembers Scott Maddox, Bill Burgin, Mark Lewis, Susan W. Kluttz, and Bob Martin, and current Councilmembers Maggie Blackwell, Karen Alexander, Brian Miller, and William Kennedy with whom he served. He thanked the Management Team and staff for all they do for the City. He thanked City Manager Emeritus David Treme for his guidance. He stated he is pleased City Manager Lane Bailey is leading the City, and he added there are good things in the City's future. He thanked the voters, and he added their support is critical to Council's success.

Mr. Kennedy recognized his daughter Walillian, grandchildren Briana, Brandon, and Brice, and family friend Gretta Saunders who were in the audience.

Mayor Woodson wished the new Council the best.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The current Council adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

## **NEW COUNCIL CONVENES**

Ms. Karen Kirks Alexander, Ms. Maggie A. Blackwell, Mr. Kenneth Lee Hardin, Mr. David Post, and Mr. William Brian Miller; who were elected as City Council members in the November 3, 2015 Regular Municipal Election for a two-year term, assembled in the Council Room of City Hall, 217 South Main Street, at 4:00 p.m. on December 1, 2015 for the purpose of being inducted into office.

City Clerk Myra Heard administered the oath of office to the recently elected Council members.

Ms. Alexander appointed Ms. Blackwell, to serve as Temporary Chair to preside over the meeting for the purpose of electing a Mayor.

Temporary Chair Blackwell opened the floor for nominations for the office of Mayor for the City of Salisbury. Councilmember Post nominated Karen Kirks Alexander for the office of Mayor. Mr. Miller seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Messrs. Hardin, Miller, and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. By unanimous vote of the Council, Karen Kirks Alexander was elected Mayor for a two-year term beginning December 1, 2015.

Mayor Alexander asked her husband Henry and family to join her as she took the oath of office. The oath of office of Mayor was administered to Karen Kirks Alexander by City Clerk Myra Heard.

Mayor Alexander opened the floor for nominations for the office of Mayor Pro Tem.

Mr. Post nominated Maggie A. Blackwell to serve as Mayor Pro Tem. Mr. Miller seconded the nomination. Messrs. Hardin, Miller, and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. By unanimous vote of the Council, Maggie A. Blackwell was elected Mayor Pro Tem for a two-year term beginning December 1, 2015.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell asked her husband Joseph to join her as she took the oath of office. The oath of office of Mayor Pro Tem was administered to Maggie A. Blackwell by City Clerk Myra Heard.

### **REMARKS FROM THE NEW COUNCIL**

Mayor Alexander opened the floor for comments from newly elected Council members. She thanked God, her husband Henry, son Daniel, grandchildren Tyler, Isabella, and Mason, daughter-in-law Christy and her parents Dr. and Ms. Bill Mason, her brothers James and Allen Kirks, sister-in-law Jane Kirks, and her extended and church family. She recognized Mr. Jeremy Gardner for his help during the election, and she thanked the citizens for their vote of confidence. She also recognized Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell and Councilmember Miller with whom she had served for the last three years. She recognized newly elected Councilmembers David Post and Kenny Hardin, and she added she is excited to work with the new Council. She thanked Mayor Woodson and Councilmember Kennedy for the support, wisdom, and friendship they offered during her time on Council. She thanked City Manager Lane Bailey for his leadership, and she recognized City Clerk Myra Heard, Deputy Clerk Kelly Baker, and Senior Office Assistants Kelli Doyle and Connie Snyder for all they do for Council. She thanked the citizens for allowing her to serve as Mayor.

Mayor Alexander stated she will have four major goals and two leadership training programs in place during her first 90 days in office:

- The State of the City which will track the City's finances by department in relation to the goals Council set for the 2015-2016 Budget

- Begin work on the 2040 Plan to ensure the City is ready for growth and to leverage City resources through grants, Cabarrus-Rowan Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) funding for roads, and other State or Federal funding
- Work with City Manager Lane Bailey regarding the creation of a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan
- Goal Setting for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 at the Council Retreat to be held January 27-28, 2016
- Essentials of Municipal Government and Ethics Training for each Councilmember
- The Salisbury Way: Creating a new Human Resources document based upon the City's Vision, Mission and Purpose, that includes a Code of Ethics, and Professional Conduct Manual

Mayor Alexander stated the formula for success includes leadership, teamwork, justice, judgment, independent thinking, character, honesty, integrity, and focus. She added she is very excited to serve as Mayor of this great City.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell recognized former Mayor Sonny Allen and his wife Janie, Charles and Norma Goldman, and her husband Joseph for their support. She thanked all the citizens who voted for her and added it is an honor to be elected.

Councilmember Miller thanked Mayor Woodson and Councilmember Kennedy for their service to the City and its citizens. He added their wisdom and experience were invaluable to Council. He thanked his wife Amy, and children Harper, Jane, and Christian for their support. He thanked the public for the trust it placed in the newly elected Council. He thanked his heavenly Father for blessing him with the City he calls home. He added he is grateful to have an opportunity to serve the community.

Councilmember Post thanked his family and Judge Lisa Davidson for their support. He recognized his sister Phyllis, brother Johnny, and their spouses who were in the audience. He expressed gratitude to all the candidates, and he noted the high number of candidates made the election, and ultimately the City, better. He thanked Mayor Woodson and Councilmember Kennedy for their many years of service. He recognized City Manager Lane Bailey and City Clerk Myra Heard for their help after the election, and the Council with whom he will serve. He recognized staff, and he pointed out his time on the Planning Board helped prepare him to serve on Council. He added he is grateful for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Salisbury.

Councilmember Hardin thanked his wife Alib and sons Bricin, Kendall, and Jared, mother-in-law Vera Wiggins, parents Charles and Barbara Hardin, sister Jackie, brother Gregory, aunts Doris and Shirley, and Reverend Hardin for their support during the election. He recognized his team of advisors Dr. Byrd, Mr. Chris Sifford, and Mr. Chris Sharpe for their support during the election. He also thanked Councilmember Kennedy for his help throughout the years. He thanked the citizens who elected him to office, and he added he will do his best to serve the community.

**RESOLUTION HONORING PAUL B. WOODSON JR.**

Mayor Alexander asked Council to consider adopting a Resolution of Recognition honoring former Mayor Paul B. Woodson, Jr.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to adopt a Resolution honoring the service of Paul B. Woodson, Jr. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Hardin, Miller and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

**RESOLUTION HONORING THE SERVICE OF PAUL B. WOODSON, JR.**

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 15 at Page No. 27, and is known as Resolution 2015-23)

Mayor Alexander read the Resolution and presented a framed copy to Mr. Woodson.

**RESOLUTION HONORING WILLIAM R. (PETE) KENNEDY**

Mayor Alexander asked Council to consider adopting a Resolution of Recognition honoring former Councilmember William R. (Pete) Kennedy.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to adopt a Resolution honoring William R. (Pete) Kennedy. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Hardin, Miller and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

**RESOLUTION HONORING WILLIAM R. (PETE) KENNEDY.**

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 15 at Page No. 28, and is known as Resolution 2015-24)

Mayor Alexander read the Resolution and presented a framed copy to Mr. Kennedy.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell thanked former Mayor Woodson for leading the City with honesty and integrity, and seeking Council's input on decisions. She added Mr. Woodson understood the role of Mayor and acted as a collaborator for Council. She thanked Mr. Woodson for the countless hours he devoted to the citizens of Salisbury.

Ms. Blackwell stated the biggest tribute to Mr. Kennedy came when he received the Order of the Longleaf Pine and his children spoke of him with great respect. She pointed out Mr. Kennedy served the City and State in many capacities with great wisdom. She thanked him for the kindness he showed newly elected Councilmembers during his time in office. She thanked Mr. Woodson and Mr. Kennedy for their service to the City.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

(a) 2016 Council Meeting Dates

Adopt the 2016 schedule of regular Council meeting dates.

(b) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Taxi Owners

Approve the first reading for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Taxi Owners for Mr. Abdullah Hasan, DBA as Essential Taxi Service.

(c) Pool Hall Permit

Receive an application from Mr. Chris T. Earnhardt, for a permit to operate a pool hall located at 113 and 115 Mooresville Road, and to set a public hearing for December 15, 2015.

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

## **PRESENTATIONS – KEYS TO THE CITY**

Mayor Alexander presented former Mayor Paul B. Woodson, Jr. with a Key to the City of Salisbury in appreciation of his service on Salisbury City Council from 1997 through 2015, as Mayor from 2011 through 2015, and Mayor Pro Tem from 1997 through 2009.

Mr. Woodson thanked Council for the recognition and the Key to the City.

Mayor Karen Alexander then presented former Councilmember William (Pete) Kennedy with a Key to the City of Salisbury in appreciation of his service on Salisbury City Council from 1993 through 2015, and as Mayor Pro Tem from 1996 through 1997. She added Mr. Kennedy is the longest consecutively serving Council member.

Mr. Kennedy thanked Council for the recognition.

## **CONCURRING ORDINANCE WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Traffic Engineering Coordinator Vickie Eddleman explained the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) recently implemented changes along Highway 29 and Cedar Springs Road with the creation of a new overpass. She noted Cedar Springs Road no longer connects to Highway 29, and the City Code should reflect the physical changes and mimic NCDOT's verbiage regarding the speed limit in the area.

Ms. Eddleman explained the proposed concurring Ordinance with NCDOT would repeal the old language to reflect the change. She stated the concurring Ordinance with NCDOT will also clear up the Code regarding the speed limit on Jake Alexander Boulevard to reflect changes made in July 2015.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article X, of the Code of the City of Salisbury, relating to speed limits – generally. Mr. Hardin seconded the motion. Messrs. Hardin, Miller and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE X, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS – GENERALLY.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 86, and is known as Ordinance 2015-42)

### **SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE – POLICE DEPARTMENT BODY CAMERAS**

Police Chief Rory Collins and Lieutenant Andy Efirid addressed Council regarding the sole source purchase of body cameras for the Police Department. Lieutenant Efirid reviewed the features of the camera. He noted the benefits of the body cameras include a decrease in citizen complaints, building trust between police officers and citizens, a decrease in lawsuits, and more uncontested criminal cases resulting in less time in court for police officers and more time on the streets.

Lieutenant Efirid presented videos of a police officer using the body camera, and he pointed out the body cameras will enhance the in-car video program currently in place.

Councilmember Hardin asked if the video could be manipulated prior to camera activation. Lieutenant Efirid noted police officers can change the direction of the camera, but once they press start the audio and video begin recording. He explained the police officer can only start and stop the video. He added the body camera will be docked at the Police Department, and the video will be automatically downloaded and cannot be manipulated.

Mr. Hardin asked if a physical struggle would interfere with the video. Lieutenant Efirid stated a physical struggle could interfere with the body camera, but the in-car camera should film the incident if it takes place in front of the car. He noted the in-car video cameras have a panoramic view that captures additional video footage.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell indicated some body camera companies store data at their location. She pointed out the City will store its data in house. Lieutenant Efirid explained a server at the Police Department will store the data. He added he is researching cloud storage which could serve as a backup and off-site storage system.

Councilmember Post asked if all police cars have in-car cameras. Lieutenant Efir stated all patrol cars have in-car cameras. Mr. Post asked if the Police Department will use in-car and body cameras. Lieutenant Efir explained the in-car camera will be used in addition to the body camera.

Lieutenant Efir stated the Police Department is considering 60 body cameras. He added the Police Department currently has 82 police officers. He explained 44 cameras will go to patrol officers, 10 cameras will be allotted for the Police Intervention Team (PIT), and three cameras will be used by the School Resource Officers, leaving three cameras to be used as needed or for special events.

Mayor Alexander pointed out the total cost of the project is \$64,940 and includes private donations. Chief Collins noted approximately half of the project was funded through private donations. He explained \$30,000 was donated by Ms. Mona Lisa Wallace and her law firm, and he pointed out the remaining funds are asset forfeiture funds.

Councilmember Miller asked if the body cameras will work well at night. Lieutenant Efir noted the cameras do not have night vision capability but will capture video in low light such as with street lights or the light from a police officer's flash light. Mr. Miller thanked the private donors for their contribution to the Police Department.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to authorize a sole source purchase in the amount of \$64,940 from Watch Guard for 60 Vista High Definition Chest Mount Body Cameras, and to adopt an Ordinance amending the 2015-2016 Budget Ordinance of the City of Salisbury, North Carolina to appropriate revenues for the body cameras. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Hardin, Miller and Post, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2015-2016 BUDGET ORDINANCE FO THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA TO APPROPRIATE REVENUES FOR BODY CAMERAS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 87, and is known as Ordinance 2015-43)

## **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

### Tourism and Cultural Development Commission

Upon a motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Blackwell and with Messrs. Hardin and Post and Ms. Alexander voting AYE, the following appointment was made to the Tourism and Cultural Development Commission to fill an unexpired term.

Ms. Whitney Wallace

Term Expires 03/31/16



## **COUNCIL LIAISONS FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS**

Mayor Alexander suggested the following liaison appointments to community groups:

- (a) ABC Board – Karen Alexander
- (b) Centralina Council of Governments – Karen Alexander
- (c) Centralina Council of Governments-Alternate – Brian Miller
- (d) Community Appearance Commission – Maggie Blackwell
- (e) Downtown Salisbury, Inc. – Brian Miller
- (f) Economic Development Commission – David Post  
Economic Development Commission-Alternate – Karen Alexander
- (g) Fireman’s Relief Fund – Karen Alexander
- (h) Housing Advocacy Commission – Maggie Blackwell
- (i) Human Relations Council – David Post
- (j) Metropolitan Planning Organization – Maggie Blackwell
- (k) Metropolitan Planning Organization-Alternate – Open
- (l) Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Kenny Hardin
- (m) Rufty-Holmes Senior Center – David Post
- (n) Salisbury-Rowan Community Action Agency – Kenny Hardin
- (o) Salisbury Tourism and Cultural Development Authority and Rowan County  
Tourism Development Authority – Brian Miller
- (p) Technical Review Committee – Kenny Hardin  
Technical Review Committee-Alternate – Karen Alexander
- (q) Transportation Advisory Board – Maggie Blackwell
- (r) Tree Board – David Post
- (s) Youth Council – Maggie Blackwell

By consensus, Council agreed to the liaison appointments.

## **CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS**

- (a) Introduction Parks and Recreation Director Nick Aceves

City Manager Lane Bailey introduced new Parks and Recreation Director Nick Aceves. Mayor Alexander welcomed Mr. Aceves to the City.

- (b) Interim Police Chief

City Manager Lane Bailey announced Captain Brain Stallings will serve as Interim Police Chief beginning January 1, 2016 until a new Police Chief is selected.

Mr. Bailey noted a reception to honor retiring Police Chief Rory Collins will take place January 5, 2016 prior to the Council meeting. He thanked Chief Collins for his contributions to the Police Department and the City.

## MAYOR 'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Tree Lighting Ceremony and Candy Cane Hunt

Mayor Alexander announced the Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department Tree Lighting Ceremony and Candy Cane Hunt will be held Friday, December 4, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at City Park Lake. The public is invited to attend.

(b) Brunch with Santa

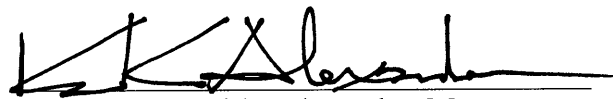
Mayor Alexander announced the Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department will host Brunch with Santa Saturday, December 5, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon at the Civic Center, 315 South Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue. Call 704-216-2708 PLAY for more information and to register by December 3, 2015. The cost of the event is \$6 per person or \$20 per family of four.

(c) New Year's Eve at the Bell Tower

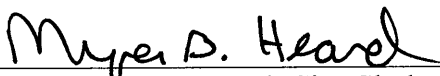
Mayor Alexander announced the New Year's Eve at the Bell Tower celebration will be held Thursday, December 31, 2015 in Bell Tower Park. Festivities begin at 8:00 p.m. and will include light refreshments, live entertainment, live video feed from Times Square, and ringing of the bell at Midnight. The event is free and open to the public.

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Blackwell and seconded by Mr. Miller. All council members in attendance agreed unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.



Karen Kirks Alexander, Mayor



Myra B. Heard, City Clerk