

Salisbury, North Carolina
April 19, 2016

REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Mayor Karen Kirks Alexander, Presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Maggie A. Blackwell; Council Members Kenneth Hardin, William Brian Miller, and David Post; 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 Councilmember Post. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Alexander at 5:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Alexander noted the following change to the Agenda:

Add — Council to receive a presentation from the Community Job Fair Committee regarding the second Community Job Fair to be held Tuesday, April 26, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Civic Center located at 315 South Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Alexander welcomed all visitors present.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor to proclaim the following observances:

ARBOR DAY	April 30, 2016
BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH	May 2016

RECOGNITION – RETIRING MASTER POLICE OFFICER ALAN WALLER

Interim Police Chief Brian Stallings explained it is customary to offer a retiring officer his or her sidearm, but Officer Waller requested the shotgun he carried his entire career at the Salisbury Police Department. He then presented retiring Master Police Officer Alan Waller with his shot gun.

Mayor Alexander presented Officer Waller with his badge, and thanked him for his outstanding service to the community.

CONSENT AGENDA

(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 5, 2016.

(b) Temporary Art Piece

Adopt a Resolution of support for a temporary art piece, consisting of a decorated piano, on the southwest corner of Innes Street and Main Street.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING TEMPORARY ART INSTALLATION AT INNES AND MAIN STREETS

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 15 at Page No. 11, and is known as Resolution 2016-10)

(c) Budget Ordinance Amendment – Public Art Contributions

Adopt a Budget Ordinance amendment to the FY2015-2016 budget in the amount of \$63,925 to appropriate public arts contributions.

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2015-2016 BUDGET ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA TO APPROPRIATE PUBLIC ART CONTRIBUTIONS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 13, and is known as Ordinance 2016-13)

(d) Budget Ordinance Amendment – Police Department Asset Forfeiture Funds

Second reading to adopt a Budget Ordinance amendment to the FY2015-2016 budget in the amount of \$2,750 to appropriate Police Department Asset Forfeiture funds.

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2015-2016 BUDGET ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA TO APPROPRIATE RESTRICTED FORFEITURE FUNDS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 09, and is known as Ordinance 2016-09)

***It was necessary to have a second reading on the above ordinance due to the lack of an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the City Council required to pass an ordinance at its first reading.*

(e) Temporary Road Closure – Buck Hurley Triathlon

Second reading to adopt an Ordinance declaring a temporary lane closure on Jake Alexander Boulevard beginning at Lincolnton Road and ending on Statesville Boulevard at Brenner Avenue for the Buck Hurley Triathlon to be held Sunday, May 1, 2016 from 6:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

ORDINANCE DECLARING A TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE FOR THE BUCK HURLEY TRIATHLON.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 10, and is known as Ordinance 2016-10)

***It was necessary to have a second reading on the above ordinance due to the lack of an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the City Council required to pass an ordinance at its first reading.*

(f) Temporary Road Closure – Fur Fun 5K Run/Walk for the PAWS

Second reading to adopt an Ordinance declaring a temporary lane closure on Old Concord Road between Monroe Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue for the Fur Fun 5K Run/Walk for the PAWS to be held Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 9:45 a.m. until 11:15 a.m.

ORDINANCE DECLARING A TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE FOR THE FUR FUN 5K RUN/WALK FOR THE PAWS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 11, and is known as Ordinance 2016-11)

***It was necessary to have a second reading on the above ordinance due to the lack of an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the City Council required to pass an ordinance at its first reading.*

(g) Temporary Road Closure – George Washington Parade

Second reading to adopt an Ordinance declaring a temporary road closure on Main Street between Thomas and Fisher Streets for the George Washington Parade to be held Saturday, May 21, 2016 from 10:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

ORDINANCE DECLARING A TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE FOR THE GEORGE WASHINGTON PARADE.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 12, and is known as Ordinance 2016-12)

***It was necessary to have a second reading on the above ordinance due to the lack of an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the City Council required to pass an ordinance at its first reading.*

(h) Amendment – Section 13-336 of the City Code

Adopt a concurring Ordinance with the North Carolina Department of Transportation to amend section 13-336 of the City Code regarding speed limits to correct a reference to Jake Alexander Boulevard.

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13-336, ARTICLE X, CHAPTER 13 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. 14, and is known as Ordinance 2016-14)

(i) Resolution – NC 457 Deferred Compensation Plan

Adopt a Resolution to allow part-time employees to participate in the North Carolina 457 Deferred Compensation Plan.

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW PART-TIME EMPLOYEES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NORTH CAROLINA 457 DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN.

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 15 at Page No. 12, and is known as Resolution 2016-11)

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

COMMUNITY JOB FAIR PRESENTATION

Ms. Dee Dee Wright, Ms. Debbie Davis, and Human Resources Specialist Brianna Price addressed Council regarding the Community Job Fair. Ms. Price noted the Community Job Fair will be held April 26, 2016, at the Civic Center 315 South Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue and is hosted by Rowan-Cabarrus Community College (RCCC), North Carolina Works, and the City of Salisbury.

Ms. Davis explained workshops will be held at the Civic Center prior to the job fair to assist with resume preparation and interview skills. She stated workshop attendees will receive a certificate allowing them to enter the job fair 30 minutes early.

Ms. Wright stated over 50 prospective employers are planning to attend the job fair.

Councilmember Hardin asked if the job fair will follow the same format as last year. Ms. Wright agreed, and she noted a table will be available up for potential employers to conduct on-site interviews.

Mayor Alexander thanked Ms. Wright, Ms. Davis, and Ms. Price for their presentation, and she wished them continued success at the job fair.

POOL HALL PERMIT – MS. JANET NEKOOASL

Salisbury Police Captain Melonie Thompson addressed Council regarding an application for a pool hall permit for Ms. Janet Nekooasl, owner of Break-N-Run Bar and Billiards located at 612 South Main Street.

Capt. Thompson noted a site inspection was conducted March 18, 2016, and the property was found to be clean, sanitary, and facing a public street.

Capt. Thompson stated the establishment is for-profit and will be open Tuesday through Saturday from 3:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. She added Ms. Nekooasl plans to apply for an ABC permit, and a Special Use Permit will be brought before Council. She noted the business will operate three pool tables, and the regulations for operating a pool hall have been explained to Ms. Nekooasl.

(b) Mayor Alexander convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding the issuance of a pool hall permit for Ms. Janet Nekooasl.

Ms. Janet Nekooasl, 612 South Main Street, owner Break-N-Run Bar and Billiards, explained the pool hall will hold American Pool players Association (APA) tournaments. She noted future plans include a restaurant at the location.

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

Councilmember Hardin clarified the facility will be operated under its intended use as a pool hall with the future addition of a restaurant. Ms. Nekooasl agreed.

Councilmember Post asked if alcohol will be served at the location. Ms. Nekooasl stated alcohol will be served, and she noted no one under age 21 will be allowed on the premises.

Mayor Alexander pointed out the facility does not have a permit to serve alcohol at this point. Ms. Nekooasl agreed.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to issue a permit for Ms. Janet Nekooasl to operate a pool hall located at 612 South Main Street. Mr. Hardin seconded the motion. Messrs. Hardin, Miller and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

PROJECTION OVER A PUBLIC ALLEY

City Engineer Wendy Brindle noted staff received a request to allow a projection over a public alley in the 100 block of East Innes Street for The Smoke Pit, located at 115-117 East Innes Street.

Ms. Brindle indicated the projection is allowed in accordance with Section 22-18 of the City Code provided:

- The construction or installation must not 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 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, provided 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 explained the projection is for a kitchen exhaust fan that meets the requirement for Section 22-18 of the City Code. She pointed out in accordance with Section 22-19 of the City Code the petitioner must 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 projection.

Ms. Brindle stated the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) approved the encroachment at its April 14, 2016 meeting, and staff recommends approval in accordance with Sections 22-18 and 22-19 of the City Code, pending receipt of the letter from the petitioner.

Councilmember Post asked if the petitioner has an insurance policy to hold the City harmless regarding the proposed alley projection. Councilmember Miller explained the petitioner accepts responsibility for the projection through the letter. Mr. Post then asked if the City is relying on the tenant and the property owner to hold the City harmless, or if there is an insurance policy in case a situation arises. Ms. Brindle stated the City does not require an insurance policy for an alley projection. Mayor Alexander pointed out the petitioner has met the City's requirements to allow the projection. Ms. Brindle deferred the question to City Attorney Rivers Lawther.

Mr. Lawther noted the request before Council is to install the projection. He explained the letter prevents the petitioner from holding the City at fault in case of an incident. Mr. Miller noted there has never been an incident regarding an alley projection.

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to approve a projection over a public alley located at 115-117 East Innes Street in accordance with Sections 22-18 and 22-19 of the City Code subject to the receipt of the hold harmless letter. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

PARKING – OVERMAN AVENUE

Traffic Engineering Coordinator Vickie Eddleman explained the item before Council includes two requests. She noted the first request would limit parking along Overman Avenue from Brenner Avenue to West Innes Street. She presented Council with a petition showing 62 percent support from area property owners for the parking restrictions.

Ms. Eddleman explained the second request would prohibit parking along Walker Street, which runs perpendicular to Overman Avenue. She indicated the petitioner from Walker Street also requested parking restrictions on Overman Avenue, but another petitioner had already made the request. She noted two petitions were circulated through the community, and both petitions were returned within the week.

Ms. Eddleman stated there are approximately 23 unmarked parking spaces along Overman Avenue, and she noted the request would change the all-day parking to two-hour parking from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. with no parking restrictions on Sunday. She explained there are approximately five unmarked parking spaces along Walker Street, and the request before Council

would prohibit parking at all times. She added the neighborhood is concerned because vehicles are parked for extended periods creating problems for the neighboring Church, residents, and a local business owner.

Councilmember Hardin asked for clarification regarding support for the petition. Ms. Eddleman explained 62 percent of area property owners supported the Overman Avenue petition. Mr. Hardin asked why the support was not higher. Ms. Eddleman noted the petitioner seeks the signatures. Councilmember Miller asked about the threshold for a petition to pass. Ms. Eddleman stated a petition requires over 50 percent support from the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell noted there are rentals in the area, and she pointed out it can be difficult to get support from landlords who may not live in the area.

Mr. Hardin asked if the vehicles are from employees at the VA Hospital. Ms. Blackwell explained if the request is approved drivers will be required to park in the VA parking lot which may be further from their destination. Mayor Alexander pointed out the VA Hospital has adequate parking for patients and employees.

Mr. Hardin noted the City would be responsible for parking enforcement. He pointed out parking patrols take police officers away from street patrol. Ms. Eddleman explained the neighbors will report parking violations to the Police Department who has officers assigned to the neighborhood.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article X, of the Code of the City of Salisbury, relating to parking limited to two hours and parking prohibited at all times. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Miller and Post, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. Mr. Hardin voted NAY. (4-1)

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE X, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, RELATING TO PARKING LIMITED TO TWO HOURS AND PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 15, and is known as Ordinance 2016-15)

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Human Relations Council

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 Human Relations Council to fill an unexpired term:

Mr. Justin Walker

Term Expires 03/31/17

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Upon a motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Hardin, and with Mr. Post and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voting AYE, the following appointment was made to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to fill an unexpired term:

Mr. Jerry Lawson

Term Expires 03/31/17

Planning Board

Upon a motion by Ms. Blackwell, seconded by Mr. Post, and with Messrs. Hardin and Miller, and Ms. Alexander voting AYE, the following appointment was made to the Planning Board:

Mr. Dennis Lunsford

Term Expires 03/31/19

Transportation Advisory Board

Upon a motion by Ms. Blackwell, seconded by Mr. Hardin, and with Messrs. Miller and Post, and Ms. Alexander voting AYE, the following appointment was made to the Transportation Advisory Board:

Ms. Tammara Walker

Term Expires 03/31/19

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Alexander opened the floor for public comment.

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

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

(a) Council Goals and Objectives for FY2016-2017

City Manager Lane Bailey noted he presented Council with Goals and Objectives for FY2016-2017 at its meeting on April 5, 2016. He noted the Goals and Objectives for FY2016-2017 include:

- Improve the quality of life and livability in Salisbury
- Implement planning initiatives and improve pedestrian safety for all areas of the City
- Provide quality water and wastewater services to Rowan County that protect the environment, promote public health, improve the quality of life, support planned growth and maintain public trust

- Provide reliable, competitive, sustainable broadband infrastructure for our community with a focus on exceeding customer expectations
- Maintain financial accountability and sustainability
- Improve organizational transparency
- Create a culture of excellent customer service to improve service delivery to our citizens

Thereupon, Mr. Post made a **motion** to adopt Council's Goals and Objectives for FY2016-2017. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Hardin, Miller, and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. Mr. Hardin voted NAY. (5-0)

Councilmember Miller asked Mr. Bailey to include quarterly Goals and Objective updates in his comments. Mr. Bailey agreed.

Mr. Bailey noted a draft of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) will be presented to Council Thursday, April 21, 2016, and he commented it could assist with budget preparation.

(b) Third Quarter Financial Update

City Manager Lane Bailey asked Financial Services Director Teresa Harris to present the third quarter financial update.

Ms. Harris referenced property tax values for the third quarter and she noted \$2.782 million is budgeted, \$2.633 million had been billed, and \$2.865 million is projected to be billed which is over the budgeted amount and will create additional property tax revenue for the City.

Ms. Harris reviewed the sales tax receipts, and she noted the receipts are above the projected amount and continue to rise. She stated the City received two distributions from the state franchise tax for \$1.5 million, and she pointed out the state franchise tax is budgeted at \$2.6 million. She indicated the third state franchise tax distribution will take place in June, and the fourth distribution will be accrued.

Ms. Harris stated General Fund revenue is at 72 percent, or \$29,432,659 of the projected \$40,890,125 received, and 62 percent, or \$25,391,139, expended. She pointed out some of the budgeted expenditures were for grants, and she explained if the City does not start the grant project it will not receive the revenue. She added there are several Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) engineering grants scheduled for the current fiscal year.

Ms. Harris reviewed the budget verses actual and variance for each department. She pointed out the Fibrant costs that are included in the General Fund:

	Actual	Budget	Variance
General Fund			
City Council	\$208,768	\$290,112	\$81,344
Human Resources	\$1,070,020	\$1,762,681	\$692,661
Plaza	\$154,295	\$202,291	\$47,996
Financial Services	\$769,005	\$1,244,749	\$475,744
Police	\$4,747,000	\$7,211,354	\$2,464,354
Fire	\$3,808,948	\$5,325,847	\$1,516,899
Telecommunications	\$554,549	\$728,983	\$174,434
Parks & Recreation	\$1,648,786	\$2,521,857	\$873,071
Transfer to Transit Fund	\$348,661	\$465,322	\$116,661
Education	\$28,580	\$38,107	\$9,527
Debt Service	\$943,955	\$1,290,624	\$346,669
Nondepartmental Reserved	\$0	\$1,120,393	\$1,120,393
Management & Administration	\$581,816	\$721,823	\$140,007
Fibrant Costs	\$58,487	\$53,500	-\$4,987
Total	\$640,303	\$775,323	\$135,020
Public Information/Marketing	\$210,887	\$335,975	\$125,088
Fibrant Costs	\$57,470	\$89,220	\$31,750
Total	\$268,357	\$425,195	\$156,838
	Actual		Variance
Community Planning Services			
Planning/Community Development	\$1,211,259	\$1,758,146	\$546,887
Development Services	\$588,786	\$972,511	\$383,725
Code Services	\$153,673	\$279,814	\$126,141
Total	\$1,953,718	\$3,010,471	\$1,056,753
Infrastructure Services			
Information Technologies	\$1,168,529	\$1,676,839	\$508,310
Business Services	\$295,868	\$442,310	\$146,442
Infrastructure Management	\$74,506	\$195,435	\$120,929
Fibrant Costs	\$2,195,792	\$2,606,466	\$410,674
Total	\$3,734,695	\$4,921,050	\$1,186,355

Engineering			
Engineering	\$748,343	\$3,764,031	\$3,015,688
Street Lighting	\$370,531	\$568,276	\$197,745
Facilities Maintenance	\$105,572	\$153,646	\$48,074
Central City Buildings	\$346,717	\$441,926	\$95,209
Total	<u>\$1,571,163</u>	<u>\$4,927,879</u>	<u>\$3,356,716</u>
Public Services (P/S)			
P/S Administration	\$170,392	\$246,668	\$76,276
P/S Streets	\$911,189	\$1,871,408	\$960,219
P/S Solid Waste Management	\$931,352	\$1,338,639	\$407,287
P/S Waste Management-Other	\$323,140	\$341,917	\$18,777
P/S Fleet Management	\$604,263	\$829,255	\$224,992
Total	<u>\$2,940,336</u>	<u>\$4,627,887</u>	<u>\$1,687,551</u>
Total General Fund	<u>\$25,391,139</u>	<u>\$40,890,125</u>	<u>\$15,498,986</u>
Fibrant Costs in General Fund	<u>\$2,311,749</u>	<u>\$2,749,186</u>	<u>\$437,437</u>
General Fund Capital Reserve Fund	\$1,997,594	\$2,489,593	\$491,999
Fibrant Costs	\$140,660	\$234,723	\$94,063
Total	<u>\$2,138,254</u>	<u>\$2,724,316</u>	<u>\$586,062</u>
Fibrant Costs in General Fund/General Fund Capital Reserve	<u>\$2,452,409</u>	<u>\$2,983,909</u>	<u>\$531,500</u>

Ms. Harris pointed out Fibrant costs in the General Fund/General Fund Capital Reserve of nearly \$2.5 million for the third quarter, an increase of approximately \$600,000 from the second quarter.

Ms. Harris reviewed the Water and Sewer Fund revenue for the third quarter and the monthly usage trend. She explained Water and Sewer Fund revenue is at 79 percent received, or \$18,106,270, of the budgeted \$22,776,024. She noted the Water and Sewer Fund is 61 percent expended, or \$14,007,025.

Ms. Harris then reviewed the Water and Sewer fund and the Water and Sewer Capital Reserve Fund:

Water and Sewer Fund

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Administration	\$3,306,922	\$4,760,966	\$1,454,044
Water Treatment	\$1,497,727	\$2,499,209	\$1,001,482
Systems Maintenance	\$2,352,300	\$4,669,018	\$2,316,718
Environmental Services	\$384,766	\$604,509	\$219,743
Wastewater Treatment	\$2,668,504	\$4,295,213	\$1,626,709
Meter Services	\$469,722	\$725,345	\$255,623
Debt Service	\$3,327,084	\$5,221,764	\$1,894,680
Total	<u>\$14,007,025</u>	<u>\$22,776,024</u>	<u>\$8,768,999</u>

Water and Sewer Capital Reserved Fund

	<u>\$205,843</u>	<u>\$385,911</u>	<u>\$180,068</u>
--	------------------	------------------	------------------

Ms. Harris referenced the Fibrant customers billed through the third quarter, and she noted 3,551 customers were billed during March. She pointed out a decrease in March due to cutoffs for nonpayment. She added the average revenues per user/account (ARPU/ARPA) is more than Time Warner Cable and less than Verizon. She reviewed Fibrant Fund revenues verses expenditures for the third quarter. She pointed out revenues were at \$4,897,554 and expenditures were at \$4,955,959, and she noted a debt service payment was made in the third quarter. She indicated the debt payment for the interfund loan to the Water-Sewer Fund of \$100,000 will be made in the fourth quarter.

Councilmember Hardin asked for clarification regarding the trend for Fibrant customers billed. Ms. Harris explained the trends are determined by sales staff including how many customers are added to the utility and how many customers are cut-off.

Ms. Harris reviewed the Broadband Fund by department:

Broadband Fund

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Programming	\$1,248,528	\$2,223,318	\$974,790
Broadband Systems	\$202,434	\$241,394	\$38,960
Service Delivery	\$486,380	\$1,205,120	\$718,730
Debt Service	\$3,018,607	\$3,121,218	\$102,611
Total	<u>\$4,955,959</u>	<u>\$6,791,050</u>	<u>\$1,835,091</u>

Ms. Harris explained Transit fare revenues are at 75 percent, or \$60,370, of the budgeted \$80,100, and expenditures are at 44 percent, or \$736,620, of the budgeted \$1,682,396 for the third quarter. She reviewed the Mass Transit Fund:

Mass Transit Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Operations	\$253,233	\$696,037	\$442,804
Administration	\$219,794	\$327,067	\$107,273
Capital	\$263,593	\$659,292	\$395,699
Total	<u>\$736,620</u>	<u>\$1,682,396</u>	<u>\$945,776</u>

Ms. Harris reviewed Stormwater revenues for the third quarter. She noted revenue is at 75 percent billed, or \$936,183, of the budgeted \$1,246,200 and expenditures are at 56 percent, or \$703,161. She pointed out Stormwater has a 96 percent collection rate. She noted the Stormwater Fund:

Stormwater Fund

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Administration & Engineering	\$353,357	\$620,912	\$267,555
Street Cleaning	\$111,381	\$272,706	\$161,325
Storm Drainage	\$81,845	\$157,010	\$75,165
Leaf Collection	\$156,578	\$195,572	\$38,994
Total	<u>\$703,161</u>	<u>\$1,246,200</u>	<u>\$543,039</u>
Stormwater Capital Reserve Fund	<u>\$90,950</u>	<u>\$93,384</u>	<u>\$2,434</u>

Councilmember Post stated budget versus actual typically compares the same time periods. He asked if the budget could be prepared so Council can review the current budget with the numbers from the same time in the previous year. Ms. Harris explained the General Fund is a conglomeration of businesses and is budgeted on an annual basis because the revenue stream is not consistent and expenses can depend on projects.

Mr. Post asked if more tax revenue is received in the fall. Mr. Bailey stated the City receives more tax revenue in January. Ms. Harris added the City receives vehicle property tax throughout the year.

Mr. Post pointed out the Water Sewer fund had a material difference in the debt service payment and the budgeted amount. Ms. Harris explained the payment is made biannually and can consist of interest only or principal and interest. She noted the debt is paid near the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Post clarified the \$2 to \$3 million payment to the Water Sewer Fund will be made in the next several months.

Councilmember Miller stated he examines revenues in the different accounts to make sure it exceeds expenses. He added the financial information presented to Council is getting better, and there is better Fibrant disclosure. He asked Mr. Bailey about the financial work being done with each department to track expenditures. Mr. Bailey explained staff reviews monthly expenditures by line item, and then it reviews the budget with each department.

Mr. Post stated expenses are down. He pointed out the City is short 12 police officers and once those positions are filled the expense will return. Mr. Bailey noted he has used savings from the vacant positions to increase compensation for police officers. He explained when the vacant positions are filled, additional funding will be required to compensate for salary increases.

Mr. Miller asked for an update regarding the search for a Police Chief. Mr. Bailey noted over 50 applications were received from across the country. He stated the applications were reviewed and the field was narrowed to approximately 12 applicants. He explained Skype interviews will be scheduled in the next few weeks and follow-up interviews will be conducted in May.

Councilmember Hardin asked if the interviews would be handled by an interview team. Mr. Bailey noted he will be conducting the interviews along with Assistant City Manager Zack Kyle and Investigative Security Services (ISS) who assisted the City with background searches. He commented ISS may be included in the interview panel, but they have not been in charge of recruitment.

Mr. Miller pointed out the City is moving forward with its plans for the future of the Police Department and selecting a Police Chief is a critical step. Mayor Alexander added the new Police Chief will be involved in the selection of police officers.

Mr. Hardin asked how the peer groups used to benchmark Fibrant are selected. Mr. Miller explained when the utility was implemented Council requested data that compares Fibrant to area broadband utilities. He noted Time Warner Cable and Verizon's financial data is readily available. Ms. Harris commented it is difficult to find information for smaller regional companies, and she explained the data is taken from online published reports. Mr. Post pointed out the ARPU for Time Warner Cable and Verizon are national averages and includes large cities.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell requested copies of the presentation for Council.

COUNCIL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Salisbury Firefighter Wesley Jackson

Councilmember Hardin recognized Salisbury Firefighter Wesley Jackson who enjoys his job and the leadership at the Fire Department.

(b) Hanford Dole

Councilmember Hardin stated he was invited to Hanford Dole Elementary School to speak with 3rd graders regarding the political process.

(c) Breakfast with Elected Officials

Councilmember Hardin noted he attended a breakfast with two County Commissioners and other elected officials. He stated Chairman Edds questioned if elected officials should use their position to push conversations within the community. He pointed out more shootings have taken place and citizens are concerned. He stated the community must step up to stop the violence, and he added citizens cannot expect police or City representatives to solve all the community issues. He stated the community must get involved and work with law enforcement.

Mayor Alexander added the community must work with the Police Department to solve crimes and make the City safer.

Councilmember Post noted when the two brothers were shot at JC Price Legion Price, neither the brother that survived or the mother would share information with law enforcement.

(d) Broadband Summit

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell stated she and Councilmember Post recently attended a Broadband City Summit in Austin, Texas. She pointed out successful broadband cities have used incentives to lure businesses, and have built an economic infrastructure that can take advantage of their broadband utility. She added it is time for the City to offer incentives to companies that can use Fibrant.

Councilmember Post noted public private/partnerships that make the most of Fibrant are critical to its success, and he pointed out if the City did not have a broadband it would be at a competitive disadvantage. He stated the City should focus on pricing and utility costs.

Mayor Alexander indicated marketing Fibrant has been a top priority for Council, City Manager Lane Bailey, and staff. She noted the City is meeting with consultants to develop an overall strategy for the utility.

MAYOR 'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Community Job Fair

Mayor Alexander announced Rowan-Cabarrus Community College and the City of Salisbury will host the second Community Job Fair to be held Tuesday, April 26, 2016 from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Civic Center located at 315 South Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue. The North Carolina Works Career Center will host workshops prior to the Job Fair on Thursday, April 21, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and Friday, April 22, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. until noon to provide resume assistance and interview success techniques.

(b) “Purpose”

Mayor Alexander announced the City of Salisbury, in conjunction with Downtown Salisbury, Inc., is excited to welcome the filming of “Purpose,” a film centered on a fictitious bus-stop along the newly revitalized East Fisher Street. In order to accommodate the production East Fisher Street will be closed on various Sunday mornings from 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. The closings will officially begin April 10, 2016 and take place through late August. Specific dates will be provided to residents and businesses in advance. Please visit the City of Salisbury Facebook page or the Purpose Movie Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

(c) Housing Workshop

Mayor Alexander announced the Salisbury Housing Advocacy Commission and the Human Relations Council will hold a housing workshop Thursday, April 28, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center, 315 South Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue. Dr. Love Crossling, Human Relations Director for the City of Greensboro will be the guest speaker and dinner will be provided. To register for this free event please call Diana Moghrabi at (704) 638-5242.

(d) All American City Award

Mayor Alexander announced the City of Salisbury has been named a finalist for the National Civic League’s 2016 All-American City Award, along with 20 other municipalities across the United States, only 10 of which will be named an official All-America City. The Salisbury application features three programs that focus on the well-being of children at home and at school. The programs include the Norvell Theatre, the Knox Co-Principals program and Fit for Motion through Novant Health and the Rowan County YMCA. The Salisbury delegation will travel to Denver, Colorado in June to make its formal presentation in front of the National Civic League judges. We invite all members of the community to support this initiative. Being named as an All-America City is not just an honor for a city, but it is an opportunity to grow our economy by attracting new businesses, boosting civic engagement and increasing tourism.

Councilmember Miller stated the City applied for the All American City award in 1961, and he noted it generated civic engagement and an excitement in the community. He asked if the City could leverage the experience from 1961 to build momentum for the City’s current All American City application.

Mayor Alexander stated the 20 member Steering Committee is working to build momentum for the City’s All American City application. Communications Director Linda McElroy explained the City has a strategic plan to reach citizens, and will also use social media, and billboards. She added staff will do all it can to engage residents and is planning a send-off to be held in June before the trip to Denver, Colorado.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Alexander requested Council go into a closed session concerning a personnel matter and as allowed by NCGS143-318.11(a)(6).

Thereupon, Mr. Miller made a **motion** to go into closed session concerning a personnel matter and as allowed by NCGS143-318.11(a)(6). Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Hardin, Miller and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

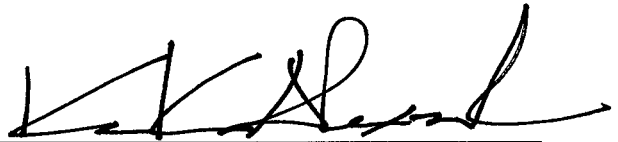
Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** for Council to return to open session. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Hardin, Miller and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

RECESS

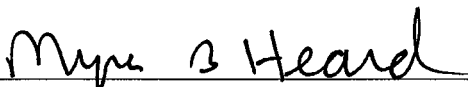
Mayor Alexander asked for a motion to recess the meeting until Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at 1 Water Street.

Thereupon, Mr. Post made a **motion** to recess the meeting until Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at 1 Water Street. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Hardin, Miller and Post, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

The meeting was recessed at 7:15 p.m.



Karen Kirks Alexander, Mayor



Myra B. Heard, City Clerk