REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Mayor Paul B. Woodson, Jr., Presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Maggie A. Blackwell, Council Members Karen Kirks Alexander, William (Pete) Kennedy, and William Brian Miller; City Manager Doug Paris; 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 meeting was called to order by Mayor Woodson at 4:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell.

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.

PRESENTATION – REPRESENTATIVE CARL FORD

Representative Carl Ford presented a framed Certificate of Acknowledgement and Congratulations from the North Carolina House of Representatives to Councilmember Kennedy in honor of his years of service to the community. He acknowledged Mr. Kennedy’s dedication to numerous community organizations including Livingstone College and his Church. He pointed out Mr. Kennedy is a past recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the most
prestigious award presented by the Governor of North Carolina. He thanked Mr. Kennedy for his years of service to the community.

Mayor Woodson explained Mr. Kennedy is the longest serving Councilmember in the City's history. He noted Mr. Kennedy was elected to Council in 1993 and has served 11 consecutive terms. He pointed out Mr. Kennedy served as Mayor Pro Tem from 1995 until 1997.

Mr. Kennedy thanked the North Carolina House of Representatives, Representative Ford, and Council for honoring him. He thanked God, his family, and the citizens who allow him to serve. He recognized his wife Hazel, daughter Walillian, sister Ethel K. Robinson, cousin Andrew Harris and friends Evelyn Phifer and Vera Wiggins who were in attendance.

Mayor Woodson stated Council is blessed to have Mr. Kennedy and relies heavily on his experience and wisdom.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Woodson proclaimed the following observance:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>LETTER CARRIERS' FOOD DRIVE DAY</td>
<td>May 10, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>NATIONAL POLICE WEEK</td>
<td>May 11-17, 2014</td>
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<td>PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY</td>
<td>May 14, 2014</td>
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<td>ARMED FORCES DAY</td>
<td>May 17, 2014</td>
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<td>VETERANS MEMORIAL DAY</td>
<td>May 26, 2014</td>
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<td>COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH</td>
<td>May 2014</td>
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CONSENT AGENDA

(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 15, 2014.

(b) Fire Engine Donation

Approve the donation of a 1988 Fire Engine to Rowan-Cabarrus Community College for use at the new Fire and Emergency Services Training Facility on campus.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)
LAND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT MAY AMENDMENT CD-01-2014 – ABBINGTON COURT

Planning and Development Services Manager Preston Mitchell addressed Council regarding Committee recommendations for CD-01-2014 Abbington Court, a proposed multi-family development along South Main Street and Jake Alexander Boulevard. He displayed a map of the area and pointed out the five-acre site which is part of a larger nine-acre tract.

Mr. Mitchell referenced the proposed Master Plan submitted to Council at its April 15, 2014 meeting. He noted the plan consisted of four multi-family buildings and a clubhouse with a 45-foot shared utility easement and a pedestrian connection to Rosemont Street. He explained South Main Street will be the primary form of ingress and egress to the development through Dodd Street.

Mr. Mitchell noted at its April 15, 2014 meeting Council received Master Plan B which included a connection to Colonial Village, a neighboring multi-family development. He explained Master Plan B has been eliminated.

Mr. Mitchell reviewed the revised Master Plan that was just distributed to Council and explained the sidewalk connection to Rosemont Street has been removed. He pointed out an improved landscape buffer that will separate the development from Rosemont Street and a six-foot vinyl or aluminum black fence proposed by the developer along the property line. He displayed a photograph of similar fencing in order to show the style to be installed.

Mr. Mitchell explained the developer is proposing a 40-foot right-of-way with a five-foot sidewalk and a three-foot planting strip along Dodd Street. He emphasized the modifications are consistent with the conditions required in the proposed Ordinance. He added the developer has updated the plans to include the conditions.

Mr. Mitchell noted the Council Committee convened April 30, 2014 and:

- Recommends previous conditions and:
  - Denial of pedestrian and vehicular access to Rosemont Street
  - A fence design to be determined May 6, 2014 and installed along the western property line
  - Additional landscape buffering along the western property line
    - Design/materials to be proposed by developer

Mr. Mitchell reviewed changes to the proposed Ordinance:

- The substandard Rosemont Street cul-de-sac shall be reconstructed within the existing Rosemont Street right-of-way to a modified standard that has been approved by the City Engineering Department, per Section 4.5.B.1 of the City Land Development Ordinance (LDO)
- All development-related construction traffic, notwithstanding the required construction activities and traffic associated with the Rosemont Street cul-de-sac reconstruction, shall ingress and egress via South Main Street
• Pedestrian and vehicular access from the development site to Rosemont Street shall be prohibited
• A fence (exact design to be proposed by the developer and agreed-upon by Council and the developer) shall be installed along the west property line
• Sidewalk access shall be provided along Dodd Street, a private drive connecting the apartment complex to South Main Street
• If the developer acquires land from property owners adjoining “Dodd Street” a minimum 40-foot right-of-way may contain a street, which shall include a sidewalk along at least one side, to be accepted as a public street
  o All documents related to engineering and design of the alternative right-of-way may be reviewed and approved by the Technical Review Commission (TRC)

Mayor Woodson stated he and Councilmember Alexander spoke with a citizen who felt a five-foot fence was not high enough.

Councilmember Alexander pointed out the proposed fence is six-feet high. She noted the revised drawings reflect the six-foot fence discussed at the Committee meeting.

Mr. Mitchell emphasized the plan requires six-foot vinyl fencing along the length of the property line.

Ms. Alexander noted the drawings and documents reflect the Committee discussions. She added she supports the development with the proposed changes.

Councilmember Miller stated Council is working to address the concerns of citizens in the Rosemont Street neighborhood. He noted at the Committee meeting he told members of the Rosemont Street community they would be able to address Council during a public comment session at today’s meeting. He explained notice of a new public comment session was not given, so it could not take place. He apologized for any inconvenience, and he noted citizens were allowed to submit additional written comments.

Mr. Miller explained the revisions to the Master Plan reflect what was discussed at the Committee meeting. He pointed out pedestrian access to Rosemont Street has been removed, and the fencing and its materials are noted on the plan along with improvements to Dodd Street. He emphasized the revisions are recommended by the Council Committee.

Mayor Woodson asked if Section 8 housing is included in the plan. Mr. Mitchell stated it is not.

Councilmember Kennedy explained Section 8 housing is open market and participants can live anywhere they choose.

Mr. Mitchell clarified the applicant is not proposing Section 8 housing as part of the petition.
Mayor Woodson stated the six-foot fence may not be high enough. He asked if he could propose a higher fence. Mr. Mitchell explained Council can request additional fence height, but it must be agreed upon by the petitioner.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell pointed out the developer has selected fencing referred to as non-scalable.

Mayor Woodson proposed an eight-foot fence that would be harder to scale.

Mr. Miller stated any fence can be scaled. He emphasized the fence is designed to block pedestrian access and will have a landscape buffer in front of it. He added a six-foot fence with landscaping will create a sufficient barrier. He pointed out the developer offered high quality fencing that will add cost to the development. He noted Council can request a higher fence, but the developer can deny the request.

Mr. Mitchell noted the developer has agreed to provide a six-foot fence. He explained the fence will be away from the property line since its footers must be outside of the utility easement.

Ms. Blackwell agreed with Mr. Miller. She added the developer is not fencing a prison, it is housing and it does not need a higher fence. She pointed out additional fence height adds cost to the development, and a six-foot fence is fair.

Mr. Kennedy stated he requested a fence and the proposal includes attractive fencing that will be an asset to the development.

Mayor Woodson stated he is satisfied with the six-foot fence but wanted to bring the concern before Council.

Mr. Mitchell explained the Technical Landscape Plan, which will include types of materials, is reviewed during construction. He asked if Council would agree for staff and the TRC to approve the fencing materials provided it meets Council’s intent.

By consensus, Council agreed to allow the TRC to approve the materials used for the fencing provided it meets Council’s intent.

Mr. Miller stated the City Council hereby finds and determines that adoption of an Ordinance to rezone the property as described herein by removing a portion of the General Development-A-Overlay and establishing a Conditional District Overlay is consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the Vision 2020 Comprehensive Plan, and that adoption of the Ordinance is reasonable and in the public interest. Therefore, Mr. Miller made a motion to adopt an Ordinance amending the Land Development Ordinance and the Land Development District Map of the City of Salisbury, North Carolina, by rezoning a portion of one parcel at unnumbered South Main Street, approximately five acres, by removing a portion of the General Development-A-Overlay and to establish a conditional district overlay to permit the development of an 80-unit campus-style, multi-family development; identifying the development documents;
identifying permitted uses; identifying development conditions; providing an effective date; and for other uses. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE AND THE LAND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT MAP OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA, BY REZONING A PORTION OF ONE PARCEL AT UNNUMBERED SOUTH MAIN STREET, APPROXIMATELY FIVE ACRES, BY REMOVING A PORTION OF THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT-A-OVERLAY AND TO ESTABLISH A CONDITIONAL DISTRICT OVERLAY TO PERMIT THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN 80-UNIT CAMPUS-STYLE, MULTI-FAMILY DEVELOPMENT; IDENTIFYING THE DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENTS; IDENTIFYING PERMITTED USES; IDENTIFYING DEVELOPMENT CONDITIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER USES.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 24 at Page No. 33-36, and is known as Ordinance 2014-15)

SUP-01-2014 – 2000 BLOCK MOORESVILLE ROAD

SUP-01-2014 – 2000 Block Mooresville Road

(a) Swearing In

Mayor Woodson indicated this case is a quasi-judicial hearing, and anyone who wishes to provide testimony must take an oath. He stated all testimony should be factual and not opinion or speculation. He announced he had received a request from an attorney for the right to cross-examine witnesses, and those giving testimony may be questioned by the attorney. The following people were sworn in to provide testimony:

Ms. Catherine Garner
Mr. Preston Mitchell
Mr. Brent Nieman
Mr. Damon Bidencopf
Mr. Louis Iannone
Ms. Margaret Gurgul
Mr. Bill Owens
Ms. Suzanne Todd

Mayor Woodson asked if the attorney was present.

Ms. Suzanne Todd stated she is with the law firm Johnston, Allison and Hord and is appearing on behalf of Strata Solar Development, the petitioner requesting a Special Use Permit (SUP) to construct a solar farm facility on approximately 37 acres located off of Highway 150.
(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. Mayor Woodson commented, in the course of his retail business, he has received comments from various citizens, but he had formed no opinion.

Mayor Woodson stated Council will receive testimony from staff.

Planner Catherine Garner indicated the request is SUP-01-14 for the 2000 block of Mooresville Road. She stated the request is to permit a Class 2 utility, specifically, a solar farm, on a piece of property zoned Rural Residential with an Airport Zoning Overlay. She noted the property is approximately one mile from the end of the Rowan County Airport runway.

Ms. Garner stated Class 2 utilities are defined in the Land Development Ordinance (LDO) as elevated water storage tanks, package treatment plants, telephone switching facilities, substations or other similar facilities in connection with telephone, electric, steam and water.

Mr. Garner confirmed this is a quasi-judicial case, and the burden is on the applicant to present sufficient evidence that all standards will be met. She added the burden is also on the opponent to present sufficient evidence that the standards will not be met. She stated if insufficient evidence is presented that the required standards will be met, then the SUP must be denied. Ms. Garner indicated if uncontradicted evidence is presented that all of the standards will be met, then the SUP must be issued.

Ms. Garner reviewed the standards for decision

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

Ms. Garner stated the standards come down to:

1. Does it meet the Code and Vision 2020 Plan?
2. Is it visually/functionally compatible?
3. How will it affect the public health, safety, welfare, and property values?

Ms. Garner reviewed a map of the area and noted the site is approximately 200 acres located near the intersection of Sherrills Ford Road and Mooresville Road. She pointed out the development site, which is a portion of the larger site, and noted it is approximately 44 acres, including the portion for the solar panels and the required tree buffer. She also pointed out an
entrance to the site from Mooresville Road and stated the site is located beside a Duke Energy substation.

Ms. Garner indicated the zoning is Rural Residential with an Airport Zoning Overlay. She reviewed various photographs of the property showing the location from various directions.

Ms. Garner stated the Planning Board convened February 25, 2014 and heard the case as a courtesy hearing. She noted the Board’s Findings of Fact supported all of the standards for decision, and it recommended in favor of the application, by unanimous vote, with the condition that it meet the Landscape Code of the LDO.

Ms. Garner reiterated the standards for decision, and displayed a site plan overlaid on an aerial photograph.

(c) Mayor Woodson opened the floor to receive testimony regarding SUP-01-2014. He asked for proponents first.

Ms. Suzanne Todd, attorney, indicated she will call witnesses.

Mr. Richard R. Reamer, 2060 Sherrills Ford Road, stated he and his wife own the property upon which the solar farm is petitioned to be built. He indicated they are lifelong residents of Salisbury and have participated in City boards and commissions. He stated they are concerned with the good of the town and would not be a part of something that they thought would be deleterious in any way. Mr. Reamer indicated he and his wife have a financial interest in the case, as landlords, and will receive rent for the property. He stated they will receive more in rent from this project than from using the pasture for horses. He referred to an article in the Salisbury Post and noted it made it appear the solar farm would be over the entire piece of the property. He pointed out the presentation showed that it will only be on approximately 20 percent of the property, and the 20 percent portion is the part that is most conducive to this development. Mr. Reamer pointed out there is commercial development around this site, and he commented the site will not be able to be seen from the road, except for a very short period of time. He stated he supports the application and thinks it is a good thing. He added he is satisfied the evidence will show it meets all of the criteria, and the application meets all of the zoning requirements. Mr. Reamer stated, in his opinion, the site will be compatible with the Vision 2020 Plan, and the use will be compatible with other uses in the area. He noted the use is different, but it is a farm and will not be a bad neighbor. He stated he does not think public safety is a concern. He commented it is his understanding someone might complain the solar farm is hazardous to the life cycle of butterflies, but this is not something that should be a concern. He stated he and his wife support the application and company and hope Council will recognize what the company has done to bring the project to Salisbury and support their plans.

Ms. Todd asked Development Services Manager Preston Mitchell if the project complies with the Code and with the Vision 2020 Plan. Mr. Mitchell responded, based on the re-submittal that was made after the Planning Board meeting, he can confirm the plan is compliant with the Landscape Ordinance. He stated compliance with the Vision 2020 Plan is not as clear because it is not code, but is policy. He indicated there were policies noted in Ms. Garner’s presentation that reflect staff’s belief that the plan is consistent with the Vision 2020 Plan. He added Council needs to decide if the plan is consistent. He added staff believes it is consistent.
Ms. Todd called Mr. Brent Nieman, engineer, to summarize information provided to Council in their packets.

Mr. Brent Nieman stated he is a civil engineer with Strata Solar, and his address is 8529 Hampton Cross Drive, Wake Forest, North Carolina. He stated he is a licensed professional engineer in North Carolina, and he prepared the plan before Council. He noted he has worked on approximately 100 solar sites of this size or larger. He stated his company proposes to construct a utilities class 2 solar electric power plant on approximately 37 acres. He indicated this is a permitted use, with a Special Use Permit, per page 2-26 of the Land Development Ordinance (LDO). Mr. Nieman stated the site plan meets all of the requirements, principles and specifications of the LDO. He noted the project is not located in a floodplain, and the solar farm consists of rows of photovoltaic cell panels mounted to steel racking. He added the piles are mechanically driven into the ground, and concrete is not used. He commented the process is very similar to the way the North Carolina Department of Transportation installs guardrail along highways, and the piles can be easily removed. Mr. Nieman stated Strata Solar minimizes disturbance as much as possible and works with the existing topography of the land. He noted the racking is flexible, and the site meets the specifications of their racking manufacturer's ability to perform. He stated there will be some clearing and grubbing on existing vegetation, but beyond that, the existing drainage patterns on the site will remain. He indicated the project will be constructed in one phase, and there are no moving parts on the project. He stated all of the electronic components have Underwriters Laboratory (UL) listing and comply with the current edition of the National Electric Code. Mr. Nieman indicated there are no chemicals or hazardous substances used on the site, nor does the site generate any of these materials. He stated Solar Strata projects are approximately 98 percent pervious, with generally one-tenth of a percent pervious surface. He noted this project is a lease term of 20 years, with two five-year extensions, and Strata Solar intends to use the property for 30 years, although it could be longer. He stated at the end of the project everything can be pulled out of the ground, and the ground will be restored to its pre-development condition. He stated the project emits no noise or hazardous substances and uses a fixed-tilt racking system. He noted the panels will be oriented 45 degrees south at a 25 degree angle from horizontal, and the solar panels are designed to absorb the light rather than deflect it. Mr. Nieman stated this project is appropriately located to be served by fire, police and emergency services. He referred to the site plan and noted the fencing for the project will be approximately 500 feet from Mooresville Road. He added the site is on the other side of a transmission line that runs from the substation located adjacent to the project. He indicated the project will not tie into the transmission lines, but the project will tie to the distribution lines located on Mooresville Road. Mr. Neiman stated the power is delivered directly to the grid, and it is used by the surrounding users. He commented Strata Solar's power will essentially replace power that would be delivered by the utility. He indicated their solar farms generate almost no traffic, and the construction period lasts three to four months. He noted after construction all of the equipment is monitored remotely via the web. He added they can see production from the farm and will understand if there is an issue and something that needs to be fixed electrically. He noted the most frequent site visits are for vegetation management because there is grass under the solar panels, and the most frequent trips are to mow the grass and maintain buffers.
Ms. Todd asked Mr. Nieman if it is his opinion, as a civil engineer who has worked 100 of these projects, that the public health, safety and welfare will be assured if the farm is constructed as proposed. Mr. Nieman answered it absolutely will.

Mayor Woodson asked about the life of the panels. Mr. Nieman responded manufacturers have a warranty of 25 years of 85 percent of their published production value. He noted there are solar farms in operation that were put on the ground in the 1960s. He added this is a tried and true technology, and this is a simple project to design and install.

Ms. Todd called Mr. Damon Bidencope, Member of the Appraisal Institute (MAI) Appraiser, to discuss property values.

Mr. Damon Bidencope stated he is a resident of Charlotte at 2500 Montrose Court and is a licensed appraiser holding an MAI from the Appraisal Institute. He indicated he was asked to look at this property and prepare a report which is included in Council’s information. He stated the report includes three basic findings, one of which is the proposed farm will meet the principles and specifications of the LDO and adopted Land Use Plans. He noted it is his opinion that the plan will be in harmony with the surrounding area. He stated the proposed plan will be visually and functionally compatible, and very little of the farm will be seen by traffic. Mr. Bidencope indicated the proposed development will not substantially injure the value of the adjoining properties and associated land uses. He stated the project will bring a stable investment to this piece of land over a long period and takes away any risk or uncertainty of what else might go there in the future. He indicated he has conducted exhaustive studies with properties adjoining other solar farms that have sold in the State and, through matched pairs analysis, has not been able to determine there is any negative impact being located adjacent to a solar farm. Mr. Bidencope pointed out he is self-employed with his own appraisal firm in Charlotte and is not an employee of Strata Solar, nor are any of his findings bound in any way to any subsequent outcome.

Mayor Woodson clarified that Mr. Bidencope’s finding is this will not hurt the surrounding property owners. Mr. Bidencope agreed and stated the sales of similar properties have not shown any market evidence that there has been a drop in value because the property is located adjacent to or adjoining a solar farm. He noted solar farms are quiet by nature, low-impact and visually they sit at a height similar to that of grapevines or half the height of a greenhouse.

Ms. Todd called Mr. Louis Iannone to discuss a glare study that was performed after concerns were raised by City staff.

Mr. Louis Iannone stated he works for Strata Solar and has been with the company for approximately one year, although he has been in real estate development for 25 years. He noted Strata Solar is the sixth largest solar developer in the country, and North Carolina is one of the leading states in solar energy generation. He indicated Strata Solar has completed over 50 similar projects and is in this business long-term. He stated Strata Solar has a professional staff of 70 engineers, project managers, attorneys and averages approximately 1,000 jobs across the State with construction staff. Mr. Iannone noted some of these jobs will be created for local
people. He stated a typical farm is 30 to 50 acres with a 25-acre panel footprint and very little impervious surface. He indicated the project will meet all of the conditions of the Code and will not injure the adjacent property values. He commented he thinks the project is visually and functionally compatible and is a listed use in the City’s long-range plan. He added he believes the use is similar to greenhouses, agricultural buildings or other large scale developments, but will be set-back several hundred feet. He stated the site will be safe and will meet national electric code. Mr. Iannone indicated City staff raised a concern regarding glare, and he investigated the issue with the leading authorities on the subject. He noted the professional firm hired to review the issue found a potential for glare for a few hours a day, during six months of the year. He added the firm made recommendations to adjust the design of the project, which Strata Solar did. Mr. Iannone explained the orientation was adjusted 45 degrees which was a change that required a lot of re-engineering and now the project presents no danger for glare on approaching aircraft.

Ms. Todd asked Mr. Iannone if the original site plan indicated a potential for glare. Mr. Iannone stated that is correct. Ms. Todd asked if the revised site plan is what has been submitted to City Planning staff, and it has been determined to have no potential glare. Mr. Iannone stated that is correct.

Ms. Todd stated the glare being discussed involves pilots approaching runway 20, and for one hour of the day, during certain months of the year, there had been, under the original site plan, potential for glare if a pilot looked in the direction of the solar farm. Mr. Iannone stated that is correct and noted it would leave an after-image, which is an intermediate effect. Ms. Todd clarified the revised plan shows no glare. Mr. Iannone agreed.

Mayor Woodson asked if the revised site plan changed the location of the panels. Mr. Iannone stated the panels are typically oriented south, but they have been moved 45 degrees which has eliminated any glare.

Ms. Todd commented the glare concern was raised by City staff, and she commended them for looking at this issue. She reiterated the current plan does not have glare.

Councilmember Alexander asked if the plan that includes the 45 degree shift is the plan approved by the Planning Board. Ms. Todd indicated it was not. She stated the number of panels remained the same, but the change only realigned the panel face. She added the issue of glare was not raised until after the Planning Board meeting, and Strata Solar sought a glare study from Harris, Miller, Miller and Hanson, Inc. from Boston, Massachusetts that found the panels were angled wrong. Ms. Todd noted the landscaping was changed to comply with the Ordinance, and the project remained the same, as approved by the Planning Board, except the panels have been slightly tilted.

Mayor Woodson asked anyone who was opposed to the project to provide testimony.

Ms. Margaret Gurgul, 665 Edgewood Farm Road, stated she and her husband own the property that joins the Reamer’s property with no separation or buffer. She stated she is concerned that there is no buffer, and she asked if a buffer will be put in so they will not have to
see the farm from their deck. She displayed photographs of the property from her deck. Ms. Gurgul indicated *Alternative Energy* magazine states anything can go wrong on a solar farm such as fence damage, erosion, hail storm, hurricanes, and people stealing or breaking equipment. She noted if a conduit breaks it damages the insulation and could cause fire or personal harm. She added if a transformer or inverter has leakage it could spill toxic chemicals onto the land and into the groundwater. She pointed out she uses a well. Ms. Gurgul noted the author of *Green Illusion* states solar cells contain toxic heavy metals and panel damage allows the metals to go into the groundwater. She referred to another article that states solar energy is dirty energy and the electronic waste is a major problem. She noted there is a major problem in the country now with disposing of electronic waste. Ms. Gurgul stated the author of *Electrification and the Decisions of Civilization*, states health problems can occur such as sleep disturbance, skin, muscle or joint pain, mental fatigue, migraine, nausea, impaired mental function, anxiety, muscle spasms, numbness or pain in the arms or legs. She pointed out this solar farm will generate an electromagnetic field. Ms. Gurgul referred to another article regarding the adverse impacts of solar development that states the systems use oils or molten salts that dissolve from the high temperatures and hydraulic fluids, coolants and lubricants that are hazardous when the panels are damaged or not disposed of correctly. She noted high temperatures from the panels can cause serious injury or death. She stated in California 71 species of bird have been killed. She referred to an article, *Death by Solar Farms*, and noted it states people using solar energy for their own agenda are aware of the dangers, but they carefully conceal them from the public. Ms. Gurgul reiterated she is concerned there is no buffer between her property and the Reamers. She added she is also concerned for the health, safety and welfare of the environment, people and animals. She commented she read that a falcon flying over a solar farm had fire in its feathers. She added she is concerned about the high temperatures and if they will make her area warmer.

Ms. Todd stated she objected to Ms. Gurgul’s comments because when articles are not supported or testified to by the maker of the article, it is considered hearsay. Ms. Gurgul indicated Mr. Millam wrote the book she referenced.

Ms. Todd asked Ms. Gurgul if she has a degree in engineering. Ms. Gurgul stated she did not, and that is why she has been researching this issue.

Ms. Todd asked Ms. Gurgul if she knows whether the information she has received is the same type of solar facility proposed by Strata Solar. Ms. Gurgul asked if Strata Solar is proposing photovoltaic. Ms. Todd stated it is, and she asked if Ms. Gurgul knew the height or if the panels she referenced are mirrored or glare resistant. Ms. Gurgul stated it all concerns the type to be used, and she knows only what she has read and researched.

Mr. Bill Owens, 208 Forest Drive, stated he owns the property that is wooded to the right of the site on Mooresville Highway. He noted he is apprehensive about the panels and questioned which way they will be tilted. He indicated his property slopes towards the proposed development, and although it is wooded, if the woods are gone only the panels will be seen. He stated the woods will eventually thin out, and over time the panels will be seen. Mr. Owens indicated at the Planning Board there was discussion that woods would be left as a buffer along the property line, but he did not hear about any buffer zones for surrounding properties today. He commented he is concerned about the buffer and any side effects that could be created from
the potential unknowns. Mr. Owens asked how long Strata Solar has been in business and if there has been a long-term study on potential health concerns.

Mayor Woodson recognized Mr. Nieman to respond.

Mr. Nieman stated Strata Solar has been in business since 2009. He noted they did speak about preserving the woods at the last meeting, and he referred to the site plan noting the woods have been preserved. He stated their fence will be located along the north side of the transmission easement. He indicated the medium voltage line was realigned to preserve the trees after the Planning Board meeting.

Mr. Owens asked the direction the panels will be tilted. Mr. Nieman noted the panels face southwest.

Mr. Owens commented he had been concerned about potential depreciation in property values, but that will be unknown for some time. Mayor Woodson asked Mr. Owens how many acres he owned. Mr. Owens responded he owns approximately 10 acres.

Mayor Woodson recognized Ms. Gurgul.

Ms. Gurgul asked if there will be a buffer between her house and the site. Mr. Nieman stated there is currently no buffer, nor has one been proposed. He noted the requirements of the Landscape Ordinance have been met through preservation at the rear and front of the project.

Mr. Nieman stated many of the concerns Ms. Gurgul expressed regarded other solar technologies. Ms. Gurgul stated she mostly read about Strata Solar. Mr. Nieman stated the material presented by Ms. Gurgul was not related to Strata Solar.

Ms. Gurgul asked what will happen if there is a hurricane, and she noted the panels are not monitored 24-hours a day. Mr. Nieman responded the panels are monitored 24-hours per day and are structurally designed based on the wind code for this area. He pointed out Salisbury is not a typical hurricane zone, and stated he suspects the wind zone is 80 to 90 miles per hour.

Ms. Gurgul asked what happens to the leakage if the panels are broken. Mr. Nieman stated there is no leakage, and the panels are a solid-state material, not water soluble. Ms. Gurgul asked about the transformer. Mr. Nieman indicated the transformer uses a substance equivalent to vegetable oil, and the inverter has no oil.

Mayor Woodson asked Ms. Gurgul if her main concern was the buffer. She indicated it was a concern, and she would like a division between the properties so she does not have to see the panels. Mr. Nieman stated Strata Solar can provide a buffer for the property. Mayor Woodson asked how many feet will be needed to provide the buffer. Mr. Nieman stated it appears to be 500 to 600 feet. Mayor Woodson asked Mr. Nieman if Strata Solar could install a buffer. Mr. Nieman responded they certainly could. He added Strata Solar uses evergreen materials, such as holly, for buffers. He noted he would not want the buffer to be too high because there are panels on the other side, and the buffer could block sunlight. He indicated the
buffer plantings can be staggered as a double row, and he will present an acceptable plan, in detail, to staff. Mayor Woodson stated if Strata Solar will agree to this, it will make Council feel better. Mr. Nieman responded Strata Solar would have no objections to a buffer.

There being no one else present to present testimony, Mayor Woodson closed the floor.

Councilmember Miller noted he had a question about the landscape plan, and he thinks the compromise that was just reached at the podium satisfies his concern. He stated the property owner has the opportunity to use the property in this manner, and he thinks, based on the three criteria, it does not injure the property values of the surrounding property, and all three criteria were passed. He added he thinks this is a suitable use for the property if the adjacent property owner’s concerns can be addressed with buffering.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell indicated the other two criteria were conformity to the LDO and Vision 2020 and compatibility with the health, safety, and welfare, and she concurred with Mr. Miller that it meets all of the criteria. She noted Council had a very rich package for this item with quite a bit of data from the proponents.

Mr. Miller thanked staff for considering the glare issue at the airport and for their diligence in taking the additional step.

Councilmember Kennedy stated he thinks this is a new alternative energy in Salisbury’s area. He noted coal ash comes from other utilities that provide electricity and commented he is happy to support this.

Councilmember Alexander asked if there is a potential for groundwater contamination, and she asked Mr. Nieman if he has any data on the issue since there are wells in this area.

Mr. Nieman responded they have not conducted studies for groundwater because nothing is being introduced into the groundwater other than galvanized steel posts. Ms. Alexander noted that is the same material used in fencing. Mr. Nieman stated they also bury wire that is insulated and meets all national electric codes, but nothing beyond standard practice is done.

Ms. Todd asked Mr. Nieman if there is any hazardous material in the entire facility. Mr. Nieman responded there is not.

Ms. Alexander referred to the electromagnetic field and noted it would be no more than the transformers already going across the area. Mr. Nieman noted their facility is fenced by a six-foot fence with barbed wire in order to keep people out. He stated the electromagnetic field is immeasurable approximately 50 feet from the inverter. He indicated the transmission lines have a far greater reading.

Ms. Alexander stated she is in favor of the solar farm. She commented there is a need to continue to find ways to maximize alternative energy sources and given the spill of coal ash into the river, she thinks this is a clear sign that this is much safer than that.
Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a motion for the following Findings of Fact:

A. The use meets all required principles and specifications of the Ordinance and any adopted plans and is in harmony with the general purpose and intent and preserves its spirit as evidenced by the following testimony:

- The site characteristics currently fit within the surrounding area of low-density residential, agriculture, and low-intensity commercial uses
- The proposed site plan meets and exceeds all applicable sections of Chapter 8 of the Landscape Code
- The proposed site plan is compatible with the Vision for Environmental Quality and Policies I-7 and I-9 of the Vision 2020 Comprehensive Plan

B. The proposal as submitted and approved will be visually and functionally compatible to the surrounding area as evidenced by the following testimony:

- The use will be located on property that is currently a farm and functionally compatible to the surrounding area of low-density residential, agriculture, and low-density commercial uses
- The proposed site for the solar panels will be set back approximately 400 feet from Mooresville Road and screened by trees and other landscaping with an approximate 300 foot setback from adjacent property lines

C. The public health, safety and welfare will be assured, and the purposed development will not substantially injure the value of adjoining property and associated uses if located where proposed as evidenced by the following testimony:

- Testimony through an affidavit from Mr. Brent Nieman, a Professional Engineer licensed in North Carolina, that the public health, safety, and welfare will be assured
- Testimony through an affidavit from Mr. Damon Bidencope, a MAI Certified General Appraiser, that other adjoining properties have not been affected by solar farms (no impact on the value of adjoining properties)

Ms. Alexander further moved that the suggested findings support the general requirements as required by the Salisbury Land Development Ordinance. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (5-0)

Mayor Woodson recognized Ms. Gurgul who wished to speak. Ms. Gurgul asked Council if they would want a solar farm in their back yard.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a motion to issue a Special Use Permit allowing for Class 2 Utilities – Solar Farm within the 2000 block of Mooresville Road based on all general standards of the Salisbury Land Development Ordinance having been met. Mr. Miller noted a condition for the buffer needs to be added. Ms. Blackwell amended her motion to add the
condition that buffering be added to Ms. Gurgul’s property. Mr. Miller asked if the Technical Review Committee (TRC) can follow the intent of Council to buffer the property. Mr. Mitchell indicated it absolutely can. He added he heard the applicant offer an evergreen material, and the TRC can specify this type. Ms. Alexander added that the plantings will be double, alternating rows for approximately 600 feet in length. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell AYE. (5-0)

STATE HISTORIC REHABILITATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Community Planning Services Director Janet Gapen, Downtown Salisbury, Inc. (DSI) Interim Director Paula Bohland, and DSI Board President Mark Lewis addressed Council regarding historic tax rehabilitation credits. Ms. Gapen stated the current State tax credit program will sunset at the end of the year.

Ms. Gapen noted Governor Pat McCrory has proposed the Historic Rehabilitation Investment Program to replace the existing historic tax rehabilitation credits. She explained the program will continue tax credits that support adaptive reuse of historic downtown buildings. She indicated over the last two decades tax credits have helped make downtown vibrant and viable for business and tourism. She noted the program is an important economic development tool for communities with historic downtowns throughout the State.

Ms. Gapen explained the proposed program includes changes, but overall it is a positive continuation of the tax credit program.

Ms. Bohland stated the tax credits are critical to downtown development. She pointed out DSI has been involved in over $111 million of investment in the downtown area since its inception in the 1980s. She added $55 million of the investment has taken place since 2001. She noted DSI has helped create over 1,000 downtown jobs and 320 new businesses have come to the area. She indicated DSI’s success is attributed to its Main Street Program which promotes renovation and reuse of historic buildings. Ms. Bohland announced the City is initiating a new incentive program for upper-level housing. She added the availability of historic tax credits for the development of upper-level housing units is critical to its success.

Mr. Lewis noted the existing tax credits are sun-setting at the end of the fiscal year. He explained Governor McCrory, along with Secretary of Cultural Resources Susan Kluttz and Secretary of Commerce Sharon Decker, developed an alternative proposal that allows the developer quicker access to tax credits for commercial and residential development. He noted Preservation North Carolina, the Historic Salisbury Foundation, DSI and other Main Street programs have adopted Resolutions of Support for the program. Mr. Lewis stated the Resolution before Council, if adopted, will be taken to the local legislative delegation, Preservation North Carolina, and the Main Street Program to let them know the City supports historic tax rehabilitation credits. He emphasized historic rehabilitation tax credits are critical to the continued re-development of the downtown area and other historic districts.

Mayor Woodson asked if the proposed plan is as good as the previous plans.
Ms. Gapen noted the program includes a residential component that exceeds the current residential tax credits, going from 30 to 35 percent for residential tax credits.

Ms. Bohland pointed out features of the proposal will allow the tax credits to be utilized quicker which will retain more of the investment and help renovation.

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a motion to adopt a Resolution supporting the Governor's proposed Historic Rehabilitation Investment Program. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion.

Councilmember Miller asked if the proposal is finalized or if it must be negotiated through the budget process. Ms. Bohland stated it must go through the budget process. Mr. Miller suggested the City, DSI and the Historic Salisbury Foundation hold seminars to educate the public regarding the new rules and how to navigate the process once the program is finalized.

Ms. Gapen pointed out one of the main goals for the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is to educate the public regarding preservation issues.

Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell AYE. (5-0)

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOVERNOR’S PROPOSED HISTORIC REHABILITATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM.

(The above Resolution is recorded in full in Resolution Book No. 14 at Page No. 8, and is known as Resolution 2014-08)

Mayor Woodson thanked Ms. Gapen, Ms. Bohland and Mr. Lewis for their work with historic preservation. He pointed out if the tax credits were lost it would hurt downtowns across the State.

AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CODE – SALISBURY-ROWAN HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL

Mayor Woodson recognized members of the Salisbury-Rowan Human Relations Council in the audience.

Reverend Carolyn Bratton, Vice-Chair Salisbury-Rowan Human Relations Council (HRC), and Ms. Milena Sifuentes, HRC staff liaison, presented proposed amendments to Appendix D of the City Code. Reverend Bratton presented the highlights of the proposed HRC amendments:

- Condensed name
- Restructuring membership
- Changes to HRC functions
- Changes to HRC powers and duties
• Some language has been added/removed
• Minor wording changes for readability

Reverend Bratton reviewed the proposed amendments:

• New Name
  o Salisbury-Rowan Human Relations Council will become the Human Relations Council (HRC)
    ▪ Section 1, Part 6, Salisbury-Rowan Human Relations Council, henceforth referred to as HRC
• Appendix D amendments
  o Before: 2.1 - A Council is hereby created to identify problems in the area of human relations, to make recommendations regarding these problems and engage in activities which shall
    ▪ Effect solutions promoting equality of opportunity in the economic, educational, governmental and cultural life of the community for all citizens without regard to race, creed, national origin, sex, age, or handicap and work to eliminate discrimination on any of these bases
    ▪ Encourage fair treatment, mutual understanding, and respect among all citizens
    ▪ Discover and seek to counter practices and customs that create animosity and unrest
    ▪ Make recommendations to the appointing authority for action it deems necessary for harmonious relationships among the citizens
  o After: 2.1 - A Council is hereby created to identify concerns in the area of human relations, make recommendations regarding these issues and engage in activities which shall effectively
    ▪ Promote equality in such areas as economic, educational, governmental and cultural life of the community for all citizens without regard to race, creed, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation or disability, and work to eliminate discrimination on any of these bases
    ▪ Encourage fair treatment and mutual understanding and respect among all citizens
    ▪ Discover and seek to counter practices and customs which create animosity and unrest; and
    ▪ Make recommendations to the appointing authority for action it deems necessary for harmonious relationships among the citizens.

Ms. Sifuentes reviewed the changes to HRC membership appointments:

• Before
  o 18 members total
  o Six appointed by Council
  o Six appointed by HRC
  o Six appointed by Rowan County Commissioners
  o 10 member quorum
• After
  o 16 members total
  o Eight appointed by City Council
  o Eight appointed by HRC
  o Nine member quorum

Ms. Sifuentes noted the proposed staggered terms:

• Before
  o 18 members first appointed:
    o Six appointed for one year
    o Six appointed for two years
    o Six appointed for three years

• After
  o Of the 16 members first appointed:
    o Six appointed for one year
    o Six appointed for two years
    o Four appointed for three years

Ms. Sifuentes stated the HRC is requesting Council appoint four members under the proposed changes:

• Ms. Mary Frances Edens – one year term
• Mr. Seth Labovitz – one year term
• Mr. Tony Flemming – two year term
• Ms. Teresa Adams – two year term

Reverend Bratton reviewed the proposed changes to Section 2.5 which include removing the County presence:

• Before
  Study and recommend strategies for the prevention of potential human relations problems and crises and the promotion of good relations
  o Provide channels of communication among the races
  o Endeavor to make the HRC a model of good human relations at work
  o Serve as a conciliatory body for resolving tension and conflict in emergency and crisis situation should they arise
  o Submit at least annually a report to the City Council and County Commissioners
  o Cooperate with State, Federal and local governmental agencies
  o Advise City Council and County Commissioners of recommended actions to aid and carry out the purposes of this Ordinance

• After
  Study and recommend strategies for the prevention of potential human relations problems and crises and the promotion of good relations
- Identify, study, and document areas of human need (housing, employment, education, transportation, etc.) in the City and recommend strategies for meeting those needs
- Endeavor to make the HRC a model of good human relations at work
- Submit at least annually a report to Council
- Cooperate with State, Federal and local governmental agencies
- Communicate regularly the work, observations, and recommendations of the HRC to the Mayor and Council
- Advise Council of recommended actions to aid and carry out the purposes of this Ordinance

Reverend Bratton reviewed the stricken and added functions to Section 2.5:

- Stricken Functions
  - Provide channels of communication among the races
  - Serve as a conciliatory body for resolving tension and conflict in emergency and crisis situation should they arise

- Added Functions
  - Identify, study, and document areas of human need (housing, employment, education, transportation, etc.) in the City and recommend strategies for meeting those needs
  - Communicate regularly the work, observations, and recommendations of the HRC to the Mayor and Council

Reverend Bratton explained the changes to Section 2.6 – Powers and Duties

- Before
  - Carry out the policy of the HRC
  - Receive complaints, mediate, and conciliate
  - Provide training programs for the community
  - Promote equal employment opportunity
  - Promote equal housing opportunity
  - Perform duties assigned by the appointing authority

- After
  - Carry out directives of the HRC
  - Promote and provide training/workshops for community advancement
  - Advocate for equal employment opportunity
  - Promote and provide education on equal housing opportunity
  - Perform duties assigned by the appointing authority

Reverend Bratton noted the additional powers and duties in Section 2.6:

- Recommend to Council official actions to aid in carrying out the purposes of this Ordinance
- Submit at least annually a report to Council
- Provide opportunities for meaningful discussion on human relations throughout the community
- Provide information and referrals related to human relation issues

Reverend Bratton explained Section 2.7 was moved to Section 2.8 to make room for an additional section to read:

- Section 2.7 - The services of all other City departments and agencies shall be made available by their respective heads to the HRC for the carrying out of the functions herein stated

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell explained the changes are due to Rowan County pulling its support of the HRC. She pointed out a County Commissioner stated the HRC, which works to promote diversity, does not reflect the values of County citizens. She added the City then received a memo from the County stating it would support the Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast but not the HRC. She indicated the memo further stated the County would no longer make appointments to the HRC, and that is why membership is being reduced from 18 to 16 members. She added rather than appointments being made three ways, they will now be made by the City and at-large. She noted there was much discussion regarding the name, but it was decided to change the name to the Human Relations Council. She added if the County chooses to rejoin the Commission the new name and the proposed changes will reflect the unity.

Ms. Blackwell thanked the HRC for all it does to promote inclusion and diversity and for continuing to extend the olive branch to the County.

Councilmember Kennedy thanked Reverend Bratton and members of the HRC for all they do for the City.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a motion to adopt an Ordinance amending Appendix D Boards, Committees, Commissions etc. of the Code of the City of Salisbury. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell AYE. (5-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX D BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, ETC. OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 24 at Page No. 37-40, and is known as Ordinance 2014-16)

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a motion to appoint Mary Frances Edens and Seth Labovitz for one-year terms expiring on March 31, 2015 and adjust the terms for Tony Fleming and Teresa Adams to expire March 31, 2016. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell AYE. (5-0)
PARKING – SOUTH CLAY STREET AND SOUTH LEE STREET

City Engineer Wendy Brindle stated the Engineering Department received a request to allow parking in the 100 block of South Clay Street. She noted an investigation was conducted and staff recommends allowing parking on the west side of the 100 block of South Clay Street. She pointed out the new parking will include a nine-foot parking lane and two 13-feet travel lanes.

Ms. Brindle displayed a map of South Clay Street and she pointed out the request is from a group of citizens, and not in petition format. She explained letters were sent to all property owners on the block letting them know of the City’s recommendation. She added staff received one comment in support of parking on South Clay Street. She noted staff recommends allowing parking on the west side of the 100 block of South Clay Street.

Ms. Brindle explained staff also received a request from businesses in the 200 block of South Lee Street. She noted staff investigated the site and found six parking spaces could be allowed. She noted staff is recommending on-street parking adjacent to the pocket park, Emma’s, and A Perfect Smoke. She indicated the property owner along the remainder of the block is opposed to on-street parking, so staff recommends the parking restrictions remain in effect in this area.

Mayor Woodson asked how many parking spaces will be created along South Lee Street. Ms. Brindle noted six parking spaces will be created. She explained the stop bar will be shifted forward to create the additional parking spaces.

Mr. Kennedy asked how many parking spaces will be created along South Clay Street. Ms. Brindle explained staff plans to mark the spaces closest to the intersection to help drivers navigate the crossing. She noted there will be four marked spaces, and the no-parking signs will be removed along the residential portion of the street to allow for additional parking.

Mr. Kennedy asked if staff plans to monitor traffic along South Clay Street near the Post Office once the changes occur. Ms. Brindle noted staff will monitor the changes. She pointed out South Clay Street is 36-feet wide which will allow for 13-feet travel lanes.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell noted additional parking on South Lee Street will benefit the Norvell Theater.

Thereupon, Mr. Kennedy made a motion to adopt an Ordinance amending Section 13-338, Article X, Chapter 13, of the Code of the City of Salisbury relating to parking prohibited at all times. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy, Miller, and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell AYE. (5-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX D BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, ETC. OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. 24 at Page No.41, and is known as Ordinance 2014-17)
Councilmember Miller requested an update regarding additional lighting and crosswalks along North Long Street at Rowan Helping Ministries.

Ms. Brindle explained the Street Division is making improvements to the sidewalks in front of the new building. She indicated a crosswalk at the Liberty Street crossing has been pre-marked. She stated the area is part of the Innes Street and Long Street Complete Streets Corridor Study that is being reviewed.

**APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

This item was postponed.

**CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS**

There were no comments.

**MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a) **Spring Night Out**

Mayor Woodson announced the Rowan County Convention and Visitors Bureau will host Spring Night Out Friday, May 9, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in downtown Salisbury.

(b) **Spring Family Campout**

Mayor Woodson announced the Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department Spring Family Campout will be held Friday, May 9, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. until Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. The cost is $20 per tent for the first four people and $5 for each additional person. Pre-registration is required. For more information call 704-216-2708.

(c) **Armed Forces Day**

Mayor Woodson announced the City of Salisbury will celebrate Armed Forces Day Saturday, May 17, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the Patriots Flag Concourse and Memorial located at the corner of Miller and South Jackson Streets. The event is free and open to the public.

(d) **Let’s Get Connected Day**

Mayor Woodson announced the Covenant Community Connection will host the 11th Annual Let’s Get Connected Day Saturday, May 17, 2014 from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Granite Lake Park, 500 North Salisbury Avenue. This year’s event marks the dedication of the 8th Peace Pole in Rowan County.
(e) **Middle School Prom**

Mayor Woodson announced the Salisbury Parks and Recreation Department will host the 8th Annual Middle School Prom Saturday, May 17, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Salisbury Civic Center located at 315 South Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue. Tickets are available at the Civic Center. For more information call 704-638-5275.

(f) **Peace Officers Memorial Service**

Mayor Woodson announced the Peace Officers Memorial Service will be held Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at noon at the First Presbyterian Church located at 308 West Fisher Street.

(g) **Primary Election**

Councilmember Miller encouraged all citizens to vote in the primary election.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Kennedy seconded by Ms. Blackwell. All council members in attendance agreed unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Paul B. Woodson, Jr., Mayor

Myra B. Heard, City Clerk