

Salisbury, North Carolina  
December 4, 2018

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Al Heggins, Presiding; Mayor Pro Tem David Post; Council Members Karen Alexander, William Brian Miller, and Tamara Sheffield; City Manager W. Lane Bailey; City Clerk Diane Gilmore, and City Attorney J. Graham Corriher.

**ABSENT:** None.

Salisbury City Council met in Council Chambers in City Hall located at 217 South Main Street. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Heggins at 5:00 p.m.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

## **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Mayor Heggins welcomed all visitors present.

## **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Thereupon, Councilmember Alexander made a motion to adopt the Agenda as presented. Mayor Heggins, Mayor Pro Tem Post, and Councilmembers Alexander, Miller, and Sheffield voted AYE. (5-0)

## **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Mayor Heggins noted the recognition of Mr. Alex Clark has been postponed until Council's January 2, 2019 meeting due to his hospitalization.

Mayor Heggins recognized and presented a memento of the 'Tis the Season Spectacular Parade to Ms. Tammy Pinkston and the 'Tis the Season Spectacular Parade Committee.

'Tis the Season Spectacular Committee Member Shari Graham thanked the City of Salisbury and Town of Spencer for their support of the committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Post shared he received positive feedback during the parade, and he thanked the committee for its work on the project. He commented the parade was terrific.

Councilmember Alexander stated she also received positive comments regarding the parade, and she recognized Ms. Graham, Ms. Henderlite and the committee for a job well done.

Mayor Heggins thanked Ms. Pinkston for providing guidance and helping continue the parade's tradition. She also recognized Ms. Henderlite and Ms. Graham for introducing new ideas, and she thanked Mr. Rocky Cabagnet for providing legal guidance to the committee.

Councilmember Sheffield recognized Ms. Pinkston for being the heart of the parade for 30 years and for her work to continue the tradition.

Mayor Heggins provided a special tribute in memory of A'yanna Allen on the anniversary of her death by honoring her mother, grandmother, family and friends. A'yanna Allen's mother, grandmother, and family member spoke about A'yanna Allen.

Mayor Heggins shared it was Give a Hug Day and asked each person to give the person beside them a hug.

Mayor Heggins recognized Ms. Brooklynne Witherspoon who was in the audience. She pointed out Ms. Witherspoon received a key to the City for her work with the Bridge for Kids Program.

## **PROCLAMATION**

Mayor to proclaim the following observance:

TRANSGENDER REMEMBRANCE DAY                      December 4, 2018

Mayor Heggins read and presented the Transgender Remembrance Day Proclamation.

## CONSENT AGENDA

(a) Minutes

Adopt Minutes of the Regular meeting of November 20, 2018.

(b) Resolution – FEMA

Adopt a Resolution authorizing Gayla Long, primary agent and Anna Bumgarner, secondary agent for the purpose of filing for Federal and/or State assistance and represent and act for the City in all dealings with the State of North Carolina and the Federal Emergency Management Agency related to Hurricane Florence.

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AGENTS TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY FOR REQUESTING STATE AND FEDERAL DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE FUNDING.

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 15 at Page No. 59, and is known as Resolution 2018-37.)

(c) Award Contract – Brushy Mountain Builders, Inc.

Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Brushy Mountain Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$848,000 for construction of the Water Treatment Plant Improvements Piping Modifications Project.

Thereupon, Councilmember Miller made a **motion** to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Mayor Heggins, Mayor Pro Tem Post, and Councilmembers Alexander, Miller, and Sheffield voted AYE. (5-0)

## COUNCIL MEETING CHANGE OF TIME

Mayor Heggins stated during a previous Council meeting changing the start times of regular meetings to increase public participation was discussed.

Councilmember Sheffield noted at Council's January 16, 2018 meeting, meeting times were discussed to help include citizens and move efficiently through Council business. She suggested Council consider a new meeting time of 6:00 p.m. to include citizens who work later hours and downtown business owners who close their businesses at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Heggins asked Council to consider alternate meeting start times once a month.

Mayor Pro Tem Post suggested postponing the discussion regarding Council meeting times until Council's organizational meeting in December 2019. He noted previous Council meetings

have ended at 10:00 p.m. and if the meetings were to begin at 6:00 p.m. they could potentially end around 11:00 p.m. or midnight. He shared he supports beginning Council meetings at 5:00 p.m.

Councilmember Miller indicated meetings have gone longer because of closed sessions after regular Council meetings. He commented in order to accommodate public attendance a 6:00 p.m. start time could work. He suggested public comment be added to the beginning of Council meetings so it does not interrupt the meeting's order and closed session meetings be scheduled before 6:00 p.m. He shared attorneys on retainer for closed session meetings have been paid to sit through previous Council meetings, and he added it would be efficient for public resources and better accommodate the public. He added he supports the 6:00 p.m. meeting start time and closed session meetings, workshops, and public input being scheduled between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Alexander commented she supports a 6:00 p.m. meeting start time with closed sessions or special comment periods for the public held before 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Heggins suggested Council could see how the new meeting time is received by the public before alternating a 7:00 p.m. meeting start time for one meeting each month. Councilmember Alexander pointed out starting the meeting at 6:00 p.m. could eliminate the need for one meeting each month to begin at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Heggins agreed, and she noted a need to alter the public comment time to allow time for citizens to sign in.

Mayor Pro Tem Post commented the Rowan County Board of Commissioners meetings begins with public comment at 6:00 p.m.

Thereupon, Councilmember Sheffield made a **motion** to adopt an Ordinance amending Section 2-21 of the Code of Ordinances to change the start time for Regular Meetings of City Council from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Miller seconded the motion. Mayor Heggins, Mayor Pro Tem Post, and Councilmembers Alexander, Miller, and Sheffield voted AYE. (5-0)

#### ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE II, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, RELATING TO REGULAR MEETINGS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 27 at Page No. 249 and is known as Ordinance 2018-65.)

Mayor Heggins announced starting January 2, 2019, Council meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Post asked if public comment times should be changed in the Rules of Procedure.

City Attorney Graham Corriher commented Rules and Procedure for Public Comments are established by Resolution, and he noted he can provide Council a revised Resolution at its next meeting for consideration. By consensus, Council agreed.

## **RESOLUTION 2018-34 – FAIR HOUSING STEERING COMMITTEE**

City Planner Kyle Harris indicated a Resolution of Intent to establish a fair housing committee was adopted by Council at its previous meeting. He explained the first Resolution was established in order for the committee to complete an Analysis of Impediments update that is required every five years. He commented if the committee will be considered permanent then its scope must be defined.

Mr. Harris reviewed the committee's membership and noted it would consist of four members from the Human Relations Council (HRC), four members from the Housing Advocacy Commission (HAC), seven at-large members with demonstrated interest or expertise related to fair housing, and the Community Development Corporation (CDC) Director or designee.

Mr. Harris commented the City receives funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is required to provide an Analysis of Impediments update. He noted the analysis will be generated by the Fair Housing Committee in 2018-2019.

Mr. Harris presented Council a Resolution, and he added the scope of responsibilities changed from the original version. He noted committee activities were identified through the Furthering Fair Housing Rules that were endorsed by the Obama Administration. He shared the rules provide a vast framework for fair housing practices and how cities can do more to promote fair housing.

Mr. Harris reviewed the scope of responsibilities:

- Study current City programs and policies that address fair housing, and formulate recommendations to strengthen fair housing awareness and compliance
- Analyze local and regional data on patterns of integration and segregation, racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty, disparities in access to housing and opportunity, disproportionate housing needs for protected classes, and other relevant fair housing data
- Identify fair housing issues and contributing factors in the jurisdiction and region
- Establish priorities, goals, and strategies to address fair housing issues and contributing factors, and establish metrics and milestones that will be used to monitor and document progress
- Develop a process whereby the City can help facilitate reporting of complaints to appropriate agencies
- Promote efforts to integrate fair housing planning into existing planning processes, and incorporate fair housing priorities and goals into housing and community development decision-making
- Provide an opportunity for the public, including individuals historically excluded because of characteristics protected by the Fair Housing Act, to provide input about fair housing issues, goals, and priorities

- Research and promote effective methods for increasing community awareness and participation in fair housing planning

Councilmember Sheffield thanked Mr. Harris and Human Relations Manager Anne Little for their work to define the Fair Housing Committee.

Mayor Heggins stated fair housing is important to the City, and she is glad the fair housing testing was conducted because it provided clear results to help the City improve. She thanked City Manager Lane Bailey and City Attorney Graham Corriher for their support.

Councilmember Alexander asked about age discrimination for senior housing and noted citizens expressed concerns regarding fair housing opportunities for senior citizens during a recent Chit, Chat, and Chew event. Mr. Harris commented age is not currently a protected class, and he noted that does not mean the Fair Housing Committee could not explore those concerns.

Mayor Heggins commented in order for the Fair Housing Committee to explore age discrimination an Ordinance would need to be adopted because the City would not be able to enforce what is not in place. Mr. Corriher commented the City can study whatever it desires, but it would need legal authority to take action.

Mayor Pro Tem Post shared some cities that have Fair Housing Committees have legal processes to address whether or not a local ordinance has been violated. Mr. Corriher commented prior approval from HUD would be needed before the Committee could be considered an agency and receive complaints.

Ms. Little recognized Human Relations Commission (HRC) member Steven Simpson, and she noted he has served as a Fair Housing officer. She shared this is the type of expertise that will make up the Fair Housing Committee and help to establish processes.

Mayor Heggins commented cities can seek substantial equivalency and asked if HUD needs to approve the City creating an Ordinance regarding fair housing enforcement. Mr. Corriher indicated Federal law requires the City have HUD approval to investigate and take action on Fair Housing Act violations. He shared if the City has its own Ordinance in place action can be taken. Mayor Heggins commented the City would need to seek substantial equivalency, other funding, and opportunities through HUD to receive and investigate Fair Housing violations and be able to engage in remedial action to correct violations with an established Ordinance.

Councilmember Miller suggested the Resolution of Intent include Council's desire to have membership from cross-sections of the community for a variety of perspectives so it can be used as a guideline for future Councils. He commented it is important a fair and balanced approach be included in the committee's scope, and he added the committee should be staffed with community members who represent diverse backgrounds and expertise. Mr. Corriher commented it could be difficult to define membership needs in a Resolution.

Councilmember Miller suggested tabling the item until the end of the meeting to give staff an opportunity to add the suggested qualifications to the Resolution.

Mayor Heggins referenced a discussion during a committee meeting regarding qualifications and experiences and she commented she is concerned the criteria could exclude certain ranges of perspectives.

Mr. Harris indicated it would be reasonable to add clarification regarding the committee's membership scope and Council could use its own discretion when appointing members.

Councilmember Sheffield noted most membership criteria has been described, but once the committee is formed bylaws could be established and sourced from existing Federal documents and resources.

Councilmember Miller asked if the source of the information used to create the Resolution can be referenced in the Resolution. Ms. Little commented information was gathered from a variety of sources to include a broad representation and serve as a guideline. Mr. Harris noted some information was sourced from HUD and Centralina Council of Governments (CCOG), and he added the scope of responsibilities list is not a single source but is made up of best practices.

Councilmember Sheffield recommended referencing the committee's bylaws in the Resolution. Mayor Heggins commented the bylaws will be created by the committee. She suggested Council use the documents with best practices to help appoint the seven at-large members.

Councilmember Miller asked Mr. Corriher if he could create a sentence acknowledging Council's desire for the Fair Housing Committee to always maintain a fair and balanced approach. Mr. Corriher agreed the information can be included.

Mayor Heggins asked if staff could include Councilmember Miller's suggestions and present Council with a revised Resolution for its consideration. Mr. Corriher agreed.

Councilmember Sheffield stated she would like this committee to be an example for committees nationwide. She commented it should work toward being fair to all, including the non-protective classes in the United States and North Carolina Government that includes marital status, students, sexual orientation, income, and age.

Mayor Pro Tem Post commented he has reviewed other fair housing commissions. He noted those committees address landlord and tenant issues that affect people across the United States, and he suggested adding a landlord and tenant division to the committee's bylaws.

Thereupon, Councilmember Sheffield made a **motion** to table the item until the end of the meeting. Councilmember Miller seconded the motion. Mayor Heggins, Mayor Pro Tem Post, and Councilmembers Alexander, Miller, and Sheffield voted AYE. (5-0)

Mayor Heggins provided Council a list of proposed members from the HAC, HRC, and CDC for the Fair Housing Committee.

Mayor Heggins shared the proposed members are for informational purposes only.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Heggins opened the floor to receive public comments.

Mr. Ames Simmons shared he is a transgender male and policy director at Equality North Carolina, a state advocacy organization for lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer North Carolinians. He thanked Mayor and Council for the Transgender Proclamation because of the message it sends to transgender people that Salisbury is a community that values and cares about its citizens.

Ms. Daphni Sciortino shared she is a transgender woman and small business owner in Salisbury. She thanked the community for welcoming her and transgender people.

Ms. Donna Odrosky commended everyone who helped make the Tis' the Season Spectacular Christmas Parade a success. She shared she is a member of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) and looks forward to a holiday parade for years to come.

Mr. Kim Porter expressed he is a member the Truth, Healing, Hope and Equality Commission, a group that engages in the community and raises issues when needed. He noted the group supports the Fair Housing Committee.

Ms. Melissa Summer commented she is a member of the Thelma Smith Foundation Center South Branch, and she shared there is a serious need in the community for housing.

Mr. Mike-o Martelli shared he is a member of Truth, Healing, Hope and Equality Commission and agrees with the need of a balanced and diversified Fair Housing Committee.

Ms. Samirah White stated she is a member of the A'yanna Allen Bible Study Team, Night Crawlers, and Fight for our City Boxing Club, and she asked Council if funds were available to reopen the \$2 cinema and skate rink. She expressed a need to install speed bumps on Celebration Drive in the Forest Creek neighborhood to help reduce speeds in the area.

There being no one else to address Council, Mayor Heggins closed the public comment session.

## **BIKE SHARE UPDATE**

City Engineer Wendy Brindle presented Council with an update regarding bike share programs. She explained the request originated when former Planning Director Janet Gapen and former Development Services Manager Preston Mitchell were employed with the City. She shared



the use of bicycles and scooters, both dockless and with docking stations, has created difficulties in other cities that they were not prepared to face.

Ms. Brindle explained City Code does not include information to regulate bike share programs. She requested guidance from Council on how to move forward regarding the development of an Ordinance. She reviewed an ordinance was adopted by Durham in 2017.

Councilmember Miller asked if any Commissions within the City could help with this program to avoid a debate. City Manager Lane Bailey expressed concern regarding the review of a bike share program going to a committee. He asked Council if it would like a draft Ordinance to see the process for bike share programs in other communities. He commented Council could share with Ms. Brindle any specific concerns they may have regarding this issue.

Mayor Heggins asked if Council could review the information prior to the Council meeting and send questions to Ms. Brindle to avoid a debate.

City Attorney Graham Corriher explained the Ordinance can include other options and information of what other municipalities are doing regarding bike share programs.

Mayor Pro Tem Post noted he would like to receive information regarding bike share programs from other municipalities.

Councilmember Sheffield shared her concern regarding safety issues due to cities not having an Ordinance in place, and she added the Ordinance should be welcoming. She noted information regarding what other municipalities are doing would help with the preparation of an Ordinance.

Councilmember Alexander stated she supports having a study of bike share programs and concerns regarding safety issues.

Ms. Brindle indicated she and Mr. Corriher will continue working on the draft Ordinance. She noted once the draft is complete it will be brought to Council for its consideration.

Mayor Pro Tem Post asked if the City has a cycling Ordinance in place. Ms. Brindle noted the City does not have a cycling Ordinance in place, but cyclist are required to follow State laws. She added staff is researching cycling information in conjunction with the proposed bike share Ordinance.

Ms. Brindle indicated she will have a proposed Ordinance at the second meeting in January and a draft for Council to review in between the January meetings.

Mr. Bailey shared the Technical Review Committee (TRC) could possibly be available to assist with the review process of the proposed Ordinance.

Ms. Brindle commented the TRC meets once a month, and she noted she will coordinate with TRC to get the item on its schedule for review.

Mayor Heggins asked for clarification regarding a refined document being made available to Council. She asked Ms. Brindle if she knew when a refined document could be presented to the TRC. Ms. Brindle commented staff could prepare information to present to the TRC at its December meeting.

By consensus, Council agreed Ms. Brindle would provide a proposed Ordinance regarding a bike share program.

## **RECESS**

Mayor Heggins made a **motion** to take a five minute recess. All Councilmembers in attendance agreed unanimously to recess.

The meeting reconvened at 6:36 p.m.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

### (a) Update – Fibrant

City Manager Lane Bailey provided an update to Council regarding the transition from Fibrant to Hotwire Communications. He introduced Hotwire Executive Vice President Max Kipfer and Vice President of Network Infrastructure and Engineering Mike Grandizio. He recognized Project Manager Barry King who is working closely with Hotwire during the transition and provides regular updates to City Attorney Graham Corriher.

Mr. Kipfer stated the transition from Fibrant to Fision is a work in progress, and he noted adjustments are being made on a daily basis. He introduced Senior Network Engineer Bob Ketterhagen, Community Development Manager Katelin Rice, Fision Educator Tess Moore, and Account Manager Christopher Pagan who were in the audience. He added Mr. Grandizio will serve as General Manager for Hotwire Communications in the City.

Mr. Kipfer reviewed products offered by Fision that include enhanced video features. He stated Fision provides best in class Wi-Fi and is very excited to introduce its services to the City's subscriber base.

Mr. Kipfer noted the first step in the transformation was to upgrade technology and electronics in the data center which includes equipment from the original installation. He pointed out infrastructure work was completed in the data center. He stated bandwidth in the data center has been increased and an additional Simulsat satellite dish has been installed. He added the outside plant elements have been enhanced to accommodate new products.

Mr. Kipfer stated the Hotwire Network Operation Center is connected to the Salisbury plant for continuous monitoring. He noted a market survey has been completed, and he pointed out being competitive is critical to the overall business plan. He indicated the Internet Protocol

Television (IPTV) Media room platform is active and approximately 10% of the current video customers have switched to the new platform. He added during the transition large groups of people will be converted at the same time to increase productivity, and he commented the process should take three to four months to complete.

Mr. Kipfer explained the last step in the transition is to finalize the home conversion process to determine what is needed at each location. He noted Hotwire employees in the call center and network operation center received training regarding Fibrant and its products.

Mr. Kipfer stated the billing conversion, which began September 21, 2018, is complete. He explained customers received their first bill from Hotwire in September and have since received two additional bills. He indicated Hotwire has a payment center located in the Customer Service Center where customers can make payments.

Mr. Kipfer noted the salisbury.fision.com website has been launched and rebranding is taking place to properly identify employees, vehicles and building signage. He added the next step is to launch a public relations campaign and begin advertising to the general public.

Mr. Kipfer indicated future plans include possibly moving the Hotwire walk-in facility downtown so it will not be in the same location where the City receives its payments.

Mr. Kipfer stated Hotwire has been very involved in the community. He reviewed enhancements and products that will be available in January including Wi-Fi solutions and self-management customer apps. He then reviewed premium plus features including advanced parental control options and voice control remotes. He indicated a mobile customer service app will help customers manage accounts and provide community information. He referenced Fision Go, a mobile video platform that allows users to access their TV through a tablet or mobile phone. He also referenced a City of Salisbury Community App that will be available to the City to provide messaging to residents.

Ms. Moore provided a demonstration of Fision products and services.

Mr. Kipfer stated Hotwire is working with customers to transition equipment to the new system.

Councilmember Miller asked when Fibrant customers who transitioned to Fision will receive their new equipment. Mr. Kipfer explained the transition should take three to four months to complete, and he noted one of the biggest challenges is getting customers to respond to the request to update their equipment. He added employees are working by cabinet to keep the work in the same area and increase efficiency. He indicated notices have been sent to encourage customers to schedule an appointment.

Mayor Pro Tem Post noted Fibrant customers are asking about Fibrant email accounts. Mr. Kipfer stated Fibrant email addresses will be maintained for six months to one year and Hotwire staff will work with customers to migrate email addresses to alternative email methods. Mayor

Pro Tem Post asked about an email platform. Mr. Kipfer noted Hotwire has an email platform, and he explained email addresses are a significant business expense.

Mr. Kipfer indicated the auto-pay information did not carry over from Fibrant and approximately 900 customers had to re-register for the program. He added email addresses did not originally transition making it difficult to set up auto-pay. He stated items that did not transfer correctly during the transition are being addressed.

Mayor Heggins thanked Mr. Kipfer for his presentation.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

City Planner Kyle Harris and Human Relations Manager Anne Little presented Council two versions of the Resolution of Intent to Establish a Fair Housing Committee.

Mr. Harris presented Council the first document which stated, "it is the intent of the City Council that the members be representatives of the community and maintain a fair and balanced diversity of perspectives."

Mr. Harris presented Council a second document with a paragraph revision. He noted the content was sourced from a separate document relating to the planning and guidance to create a balanced committee and stated, "City Council enjoys flexibility appointing at-large members that will represent to the greatest extent possible in a balanced manner all of those in the City with interest and experience and knowledge about housing issues including landlords, tenants, homeowners, and realtors but, also including disadvantaged and unrepresented populations who might otherwise be excluded."

Mayor Heggins asked that the word "and" be changed to the word "or" to clarify a person not be restricted to meet all three requirements.

Councilmember Miller suggested the revision read, "City Council enjoys flexibility appointing at-large members to represent to the greatest extent possible in a balanced manner all of those in the City with interest, experience or knowledge about housing issues."

Ms. Little asked if the second document is the preference of the Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Post commented he prefers the first version because it is more inclusive. Councilmember Alexander commented she also prefers the first version for similar reasons.

Councilmember Miller commented he supports including the words "landlord" and "tenant" to include the entire community and all perspectives.

Councilmember Alexander asked if the proposed members include landlords and tenants. Councilmember Miller agreed and noted there could be more opportunities for input.

Mayor Heggins asked if Councilmember Miller's desire is to include input and suggestions from both landlords and tenants as the committee begins to do its work. Councilmember Miller agreed.

Mayor Heggins expressed the importance of experience and qualifications when reviewing applications. Mayor Pro Tem Post commented bylaw criteria could be included in the document where landlord and tenants are mentioned. Mayor Heggins commented bylaws are created after a committee is formed.

Councilmember Alexander asked if the words, "maintains a fair and balance diversity of perspective" includes landlord and tenants, and she noted the majority of housing providers are landlords.

Councilmember Miller referenced a public comment made regarding landlords being a part of the fair housing issue. He suggested including landlords in conversations and noted diversity means to accept input beyond a particular scope.

Mayor Heggins asked Council which version of the Resolution it desires. By consensus, Council agreed on the first version of the Resolution.

Thereupon, Councilmember Sheffield made a **motion** to adopt amendments relating to the Resolution of Intent Establishing a Fair Housing Steering Committee. Mayor Pro Tem Post seconded the motion. Mayor Heggins, Mayor Pro Tem Post, and Councilmembers Alexander, Miller, and Sheffield voted AYE. (5-0)

#### RESOLUTION OF INTENT ESTABLISHING A FAIR HOUSING COMMITTEE

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 15 at Page No. 60 and 61, and is known as Resolution 2018-38.)

Mayor Heggins thanked staff for their work on this Resolution, and she commented she believes the City is moving in the right direction.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communications Director Linda McElroy announced the fifth installment of Chit, Chat & Chew, a series of town hall meetings, will be held Thursday, December 6, 2018 at Fire Station #4 located at 2325 Statesville Boulevard, beginning at 5:15 p.m. The meeting will provide citizens an opportunity to have interactive conversations with Council and staff and to share concerns and ideas for the community. Dinner will be provided.

Communications Director Linda McElroy announced Downtown Salisbury, Inc. will host an event the entire family can enjoy. The day will consist of free rides throughout downtown on antique fire trucks with Santa and the Grinch by your side, craft making, and hot cocoa. The event

will take place Saturday, December 15, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., leaving from City Hall.

Communications Director Linda McElroy announced Parks and Recreation will host New Year's Eve at the Bell Tower Celebration Monday, December 31, 2018. Celebrate the start of 2019 as a community at Salisbury's Historic Bell Tower located at Bell Tower Park. Festivities begin at 9:00 p.m. and will include light refreshments, live video feed from Times Square and the ringing of the bell at midnight. This event is free and open to the public.

Communications Director Linda McElroy announced Council will not hold a second meeting in the month of December. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, January 2, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Sheffield shared she attended the one-year celebration of the Youth Substance Use Prevention Rowan (YSUP Rowan). She explained YSUP Rowan is a coalition of community leaders and students whose mission is to engage the community to prevent and reduce substance abuse among young people. She explained the group was formed with a five-year Federal grant and its goals are to increase collaboration within the community to prevent underage drinking and prescription drug abuse. Councilmember Sheffield added the group is looking to collaborate with the City and County in 2019.

Councilmember Sheffield thanked those in attendance for being welcoming and inclusive.

### **MAYOR PRO TEM COMMENTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Post shared the traditions of the Hanukkah celebration.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Heggins asked that the family of George H.W. Bush be remembered.

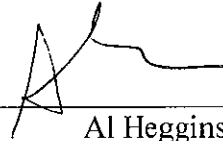
Mayor Heggins asked for the family of A'yanna Allen to be kept in everyone's thoughts and prayers as A'yanna is remembered on the one year anniversary of her death.

Mayor Heggins pointed out it is the one year anniversary of her election to Council, and she expressed her appreciation of Council and staff. She added she is also grateful for the citizens who have remained engaged and embraced the People's House. She shared citizen's input is needed and their voice is important to the process. She pointed out Council is elected by the citizens, and is here to support and listen to them.

Mayor Heggins announced the Mayor's State of the City Address will take place Monday, December 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm and will be streamed on Facebook Live. She shared she will review what Council and staff have accomplished this year and highlight future plans for the City.

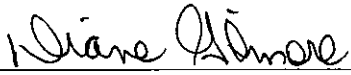
**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilmember Miller. All Council members in attendance agreed unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.



---

Al Heggins, Mayor



---

Diane Gilmore, City Clerk