

Salisbury, North Carolina
June 17, 2014

REGULAR MEETING

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

ABSENT: Councilmember 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 Councilmember Alexander.

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.

CONSENT AGENDA

(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve Minutes of the Special Meetings of March 27, 2014 and May 30, 2014, and the Regular Meeting of June 3, 2014.

(b) Voluntary Annexation – Julian Road

Receive a petition for the voluntary annexation of 25 acres located on Julian Road, identified as Tax Map 402 Parcel 088, and adopt a **RESOLUTION** instructing the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the request.

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO INVESTIGATE A PETITION RECEIVED UNDER G.S. 160A-58.1, FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION OF 25 ACRES LOCATED ON JULIAN ROAD AND IDENTIFIED ON TAX MAP 402 PARCEL 088.

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 14 at Page No.12, and is known as Ordinance 2014-11)

(c) Budget Ordinance Amendment – Rowan Arts Council

Adopt a Budget **ORDINANCE** amendment to the FY2013-2014 budget in the amount of \$5,000 to appropriate a Rowan Arts Council contribution.

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2013-2014 BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA TO APPROPRIATE ROWAN ARTS COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 24 at Page No.45, and is known as Ordinance 2014-21)

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

PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED FY2014-2015 CITY BUDGET

Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding the proposed FY2014-2015 City Budget.

Mr. Rick Parker, 150 Dove Lane, indicated he works for Novant Health Rowan Medical Center. He stated he supports transit service to Julian Road and Wallace Commons. He pointed out many low-income citizens depend on public transportation to access their health care needs. He noted Rowan Medical Park was built on Julian Road, away from the main campus, to provide easy patient access, ample parking, and reduced walking distances. He asked Council to consider extending transit service to Julian Road.

Ms. Krista Woolly, South Fulton Street, Executive Director Community Care Clinic, stated she supports extending transit service to Rowan Medical Park on Julian Road. She explained Novant Health Rowan Medical Center collaborates with the Community Care Clinic to provide diagnostic services for clinic patients. She pointed out many low-income families rely on public transportation. She asked Council to support transit service to Julian Road.

Mr. Shawn Peters, 130 South Cromwell Drive, Mooresville, Director of Professional Support Services Novant Health Rowan Medical Center, noted transit service to Julian Road will help in the fight against cancer in the community. He pointed out many citizens rely on transit service as their primary means of transportation. He added transit service to Julian Road would allow citizen's access to the Rowan Medical Park Imaging Center. He emphasized early detection is critical in the fight against cancer, and many people without transportation miss out on diagnostic services. He asked Council to extend transit service to Julian Road.

Ms. Jill McNeely, 306 White Oaks Drive, indicated she works with breast cancer patients at Rowan Medical Park on Julian Road. She pointed out there has been an increase in the indigent population due to area job loss. She explained Novant Health Rowan Medical Center received \$95,000 in grant funding to provide services for low-income patients. She emphasized patients need public transportation to the Center to access its services. She stated she has taken a patient to and from her appointments at the center because she did not have transportation. She asked Council to consider extending transit service to Julian Road.

Mr. Eric Phillips, 145 Peach Lane, Mocksville, addressed Council representing the bicycle community in the City. He stated obesity is a major issue in the United States. He emphasized cycling is a healthier, greener, economically-friendly transportation option. He asked Council to consider designating one percent of the City's transportation budget to promote cycling as a viable mode of transportation throughout the City.

Ms. Mary James, 727 South Fulton Street, indicated she supports a bicycle-friendly City. She pointed out the health benefits associated with cycling.

Mr. Robin James, 727 South Fulton Street, stated he has had trouble with cars while riding his bicycle in the City.

Mr. Michael Martelli, 1110 North Jackson Street, noted he supports transit service to Julian Road. He encouraged Council to approve the Sidewalk Program making City streets safer for pedestrians. He asked Council to approve the bike lanes on Newsome Road and to consider extending bicycle lanes throughout the City.

Mr. William Peoples, 522 North Fulton Street, stated he does not support bicycle lanes on Newsome Road. He added bicycling is not a necessity, but public transportation to Julian Road and the Salisbury Community Park is a necessity. He noted he supports street lighting for the West End Community and sidewalks to Kelsey Scott Park. He pointed out many projects in the City were started and never completed. He added he cannot support bicycle lanes on Newsome Road because of incomplete City projects. He stated riding a bicycle is a choice while people without access to transportation are walking in unlit areas of the City. He noted there is a liability issue when Council ignores dangerous issues such as lighting under the bridge at Old Concord Road. He pointed out proposed funding for bicycle lanes at Newsome Road could be used for street lighting and needs within the City.

Mr. Tyler Cross, 185 Lake Side Drive, indicated he travels Newsome Road twice a day by bicycle, and it is the most dangerous road he rides. He emphasized a bicycle lane on Newsome Road is critical for cyclist safety. He added cyclists need additional places to lock-up their bikes in the City. He asked Council to do all it can to promote bicycle-friendly streets.

Ms. GeoRene Jones, 1608 Third Street, noted she rides her bike for the health benefits associated with cycling. She emphasized motorized scooters also use bicycle lanes. She asked Council to consider approving bicycle lanes on Newsome Road. She stated she supports extending transit service to the Rowan Medical Center on Julian Road.

Ms. Dee Dee Wright, 418 South Caldwell Street, emphasized she does not support the increases in the proposed budget. She stated citizens have requested sidewalks in the West End Community for 15 years. She added she does not support new trash bins for the City, and she pointed out lights are needed at the bridge over Old Concord Road.

Mr. Gary Blabon, 346 Cameron Drive, on behalf of Novant Health Care, stated he supports extending transit service to Julian Road. He thanked Council for its consideration.

Mr. Cory Dieth, 280 Honeysuckle Lane, noted he supports bicycle lanes in the City. He stated he observes children riding their bikes to the park every day and a bicycle lane would provide a safer alternative to the park. He pointed out bicycles have a positive economic impact on the local community. He indicated bicycles have consistently outsold cars and trucks in the United States since 1992, and bicycles are a cost effective means of transportation.

Ms. Sharon Earnhardt, 360 Bonaventure Drive, noted she supports bicycle lanes anywhere in the City. She pointed out there are health benefits to biking, and bicycle lanes will improve rider safety. She asked Council to approve the bicycle lanes on Newsome Road.

Mr. Gary Powers, 500 Wesley Drive, indicated he has seen bicyclists trying to navigate the traffic on Newsome Road. He noted the proposed improvements are a great deal for the City because the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is paying for the bulk of the project. He asked Council to consider approving the project.

Mr. Jim Monday, 1545 Sides Road, addressed Council regarding the addition of bicycle lanes and transit service to Julian Road. He pointed out citizens living on Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue cannot walk or bike safely to the Rowan Medical Center on Julian Road. He noted it is Council's duty to protect citizens who walk to service destinations. He added due to the cost of operating a vehicle, more people will be walking, cycling, and using public transportation. He asked Council to support the bicycle lanes on Newsome Road and the extended transit service to Julian Road and Wallace Commons.

Ms. Josephine Peeler, Newsome Road, stated she supports curb and guttering for Newsome Road. She added afternoon traffic on Newsome Road is extremely dangerous. She pointed out large gas tankers use the road, tearing up the pavement and grass. She added excessive traffic speed on Newsome Road makes it dangerous for pedestrians and bicycle traffic. She indicated the City needs additional police officers in the area.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell explained that during the information session held for the Newsome Road neighborhood, citizens indicated tanker trucks and dump trucks speed through the area around 4:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. She stated she notified Police Chief Rory Collins who is monitoring the situation.

Ms. Cathy Suthers, 125 Newsome Road, thanked Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell for making Chief Collins aware of excessive traffic speeds on Newsome Road. She noted the additional police presence is making a difference in the area. She pointed out the project is funding curb, guttering, widening and a bicycle lane, and she asked why the project does not include a sidewalk on at least one side of Newsome Road. She emphasized people are walking and pushing baby carriages along a very dangerous road. She asked Council to do what it can to make Newsome Road safer for citizens.

Ms. Wendy Rake, 211 Skyline Circle, indicated she does not support the property tax increase or the rate increase for City services which will affect low-income and fixed-income families. She pointed out she is unable to recycle shredded paper because she cannot find the clear plastic bags required for shredded paper recycling.

Ms. Paula Bohland, 223 Wiley Avenue, Interim Director Downtown Salisbury Inc. (DSI), addressed Council on behalf of downtown merchants regarding façade grants. She asked Council to include façade grants in the FY2014-2015 budget. She emphasized façade grants are not a major expense, but they are critical to downtown development.

Mayor Woodson stated he received a letter from Mr. Michael Young and Ms. Diane Young requesting Council include façade grants in the proposed budget.

Mr. State Alexander, representing Livingstone College, 701 West Monroe Street, thanked Council for its continued collaboration regarding safety issues at the College. He stated sidewalks and additional street lighting are needed at College Park on Old Wilkesboro Road to make the area safer for students.

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

Ms. Blackwell noted she and Mayor Woodson are working on alternate funding sources for lights at the Old Concord Road overpass and sidewalks and street lighting for the area.

Mayor Woodson emphasized when the State awards funding for a specific project the funds cannot be diverted to other areas. He noted Council is working to secure funding for lights and sidewalks along Old Concord Road

TEXT AMENDMENT TA-01-2014 – SECONDARY DWELLING UNITS

Planning and Development Services Manager Preston Mitchell addressed Council regarding text amendments to revise provisions of Chapter 2 (Districts), Chapter 6 (Infill, Addition, and Accessory), and Chapter 18 (Definitions) of the Land Development Ordinance (LDO) related to Secondary Dwelling Units. He explained the LDO was created six years ago, and updates are needed to improve and clarify the language.

Mr. Mitchell stated secondary dwelling units are allowed in residential zoning districts from Rural Residential (RR) to Residential Mixed-Use (RMX). He pointed out RMX zoning allows multi-family housing so staff removed secondary dwelling units from the RMX zoning classification. He added secondary dwelling units are included in the remaining residential zoning districts.

Mr. Mitchell noted the placement of a secondary dwelling unit in RR zoning will be different from the placement of a secondary dwelling unit in Urban Residential (UR) zoning.

Mr. Mitchell pointed out there is a higher percentage of manufactured housing in rural parts of the City, and it is economically feasible for the secondary dwelling unit to be manufactured housing. He explained the petition is to amend the Secondary Dwelling Units LDO provisions to:

- Specify RR zoning
- Streamline the process in RR zoning
- Other zonings will remain the same
- Clean up the text

Mr. Mitchell reviewed a map of the City, and he pointed out RR zoning along the City's perimeter. He added most RR zoning is in the City's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). He clarified the provisions that were moved from Chapter 3 to Chapter 6 regarding single-family General Residential (GR) and UR lots are nearly identical, and the requirements to receive a Special Use Permit (SUP) are still in place.

Mr. Mitchell reviewed the current and proposed changes to Secondary Dwelling Units:

- Current
 - Rear yard only
 - 50 percent of the house square footage
 - Minimum 300 square feet/maximum 750 square feet
 - Two-story maximum height
 - Ownership
- Proposed
 - Unrestricted yard in RR if greater than five acres
 - Side/rear yard in RR if less than five acres
 - Manufactured as defined in the LDO allowed in RR
 - No taller than house
 - Maximum 40 percent of home square footage
 - Can exceed 40 percent in RR with SUP

Mr. Mitchell noted the School of Government alerted staff to case law that states local governments cannot regulate secondary dwelling units by ownership. He pointed out local governments should regulate secondary dwelling units based upon zoning and land use standards. He added local governments were advised to avoid the ownership aspect of secondary dwelling units, so staff removed the ownership clause from the text amendment.

Councilmember Miller asked if secondary dwelling units could be located on separate parcels. Mr. Mitchell explained the parcels cannot be subdivided.

Councilmember Alexander asked what would prevent an owner from taking the secondary dwelling unit out of the original parcel if the owner has more than five acres in an RR district. She questioned if a secondary dwelling unit will remain a secondary dwelling forever. Mr. Mitchell explained it will remain a secondary dwelling unit based upon the original permit. He indicated if a property owner plans to sell the secondary dwelling unit they could subdivide the lot before the structure is built. He added an additional principal dwelling would have different standards than a secondary dwelling unit.

Mayor Woodson noted if a property owner has a one-story home they would be required to keep the secondary dwelling unit one-story. Mr. Mitchell noted the mass and scaling needs to be compatible and is driven by the principal dwelling.

Mr. Mitchell stated the Planning Board held a courtesy hearing May 27, 2014 and unanimously recommended approval.

(b) Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding TA-01-2014.

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

Councilmember Miller noted affordable housing must be considered. He added a mobile home behind a house, regardless of the lot size, does not meet his ideal for the City. He stated he understands there is a petitioner with a need, and he does not want to be insensitive, but a secondary dwelling should conform to the materials used in the primary dwelling.

Mr. Mitchell stated staff has explained the situation and its social implications to the petitioner. He added RR consists of large tracts of land used for rural activities and smaller cottage-type homes. He noted many of the larger tracts of land are encumbered by flood plains. He pointed out allowing manufactured housing be used as a secondary dwelling unit for family members or a care taker is a temporary situation.

Mr. Miller asked if the dwelling would be a permanent fixture. Mr. Mitchell noted the dwelling is a permanent fixture that must meet all City and County underpinning requirements. He added it is not a stick-built home on a permanent foundation. Mr. Mitchell emphasized secondary dwelling units are limited to the rear and side yard on lots less than five acres and unlimited on lots over five acres. He indicated staff and the Planning Board think secondary dwelling units will give citizens an opportunity to house someone on their property, even in a temporary situation.

Ms. Alexander stated the design standards need to be consistent as the City limits move toward the ETJ. She asked if the issue regarding the Meacham family, 1312 Faith Road, who addressed Council at its last meeting, could be handled in a different way. Mr. Mitchell noted staff has reviewed the LDO, and the issue cannot be addressed under current guidelines. Ms. Alexander asked if the issue could be sent to committee.

Mr. Mitchell noted the LDO establishes a framework of expectation. Ms. Alexander emphasized if the City reduces its criteria it will hinder future development. Mr. Mitchell indicated planners consider future development when contemplating text amendments. He pointed out secondary dwelling units cannot exceed 40 percent of the primary dwelling. He noted a 1,500 square foot home located in the RR district could have a 600 square foot manufactured secondary dwelling unit. He added if a larger unit is needed the property owner would have to address Council, and conditions could be added through an SUP.

Ms. Alexander stated she has an issue with a large home having a significantly smaller dwelling beside it because the area will lack consistency. She pointed out most neighborhoods in the City consists of smaller or larger homes, but not a mixture of both.

Mr. Mitchell noted when amendments are considered staff works toward high quality design elements. He added, in reality, projects have elements that make black and white goals difficult. He pointed out mobile homes and manufactured housing units are a part of life in the City, and it would be an injustice to legislate the City out of these markets. He noted staff and the Planning Board worked to limit the provision to RR zoning, to 40 percent of the square footage of the primary dwelling unit, and to emphasize it must be brought before Council.

Ms. Alexander stated the text amendment needs a minimum size specification. Mr. Mitchell noted minimum size specifications are determined by the Building Code. Ms. Alexander explained an 1,800 square-foot home with a 1,200 square-foot secondary dwelling would work visually but an 1,800 square-foot home with a 600 square-foot secondary dwelling would not. She asked if the smaller dwelling should be located behind the principal dwelling.

Mr. Mitchell pointed out secondary dwelling units on RR lots that are less than five acres may need to be limited to the rear yard.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell indicated this item should be taken to committee.

Ms. Alexander stated the text amendment needs additional study.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to create a Council Committee to address concerns regarding Text Amendment TA-01-2014. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

Mayor Woodson asked Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell and Councilmember Alexander to serve on the Council Committee and report back to Council at its July 15, 2014 meeting.

TEXT AMENDMENT TA-06-2013 – SIDEWALK PROGRAM

Planning and Development Services Manager Preston Mitchell addressed Council regarding revisions to provisions of Chapter 4 (Subdivision and Infrastructure), and Chapter 6 (Infill, Addition, and Accessory) of the Land Development Ordinance (LDO) related to the Sidewalk Program. He noted the text amendment before Council is continued from last year. He explained the request is to amend side-walk related LDO provisions:

- Clarifying the requirements by zoning district
- City verses ETJ requirements
- Maximum linear feet
- New streets
 - The proposed text amendment will not impact sidewalk construction on both sides of new streets
- Install or pay in-lieu will not be impacted by the text amendment

Mr. Mitchell explained there are varying degrees of pay in-lieu based upon the Sidewalk Priority Index. He stated the Sidewalk Priority Index determines the street's priority regarding pedestrian traffic. He added if the street has a high priority no discount is offered. He pointed out a medium priority street will offer a 50 percent discount, and a low priority street will offer a 75 percent discount.

Mr. Mitchell noted pay in-lieu is used in different planning districts. He explained if pay in-lieu takes place in District 7, the funds must be used in District 7. He pointed out citizens have requested sidewalks under the bridge on Old Concord Road, and pay in-lieu funds from that district could be used.

Mr. Mitchell explained all zoning districts require sidewalk on existing streets, but there is a conflict in the Code. He explained Open Space Preserves (OSP) and RR Districts call for a side path, which is typical for rural areas. He noted staff is proposing to remove the requirement to build a sidewalk as defined by the Code to replace it with building a side path in the OSP and RR districts.

Mr. Mitchell noted staff is requesting to eliminate the sidewalk requirements along existing streets with new development in the City's ETJ. He explained the City does not maintain sidewalks in its ETJ. He clarified if a property in the ETJ is developed or redeveloped and the property owner installs a sidewalk, the City will not maintain it. He stated working with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to install an extended length of sidewalk similar to the project along Statesville Boulevard is a better option. He stated amendments to the LDO will remove sidewalk requirements in the ETJ.

Mr. Mitchell reviewed sidewalk maximum linear feet. He stated staff and the Planning Board think when large lots are redeveloped or additions are made, the sidewalk requirements can be excessive. He explained North Hills Christian School is preparing for an addition. He noted the addition is less than 25 percent of the total gross floor area, so the project does not require additional sidewalks. He noted if the addition was greater than 25 percent of the total gross floor area, the school would be required to install almost 900 linear feet of sidewalk along West Innes Street as well as 650 linear feet along Sells Road, which would be over 1,500 linear feet of sidewalk or pay in-lieu. He noted the cost of 1,500 linear feet of sidewalk could be detrimental to a project with multiple street frontages.

Mr. Mitchell noted staff is proposing a maximum of 400 linear feet for an existing lot on an existing street. He explained for development, redevelopment, or an addition the maximum sidewalk requirement would be 400 linear feet.

Mayor Woodson noted 400 linear feet of sidewalk will be required no matter what percentage of the existing structure is built. Mr. Mitchell noted additional sidewalks will be required only if the addition is greater than 25 percent of the current square footage, and the sidewalk requirement will be no larger than 400 linear square feet.

Mayor Woodson asked about the cost of a linear foot of concrete. Mr. Mitchell explained Public Services bases its sidewalk pricing on the entire job which includes labor and grading. He noted the current cost is \$22 per foot. He added the proposed pricing for FY2014-2015 is \$24 per foot. He noted with the pay in-lieu program property owners would receive a discount if the Sidewalk Priority Index is medium to low.

Mr. Mitchell noted two Vision 2020 polices are related to the proposed text amendment:

- Policy Sidewalk-1: Where no sidewalks are present in existing developed areas, sidewalks shall be provided on a priority basis to connect residential areas to major pedestrian destinations
- Policy Sidewalk-2: In newly developing areas, sidewalks shall be required as an integral part of the community's basic infrastructure
 - New streets require an entire infrastructure

Mr. Mitchell stated the Planning Board held a courtesy hearing May 27, 2014 and unanimously recommended approval.

(b) Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding TA-06-2013.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell noted Council received an email from Mr. Rodney Queen in support of the proposed text amendment.

Mr. Miller stated the City Council hereby finds and determines that adoption of an Ordinance to amend the Land Development Ordinance of the City of Salisbury, as underlined or stricken herein, is consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the Vision 2020 Comprehensive Plan and that adoption of the Ordinance is reasonable and in the public interest. Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 4 (Subdivisions and Infrastructure), and Chapter 6 (Lot, Infill, Addition and Accessory Provisions) of the Land Development Ordinance of the City of Salisbury, North Carolina, related to Sidewalk Program Provisions. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller, and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4 (SUBDIVISIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE), AND CHAPTER 6 (LOT, INFILL, ADDITION AND ACCESSORY PROVISIONS) OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA, RELATED TO SIDEWALK PROGRAM PROVISIONS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 24 at Page No.46-67, and is known as Ordinance 2014-22)

COMMUNITY-WIDE BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANT

Senior Planner Trey Cleaton stated the City was awarded a Community-wide Brownfields Assessment Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He explained a brownfield site is real property for which the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, controlled substances, petroleum or petroleum products, or is mine-scarred land.

Mr. Cleaton noted the total grant is \$400,000 and it will provide:

- Community outreach, involvement, and education
- Characterize sites by identifying past uses
- Determine type and degree of contamination
- Help with cleanup and redevelopment planning

Mr. Cleaton stated the primary goal of a Brownfields Assessment Grant is economic development within the community and works to:

- Remove legal and physical barriers to development of eligible properties
 - Participation is voluntary
 - Program is not regulatory
- Brownfield sites are considered public liabilities or neighborhood blight

Mr. Cleaton indicated Federal money will be used to identify brownfield sites, and to make the properties marketable for redevelopment. He noted danger to human and environmental health will be used as criteria to determine a brownfield site.

Mr. Cleaton noted the program supports economic development within the community. He reviewed the steps for the process:

- Write and submit a work plan and budget to the EPA by July 2, 2014
- Partnership with Environmental Consulting Firm(s)
- Continue public outreach and education activities

Councilmember Alexander congratulated staff for winning the grant.

Mayor Woodson asked if other cities received the \$400,000 Brownfield Assessment Grant. Mr. Cleaton noted approximately 50 North Carolina cities applied and 28 received funding. Mayor Woodson asked if all of the grants were for \$400,000. Mr. Cleaton stated they were not, and he noted the City of High Point received \$800,000.

Mr. Cleaton noted staff will bring Council quarterly updates regarding the Brownfield Assessment Grant. He stated the first disbursement should be released October 1, 2014.

Mayor Woodson thanked staff for the update and all it does for economic development in the City.

APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

This item was postponed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Woodson opened the floor to receive public comment.

Ms. Dee Dee Wright, 418 South Caldwell Street, stated she would like to see an increase for City Police Officers and Fire Department personnel. She emphasized they are the ones who protect the City.

There being no one else to speak, Mayor Woodson closed the public comment session.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

(a) Comments regarding the Proposed Budget

City Manager Doug Paris thanked citizens for their feedback regarding the proposed budget. He noted the coming fiscal year will be difficult because the City is facing contradictory pressures, including losing money from the State. Mayor Woodson asked how much State funding the City lost. Mr. Paris stated the City lost \$659,000 or \$.0245 of the City's budget.

Mr. Paris noted citizens have requested additional services and projects. He pointed out there is a 2.5 percent merit pool in the budget which will allow managers to give employees a one to three percent raise based upon performance. He emphasized employee pay raises will not be funded by the property tax increase. He noted the pay increase will be funded by the elimination of currently vacant positions.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Meeting with NAACP

Mayor Woodson announced staff is working to organize a meeting with Council and the NAACP to take place in July.

(b) Arts Night Out

Mayor Woodson announced Downtown Salisbury, Inc. and the Rowan Arts Council will host Arts Night Out Friday, June 20, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in downtown Salisbury.

(b) "Movies in the Park"

Mayor Woodson announced the Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department will host "Movies in the Park" at City Park Friday, June 27, 2014. Pre-movie activities begin at 8:00 p.m. The movie will begin at approximately 9:00 p.m. Bring a blanket or chair to watch the featured movie "The Wizard of Oz." This free event is sponsored by Fibrant and open to the public.

(c) Meeting Cancellation

Mayor Woodson announced City Council has cancelled its first regularly scheduled meeting for July 1, 2014, and will resume its regular schedule Tuesday, July 15, 2014.

CLOSED SESSION

Councilmember Miller requested Council go into a closed session as allowed by NCGS 143-318.11(6) regarding a personnel matter and as allowed by NCGS143-318.11(a)(6) to consult with an attorney.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to go into closed session. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

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

Mayor Woodson announced the contract between the City and the City Manager has been mutually terminated as allowed by section nine paragraph three of the original Employment Agreement.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to approve the severance agreement between Mr. Paris and Council. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

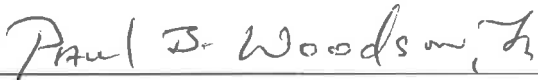
Mayor Woodson announced Council has appointed Assistant City Manager John Sofley to serve as Interim City Manager.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to appoint John Sofley as Interim City Manager. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

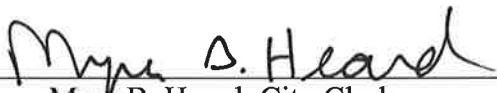
RECESS

Motion to recess until Monday, June 23, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at 1 Water Street, Salisbury NC was made by Ms. Blackwell seconded by Ms. Alexander. Messrs. Miller, and Woodson, and Ms. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

The meeting was recessed at 10:50 p.m.



Paul B. Woodson, Jr., Mayor



Myra B. Heard, City Clerk