REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Mayor Paul B. Woodson, Jr., Presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Maggie A. Blackwell; Council Members Karen Kirks Alexander, and William (Pete) Kennedy; City Manager W. Lane Bailey; City Clerk Myra B. Heard, and City Attorney F. Rivers Lawther, Jr.

ABSENT: Council Member William Brian Miller.

Salisbury City Council met in Council Chambers in City Hall located at 217 South Main Street. The invocation was given by Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Woodson at 4:00 p.m.

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.

RECOGNITION – RICHARD KELLY

Mayor Woodson recognized Risk Manager Richard Kelly for his upcoming retirement after 38 years of service to the City. He read a Resolution honoring Mr. Kelly.
Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** to adopt a Resolution honoring Richard L. Kelly. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

RESOLUTION HONORING RICHARD L. KELLY.

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 15 at Page No. 21, and is known as Resolution 2015-18)

Councilmember Alexander thanked Mr. Kelly for working with her during her transition to Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell added Mr. Kelly responds immediately to safety issues. She thanked Mr. Kelly for his dedication and many years of service to the City.

Councilmember Kennedy explained he serves on the Board of Trustees for the League of Municipalities Risk Management Services. He commented he always sought Mr. Kelly’s advice when a major policy was being considered. He stated Mr. Kelly is known throughout the State for his knowledge and expertise. He wished Mr. Kelly the best in retirement.

City Clerk Myra Heard thanked Mr. Kelly for his dedication, professionalism, and strong work ethic.

Mayor Woodson indicated he has worked with Mr. Kelly for 18 years, and he thanked him for all he has done for the City.

City Manager Lane Bailey thanked Mr. Kelly for his timely response to safety issues. He stated the City Managers Safety Award recognizes department excellence in safety, and he explained the award has been renamed the Richard L. Kelly Safety Award to recognized Mr. Kelly’s contribution to the City. He then presented the Richard L. Kelly Safety Award to Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Kelly stated he enjoyed his work at the City. He noted City Manager Emeritus David Treme brought a work ethic and philosophy that changed the City and celebrated customer service.

Mayor Woodson then presented Mr. Kelly with a Key to the City. He thanked Mr. Kelly for his service to the City, and he wished him the best in retirement.

**PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Woodson proclaimed the following observance:

CONSTITUTION WEEK  September 17-23, 2015
CONSENT AGENDA

(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 25, 2015 and the Regular Meeting of September 1, 2015.

(b) Budget Ordinance Amendment – Police Donations

Adopt a Budget ORDINANCE amendment to the FY2015-2016 budget in the amount of $13,000 to appropriate various Police donations.

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2015-2016 BUDGET ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA TO APPROPRIATE VARIOUS POLICE DONATIONS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 69, and is known as Ordinance 2015-32)

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

FY2014-2015 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PLANNING AND EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER)

Community Planning Services Director Janet Gapen addressed Council regarding the FY2014-2015 Consolidated Annual Planning and Evaluation Report (CAPER). She stated the CAPER is a performance report for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME program funds the City receives from the United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for housing and neighborhood revitalization.

Ms. Gapen explained CDBG funds are allocated annually. She added the City is classified as an entitlement community based upon the poverty level and other factors. She commented HUD uses a formula to determine the amount of funding the City receives. She noted the City participates in a consortium of counties and cities that receives HOME program funds and then distributes the funds within the consortium.

Ms. Gapen pointed out in FY2014-2015 the City received over $417,000, including $311,749 in CDBG funding and $105,875 in HOME program funds. She added funds come back into the program through homes that are purchased, rehabilitated, and sold. She indicated in FY2014-2015 there was an estimated income of $35,000.
Ms. Gapen explained the City has worked with the Salisbury Community Development Corporation (CDC) for 17 years to administer the programs and address housing issues. She noted in FY2014-2015 the housing programs focused on owner-occupied rehabilitation. She pointed out there is a greater need for owner-occupied rehabilitation among low to moderate income homeowners since the recession.

Ms. Gapen stated home rehabilitation projects were completed in Park Avenue, Green Hills, Chestnut Hill, West End, West Square, and the East Side.

Ms. Gapen reviewed FY2014-2015 accomplishments, and she pointed out 34 citizens participated in the Homeownership Education Program:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total Dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreclosure Prevention Counseling Grant</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeownership Classes</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreclosure Prevention Fund</td>
<td>$62,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Foreclosure and Mitigation Counseling</td>
<td>$28,650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ms. Gapen noted 15 percent of Federal funds are allocated for CDBG public services activities for Rowan Helping Ministries, Family Crisis Council, Community Care Clinic, and Salisbury Youth Employment Program. She commented 4,153 people were served through the allocation of CDBG funding.

Ms. Gapen pointed out the former Civic Park Apartments have been renamed Brenner Crossing Apartments. She stated Phase I is nearly complete, and residents are moving in. She added the City contributed part of its HOME program funding to the project in the West End community.

Ms. Gapen indicated citizens can contact Community Planning Services with questions or to request a copy of the detailed report. She added citizen inquiries will be included in the report that is sent to HUD.

(b) Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding the FY2014-2015 Consolidated Annual Planning and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for Community Development Block Grant and HOME programs.

Ms. Whitney Peckman, 120 East Innes Street, asked Council to include a diverse and rotating segment of the minority community in planning sessions pertaining to outreach and homeownership. She indicated many of the poor do not understand fair housing, banking, credit counseling, and home ownership rights. She stated the City should invite people to participate in planning sessions to help them better understand their rights and opportunities that are available.
Ms. Nan Lund, 419 Eastwood Drive, referenced the 2014, Analysis of Impediments of Fair Housing Choice. She noted data collected for that report indicated loan applications were denied at different rates depending on the gender, race, and ethnicity of the applicants as well as the location of the housing unit. She added female applicants were denied on 20.9 percent of their loan applications and males were denied at 18 percent. She indicated black applicants were denied 30.8 percent, white applicants were denied 16.1 percent, Hispanics were denied at 25.4 percent, and non-Hispanic were denied at 18.1 percent. She pointed out of those approved for home purchase loans 16.1 percent were issued with annual percentage rates higher than the market rate. She added black and Hispanic residents received higher interest loans than white or non-Hispanic borrowers, and 34.2 percent of the loans to blacks were high interest loans, three times the interest rate for white borrowers. She stated for Hispanics it was 22.6 percent higher interest rates compared to non-Hispanics at 14.9 percent. Ms. Lund noted there were discrepancies in the small business loans which target the low to moderate income community, as measured by the area median family income. She added many of these loans went to tracts where the median family income was over 120 percent of the area median family income. She commented the Analysis of Impediments of Fair Housing Choice recommended the City contact local lending institutions to discuss low income area investments. She asked if the discussions had taken place and what were the results of the conversations. She requested the community reinvestment documents be examined for each bank to determine where the efforts were most effective.

Mr. Kenneth Fox, 109 East Jackson Street, East Spencer, stated he is concerned about the Analysis of Impediments report and how it pertains to the black community. He noted the demographics of the community are 41 percent black. He stated when dollars intended for low income residents are targeted for middle and upper income residents it is a big problem. He added the impediments are serious, and it looks like corrective action has been taken. He pointed out if HOME program funds are being used for the Brenner Crossing Project it may be a misuse of funds. He added those funds are to go to communities where the median income is 50 percent of the median income and not 120 percent.

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

Ms. Gapen noted staff will begin budget planning for CDBG and HOME program funds in January with community meetings held prior to a public hearing in March. She indicated the public hearing will be noticed in the Salisbury Post.

VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION – THE GABLES AT KEPLEY FARMS PHASES 2A, 3, AND 4

City Engineer Wendy Brindle explained the Gables at Kepley Farms is a residential neighborhood located off of Faith Road outside of the primary City limits. She reviewed the annexation map, and she pointed out Phases 2A, 3, and 4 to be included in the voluntary annexation.
Ms. Brindle indicated the total acreage is 17.69 acres. She noted staff found the voluntary annexation meets North Carolina General Statute requirements for satellite annexation:

- The nearest point on the proposed satellite is not more than three miles from the primary corporate limits of Salisbury
- No point on the proposed satellite is closer to the primary corporate limits of another city than to the primary corporate limits of Salisbury
- The area is situated such that Salisbury will be able to provide the same services within the proposed satellite corporate limits as are provided within the primary corporate limits
- No subdivision, as defined in General Statutes 160A-376, will be fragmented by this proposed annexation

Ms. Brindle noted the annexation will be effective September 15, 2015 to allow the City to accept the streets and the developer to continue work in the development.

(b) Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding the voluntary annexation of The Gables at Kepley Farms, Phases 2A, 3 and 4.

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

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a motion to adopt an Ordinance to extend the corporate limits of the City of Salisbury, North Carolina, to include 17.693 acres, Tax Map 403H Parcels 001, 002, 003, and part of Tax Map 403 Parcel 001, Tax Map 403G Parcels 193-200 and Tax Map 403F Parcel 013, The Gables at Kepley Farms Phases 2A, 3, and 4. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA, TO INCLUDE 17.693 ACRES, TAX MAP 403H PARCELS 001, 002, 003, AND PART OF TAX MAP 403 PARCEL 001, TAX MAP 403G PARCELS 193-200 AND TAX MAP 403F PARCEL 013, THE GABLES AT KEPLEY FARMS PHASES 2A, 3, AND 4.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 70-72, and is known as Ordinance 2015-33)

Councilmember Kennedy asked how many residents will be added to the City through the voluntary annexation. Planning and Development Services Manager Preston Mitchell noted there are 70 lots in phases 3 and 4 of the subdivision.
SPECIAL USE PERMIT – 433 WILLOW ROAD

SUP-03-2015 – 433 Willow Road

(a) **Swearing In**

Mayor Woodson indicated anyone who wished to speak for or against this item must be sworn in, and he asked those who would like to speak to come forward. He administered the oath to the following:

Mr. Preston Mitchell  
Mr. Lamont Savage

(b) **Ex Parte Disclosure**

Mayor Woodson asked Council members if anyone had knowledge of this case they wished to disclose. There were no ex parte disclosures.

Planning and Development Services Manager Preston Mitchell indicated the Special Use Permit (SUP) is for property located at 433 Willow Road in the Westcliffe neighborhood to permit the operation of a Child Daycare Center in Residence. He explained a Child Daycare Center in Residence:

- Supervision or care provided on a regular basis within a principal residential dwelling unit by a resident of the dwelling, where, at any one time, more than 2 but no more than 15 children receive child care.
- Zoning: General Residential GR-3 low density residential

Mr. Mitchell reviewed the production of evidence:

- The burden is on the applicant to present sufficient evidence to allow the board to make findings that the required standards will be met
- The burden is on a supporter or opponent to present sufficient evidence that a standard will, will not be met
- If insufficient evidence is presented, additional evidence may be gathered at another meeting, or the SUP must be denied
- If competent, material and substantial evidence is presented that all of the standards will be met, the SUP must be issued
- If competent, material and substantial evidence is presented that even one of the standards will not be met, the SUP must be denied

Mr. Mitchell presented the standards for decision required for the SUP:

1. The use meets all required principles and specifications of the Ordinance and any adopted land use plans and is in harmony with the general purpose and intent and preserves its spirit; and
2. The proposed plan as submitted and approved will be visually and functionally compatible to the surrounding area; and
3. The public health, safety, and welfare will be assured and the proposed development will not substantially injure the value of adjoining property and associated uses if located where proposed.

Mr. Mitchell then presented additional use standards for Child Care Center in Residence:

1. The facilities shall be developed and maintained in accordance with all current and applicable provisions of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.
2. The center shall provide a minimum of 100 square feet of gross heated area per child. 12 children = 1,200 square feet home.

Mr. Mitchell displayed a map and photographs of the area. He explained the SUP process is the first step in obtaining licensure for a Day Care Center in Residence from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. He noted Mr. Savage currently operates a Day Care Home where up to eight children receive care in his home. He added the Day Care Home is properly permitted through the One Stop Shop.

Mr. Mitchell noted Mr. Savage’s home is approximately 1,900 square feet which is adequate for 15 children. He added in 2014 Mr. Savage was granted a Temporary Use Permit to operate a summer day camp. He noted a 10 square foot ground sign or 5 square foot wall sign would be allowed based on the size of the property.

Mr. Mitchell stated the Planning Board reviewed the request and recommended unanimous approval subject to the following conditions:

- Applicant providing expert witness testimony regarding property value
- Indicate no adverse effect on values
- If no property value testimony, recommendation to deny

Mr. Mitchell indicated the applicant’s expert witness may not be able to attend the meeting. He recommended Council keep the hearing open and table the item until the expert witness and additional testimony can be brought before Council at its October 6, 2015 meeting.

(c) Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive testimony regarding SUP-03-2015.

Mr. Lamont Savage, 433 Willow Road, presented Council with documentation regarding his Day Care Home. He added he has lived at the residence since April 30, 2012 and operated a Child Care Home licensed by the State since 2012, with capacity to care for eight children. He stated he would like to operate a Day Care Center in Residence. He added he has operated his award winning business for over two years and has received an increase in requests for child care services.
Mr. Savage explained the North Carolina Rating Scale Assessment is a voluntary assessment of family child care homes and centers that rates the quality of care provided. He noted his facility received 6.23 points of a possible 7 point rating. He reviewed the five star child care license for his facility, L.A.S. Learning Playhouse, from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. He added the license is based upon staff education, program standards, and a quality point. He stated he also won the 2015 Family Childcare Teacher of the Year from Smart Start Rowan.

Mr. Savage stated his property is visually functional with the surrounding properties. He noted there will be no major development to change the overall structure of the property. He pointed out the children enrolled in the facility are up-to-date on their shots and vaccinations. He indicated if a child is sick or running a fever they are not allowed to come to the facility. He noted the driveway is used for parking and pickups, and there has never been an accident or traffic violation.

Mr. Savage noted he contracted with Webster appraisal, but Mr. Webster was unable to attend the Council meeting. He asked Council to keep the hearing open so it can hear Mr. Webster’s testimony regarding property values on October 6, 2015. He stated the facility is over 1,900 square feet and provides adequate square footage for the care of 15 children.

Mayor Woodson asked about the property value of the facility. Mr. Savage noted the appraiser pulled reports from other Day Care Center in Residences in neighborhoods and their appraised value was at market value and comparable to similar homes in the area.

Mr. Mitchell stated there is nothing to prevent Council from legally accepting the document from Mr. Webster, but he cautioned State law requires testimony that addresses property values or traffic be given by an expert witness. He explained should Council accept the document it must decide if it can accept it as competent evidence for the finding of fact. He indicated if the situation went to court the judge would throw the document out because it was not supported by expert witness testimony.

Mayor Woodson pointed out the facility can currently house eight children on three shifts. Mr. Savage indicated the facility opens at approximately 5:30 a.m., and provides a service for parents who work second shift.

Councilmember Kennedy pointed out the facility is five-star and has been in business for two and one half years without incident. He indicated an appraiser could have an opinion either way regarding how a Day Care Center in Residence affects neighboring property values.

City Attorney Rivers Lawther noted Council would have to decide which opinion is more credible. He explained if evidence is presented and not objected to, then it is generally admissible.

Mr. Savage stated the document is not a letter, it is documentation Mr. Webster was planning to use during his presentation. Mr. Kennedy asked if it includes an appraisal. Mr. Savage noted the documents do not include an appraisal.
Mayor Woodson asked to view the documentation. Councilmember Alexander stated the document is not a certified appraisal. Mr. Lawther stated Council would need something that gives an expert opinion, and it does not have to be an appraisal, but needs to state the real estate values of neighboring properties are not affected by this home.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell asked if the paperwork was signed by Mr. Webster. Mr. Savage stated the paperwork was not signed by the appraiser.

Mayor Woodson stated Council should wait until October 6, 2015 to make its decision.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a motion to continue the issue until Tuesday, October 6, 2015. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion.

Mr. Mitchell noted the house meets all the set back and general residential standards for GR-3 zoning, and the use of Child Care Center in Residence and is not inconsistent with the Vision 2020 Plan.

Ms. Alexander asked if anything is in the Code regarding hours of operation for a business in a residential neighborhood. Mr. Mitchell stated there is nothing in the Code regarding operating hours, and he added Council could apply reasonable conditions if it issues the SUP.

Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

ACCEPTANCE OF SPRING ARBOR AVENUE, SONOMA LANE, AND DRAKE LANE AND ESTABLISH STOP CONDITIONS

City Engineer Wendy Brindle explained since The Gables at Kepley Farms has been voluntarily annexed by the City, the City must accept the streets for maintenance and establish stop conditions. She noted the Engineering Department has worked with the developer to complete the public streets.

Ms. Brindle noted at a previous meeting Council accepted the plats for Phases 4 and 3A which includes Sonoma Lane, Drake Lane, and Spring Arbor Avenue. She explained a one year warranty period is required of the contractor, and she indicated at the end of the year staff will inspect the street for needed repairs.

Councilmember Alexander asked if the roads were built to City standards. Ms. Brindle stated the streets were built to City standards, and she pointed out staff conducted inspections of the streets throughout the construction process.

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a motion to adopt an Ordinance amending Section 13-332, Article X, Chapter 13 of the Code of the City of Salisbury, relating to stop signs. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)
ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13-332, ARTICLE X, CHAPTER 13 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, RELATING TO STOP SIGNS.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 25 at Page No. 73, and is known as Ordinance 2015-34)

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a motion to accept Spring Arbor Avenue, Sonoma Lane, and Drake Lane for City maintenance and to begin the one-year warranty period. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

TEMPORARY USE OF PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY 100 BLOCK EAST FISHER STREET

Traffic Engineering Coordinator Vickie Eddleman explained staff received a request from Central Piedmont Builders to close a portion of the parking lane and sidewalk adjacent to 113 East Fisher Street for building renovations. She stated the request is for three unmarked parking spaces adjacent to the building beginning September 4, 2015 and ending March 15, 2016. She added the petitioner is also requesting the occasional use of a fourth parking space adjacent to 121 East Fisher Street, contingent upon permission from the respective property owner. She noted staff advised the petitioner a written agreement with the respective property owner would be best for parking enforcement if the request is approved. Ms. Eddleman pointed out staff received complaints from an area business owner regarding the renovation timeline.

Councilmember Kennedy clarified staff is asking Council to approve the temporary use of three parking spaces and once staff has received certification from the respective property owner to move forward with the fourth parking space.

Mayor Woodson asked if the request would disrupt any other businesses. Ms. Eddleman noted the businesses would not be disrupted more than the current disruptions. Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell pointed out the request is retro-active by approximately two weeks.

Thereupon, Mr. Kennedy made a motion to approve a permit for Central Piedmont Builders for use of four parking spaces and the sidewalk adjacent to 113 East Fisher Street beginning September 4, 2015 and ending March 15, 2016.

Ms. Blackwell asked if staff has met with the restaurant owners to find additional parking. Ms. Eddleman noted staff was made aware of objections to the request today.

Mayor Woodson added the renovations are taking up half of the block. Ms. Eddleman stated the owner of an adjacent parking lot is allowing construction employees to park in his lot. Mayor Woodson noted construction equipment is out in the street. Ms. Eddleman explained the petitioner is requesting the parking spaces for construction equipment.
Councilmember Alexander suggested approving the three parking spaces in front of the building that the business previously used for its customers. Ms. Blackwell added the neighboring restaurant has limited parking.

City Manager Lane Bailey asked if the duration of the closures could be shortened and extended later if additional time is needed. City Engineer Wendy Brindle stated Council can reduce the length of time and require the applicant to come back before Council to extend the initial request.

Mr. Kennedy withdrew his motion.

Ms. Alexander noted Council encourages construction and improvements to downtown buildings. She suggested reducing the approval time and only approving three parking spaces.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a motion to approve a permit for Central Piedmont Builders for use of three parking spaces and the sidewalk adjacent to 113 East Fisher Street beginning September 4, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

**NOVANT HEALTH ROWAN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER SHUTTLE LANE FIRST**

Traffic Engineering Coordinator Vickie Eddleman noted Rowan Regional Medical Center approached staff regarding facility improvements that would enhance public safety. She pointed out pedestrians crossing the streets at Rowan Regional Medical Center are more likely to have mobility issues than users of a typical cross walk. She noted the parking lot at Mahaley Avenue is an employee parking lot and will not change. She indicated patients coming to the Wilson L. Smith building must park in the patient parking lot and cross Mocksville Avenue. She added visitors can use two entrances near the parking deck on West Henderson Street.

Ms. Eddleman stated there is a highly visible patient crosswalk on Mocksville Avenue with a sign reminding drivers to stop for pedestrians. She indicated stop bars and signs will be installed instructing drivers to stop for pedestrians, and Rowan Regional Medical Center will be making facility improvements to encourage use of the crosswalk.

Ms. Eddleman indicated rumble strips will be added to Mocksville Avenue to remind drivers of the 25 mph speed limit and to stop for pedestrians.

Ms. Eddleman explained Rowan Regional Medical Center has been providing a shuttle service using the public street since it does not have internal pathways. She added the Police Department identified issues with the shuttle service, and the hospital worked with the Police and Engineering Departments to address the concerns. She indicated a special travel lane could be created if it is properly marked and signed.
Ms. Eddleman stated the five-foot lane would be installed by Rowan Regional Medical Center and maintained by City staff. She noted the lane would begin on Rutherford Street, turn onto West Henderson Street, and end at the emergency room entrance.

Ms. Eddleman indicated Rowan Regional Medical Center will be responsible for the fabrication and installation of the specialty signs required to identify the shuttle lane. She noted the proposed signs have been agreed upon by staff and Rowan Regional Medical Center.

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** to approve a dedicated shuttle lane along Rutherford Street and a portion of West Henderson Street as shown. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted **AYE**. (4-0)

Councilmember Kennedy asking if a public hearing will be held regarding the other changes. City Engineer Wendy Brindle noted rumble strips will not be installed unless the cross walks are ineffective. She added hospital and City staff agreed if rumble strips are used they would be installed in phases.

**CMAQ PROJECT C-4908G CHANGE IN SCOPE**

City Engineer Wendy Brindle explained the City has a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Project in its final phase of design that is funded 80 percent by the State and 20 percent by the City. She stated the original project included sidewalks along both sides of Jake Alexander Boulevard from the southern railroad tracks towards Statesville Boulevard. She added the project also includes sidewalks on both sides of Statesville Boulevard ending at Holly Avenue. She explained the project will exceed its projected budget by approximately $100,000.

Ms. Brindle stated staff is requesting a change in the scope of the project to remove the proposed sidewalk along the east side of Jake Alexander Boulevard which would save approximately $100,000 without changing the intent of the project.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell indicated the projected change in scope will eliminate sidewalks in front of the Social Security Office and the neighboring business park. She noted the project is over budget for CMAQ funding. Ms. Brindle agreed and stated additional funding would come from the City. She added the project will probably go into construction during the next fiscal year.

Councilmember Alexander asked if the $100,000 overage would be the City’s 20 percent portion. Ms. Brindle explained the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will fund up to $360,000 of the project, and if all of the sidewalk is installed it is estimated to cost approximately $500,000. Ms. Alexander clarified the City would be responsible for the additional $100,000. Ms. Brindle agreed.

Ms. Blackwell pointed out Jake Alexander Boulevard has sidewalks near Harris Teeter, then there is a gap in the sidewalk to the CMAQ project. She added if sidewalks are placed on one side of the street there will still be a gap in the sidewalks from Brenner Crossing to the Social Security office. Councilmember Kennedy stated the City has transit service to the Social Security Office.
Ms. Alexander asked if sidewalks could be placed where the residents travel to the Social Security Office and neighboring business park. Ms. Brindle noted staff will be installing pedestrian crosswalks at the intersection. Ms. Brindle stated Council would like to extend the sidewalk so it ends at the business park. Ms. Alexander pointed out once pedestrians get to the Social Security office and the business park there are sidewalks around the buildings.

Mayor Woodson clarified staff is requesting to remove a section of the sidewalk. Ms. Brindle explained when the projects are submitted for funding there is a benefit to cost ratio based on the benefit of air quality verses the cost of the project. She noted staff will have to revise and resubmit the application to make sure it still qualifies. She stated staff is requesting the authorization to work with NCDOT to revise the scope, and if NCDOT is in agreement, staff will bring the revisions back to Council for its approval. She commented if NCDOT does not agree with the change in scope, a decision will be made on how to proceed.

Thereupon, Ms. Kennedy made a motion to authorize staff to pursue a change in scope for CMAQ Project C-4908G, Salisbury Mall/West End Plaza area sidewalks. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Woodson opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. William Peoples, 522 North Fulton Street, requested an update regarding sidewalk and lighting for Old Concord Road. He added Council should initiate discussions regarding crime and safety in the community.

City Manager Lane Bailey noted the construction of sidewalk and lighting on Old Concord Road begins next summer, in the North Carolina Department of Transportation’s (NCDOT) budget year. He added the funding has been approved.

Mayor Woodson pointed out it has taken approximately three years for the City to receive funding for sidewalks and lighting on Old Concord Road.

Mr. Edward Holder, Jr., Arbor Drive, commended Council for working with County Commissioners in their joint meeting two weeks ago. He thanked Mayor Woodson, Council, Police Chief Rory Collins, and Fire Chief Bob Parnell for all they do for the City. He added there are many candidates running for Council, and he reminded them the seats belong to the people. He indicated he is very proud of the Salisbury Fire Department and proud to live in the City. He asked Council to keep the dialogue open with the County Commissioners.

There being no one else to speak, Mayor Woodson closed the public comment session.
CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS

(a) Fibrant Press Conference Update

City Manager Lane Bailey presented a video from the Fibrant press conference held Thursday, September 3, 2015 at Catawba College. Salisbury-Rowan Economic Development Commission Executive Director Robert Van Geons and Broadband Director Kent Winrich thanked everyone who worked on the press conference. Mr. Van Geons noted the press conference received national and international coverage. He thanked Calix for its work on the project and Catawba College for allowing Fibrant to come to the College.

Mr. Winrich noted comments came in from all over the world regarding the Fibrant press conference, and he added there is more to come in the near future.

Mayor Woodson commended Mr. Van Geons and Mr. Winrich for getting the word out regarding Fibrant.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell thanked Governor Pat McCrory for being a part of the Fibrant Press Conference.

Councilmember Alexander added she was excited to have North Carolina Secretary of Cultural Resources Susan Klutz at the Fibrant Press Conference.

Councilmember Kennedy stated Fibrant is a component for job creation.

Mayor Woodson indicated Fibrant was conceived to make the community competitive.

MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) NFL Punt, Pass, and Kick Competition

Mayor Woodson announced the Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department will host the annual NFL Punt, Pass, and Kick competition Sunday, September 20, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at Catawba College Shuford Stadium. Boys and girls ages 6 to 15 can register in advance at nflppk.com or on site the day of the competition with a copy of their birth certificate. Please remember to wear sneakers, cleats are not allowed. For more information call (704) 216-PLAY.

(b) Music at the Mural

Mayor Woodson announced Salisbury Parks and Recreation will host “Music at the Mural” Saturday, September 26, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the 100 block of West Fisher Street. Bring a chair and enjoy music in the heart of downtown Salisbury. The event is free and open to the public.
(c) **Brown Bag Lunch**

Mayor Woodson announced the Salisbury Parks and Recreation will host the “Brown Bag Lunch Jam” concert series at Eastern Gateway Park every Wednesday from 12:00 noon until 1:30 p.m. through September 30, 2015. Bring a lunch and enjoy some of Salisbury’s best local talent. This event is free and open to the public.

(d) **2015-2016 Historic Preservation Incentive Grants**

Mayor Woodson announced applications are being accepted for the 2015-2016 Historic Preservation Incentive Grants. The matching grants are available on a competitive basis for exterior projects on owner-occupied homes in the four residential local historic districts: North Main Street, Brooklyn South Square, West Square, and Ellis Street Graded School. Applications are available by calling (704) 638-5324. All applications must be received by September 30, 2015.

(e) **North Carolina Historic Preservation Conference**

Community Planning Services Director Janet Gapen announced Salisbury will host the State-wide Historic Preservation Conference to be held Wednesday, September 16, 2015 through Friday, September 18, 2015. The Conference is hosted annually by Preservation North Carolina at locations throughout the State.

(f) **Paving Projects**

Councilmember Kennedy noted he is very pleased with the new pavement on Innes and Long Streets and Jake Alexander Boulevard. He thanked the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and Mr. Jake Alexander, Jr. for their work on the projects.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Blackwell seconded by Ms. Alexander. All council members in attendance agreed unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Paul B. Woodson, Jr., Mayor

Myra B. Heard, City Clerk