

Salisbury, North Carolina  
July 7, 2015

## **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:** Councilmember William Brian Miller.

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

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell recognized Mr. Brendan Hawley and Mr. Patrick Howard from Boy Scout Troop 442 and invited them to lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

## **RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Mayor Woodson welcomed all visitors present.

## **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Mayor Woodson noted the following changes to the Agenda:

Add – Proclamation Chickweed - Celebrating Indestructible Women Week

## **PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Woodson proclaimed the following observance:

CHICKWEED – CELEBRATING INDESTRUCTIBLE WOMEN WEEK July 12-18, 2015

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

(a) Approval of Minutes

Approve Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2015.

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

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANTS – MOWERY BUILDING**

Downtown Salisbury, Inc. President Paula Bohland and Salisbury-Rowan Economic Development Commission Executive Director Robert Van Geons addressed Council regarding Economic Development Incentive Grants for a building renovation and business expansion project for the Mowery Building, Benchwarmers, located at 113 East Fisher Street. Ms. Bohland reviewed the request:

- \$600,000 potential investment in the City
- Approximately \$36,000 in new tax revenue will be generated for the City over the next 10 years
  - Based upon \$.66 tax rate
- Creation of 29 new jobs
- An opportunity to restore and improve the value of a historic building
- Add a music venue and restaurant to the entertainment district

Ms. Bohland noted the request is from TFL Properties which is owned by Todd and Jennifer Littleton. She added TFL Properties:

- Purchases, stabilizes, and repurposes historic downtown buildings
- Specializes in the entertainment and music industry
- A Rowan County based company

Ms. Bohland reviewed the potential project:

- The Benchwarmer's (Mowery) Building, located at 113 East Fisher Street needs renovation

- TFL properties decided to expand the street level business to include a restaurant and upper level music venue
- A balcony and upper level building expansion is planned for the music venue
- The building will be a key property in the area, affecting the economic viability of Fisher Street's entertainment district
- TFL intends to renovate, expand, and repurpose the building creating 9,500 square feet of mixed-use space
- The potential project would represent \$600,000 of investment in the community and 29 jobs
  - 17 full-time jobs
  - 12 part-time jobs
- The investment will directly and indirectly increase the City's tax base

Ms. Bohland explained TFL Properties is requesting \$69,026 in grant funding from the City:

- \$50,000 from the Building Renovation Grant Program to assist in the renovation, expansion, and repurposing of the building
- \$19,026 from the Fire Suppression Grant for sprinkler system installation
  - \$2 per square foot for the installation of a fire suppression system

Ms. Bohland reviewed potential improvements to the property. She pointed out the first floor will house a restaurant and pool tables and the second floor will include 5,000 square feet for a music venue.

Ms. Bohland pointed out TFL Properties will work with City and County officials to navigate the review and permitting process. She indicated the proposed project is inside the normal scope of operations for this type of facility.

Mr. Van Geons reviewed the fiscal and economic impact of the proposed project. He commented the project will be cash flow positive and generate more revenue than the initial expense. He pointed out the project must increase the existing tax base to be considered for a grant, and he added grants are performance-based which limits the risk to the City.

Mr. Van Geons explained the project will create \$5,000 in revenue annually, based upon the City's current tax rate of \$.66, a projected investment of \$600,000, and a completion date of December 31, 2015. He added over the life of the project \$45,144 in tax revenue will be generated for the City and the MSD. He noted after the construction year, the facility would generate \$3,690 of revenue annually or \$35,640 over 10 years for the City.

Mr. Van Geons reviewed the proposed building improvements:

<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed/Estimated</u>
Square Footage 8,484	Square Footage 9,512
Assessment Value \$165,419	Future Value \$713,400
Price per Square Foot \$19.50	Price per Square Foot \$75

Mr. Van Geons reviewed the annual economic impact of the renovation. He explained the model acknowledges full-time jobs reducing the total number of jobs from 29 to 23:

<u>Impact Type</u>	<u>Employment</u>	<u>Labor Income</u>	<u>Value Added</u>	<u>Output</u>
Direct Effect	23	\$387,557	\$435,379	\$994,203
Indirect Effect	1.4	\$65,236	\$102,987	\$184,072
Induced Effect	1.7	\$58,023	\$110,359	\$184,589
Total Effect	26	\$510,816	\$648,724	\$1,362,864

Mr. Van Geons pointed out:

- TFL Properties agrees to create 29 new jobs by June 30, 2016
- The City of Salisbury will award \$69,026 in incentive grant funds to TFL Properties through the Downtown Salisbury Incentives Grant Program

(b) Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding proposed Economic Development Incentive Grants for the Mowery Building.

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

Mayor Woodson stated the City's Downtown Revitalization Incentive Grant Program is great for the community. He added the grants improve the City's tax base, adds jobs to the local economy, and increase downtown revitalization. He commented he supports the request.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell stated she also supports the request. She pointed out the grants are not administered until the project is complete.

Councilmember Kennedy added the City is investing \$69,000 in the project, and the property owner is investing \$600,000. He added the initial investment will result in a \$1 million annual investment in the community. He stated it is a win win for the City.

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** to approve a Downtown Salisbury Revitalization Incentive Agreement and a Relocation Assistance Grant Agreement totaling \$69,026 with TFL Properties for the Mowery Building (Benchwarmers) located at 113 East Fisher Street. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

### **CD-05-2015 – RICHARD'S BBQ**

Planning and Development Services Manager Preston Mitchell stated staff received a request to rezone property located at 522 North Main Street. He explained the former Shulenburg Surveying property was purchased by the Rowan-Salisbury School Board for the Central School Office Building. He noted the property was later divided between Mr. Richard Monroe and the Rowan-Salisbury School Board.

Mr. Mitchell indicated Mr. Monroe would like to expand his front yard parking by 11

parking spaces on the land he acquired. He pointed out there are two requests before Council:

- Request to change the Downtown Mixed-Use (DMX) and Corridor Mixed-Use (CMX) split-zoning to uniform DMX zoning
- Request to establish a CD Overlay to allow for expansion of the front yard parking lot

Mr. Mitchell displayed photographs of the area, and he pointed out the property and its existing front yard parking. He explained the City's Land Development Ordinance (LDO) does not allow front yard parking in DMX zoning. Mr. Mitchell stated the CD Overlay would lift the parking requirement. He added the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) granted a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) for the project. He noted Mr. Monroe would like to add angled parking on the south parking line, an additional handicapped parking space, and a bus parking space.

Mr. Mitchell noted the Technical Review Committee (TRC) recommended approval of the rezoning and CD Overlay with conditions. He explained the property currently has landscape islands, and Mr. Monroe is planning to add an additional landscape island on the south end of the property. He added the TRC requested the landscape island mirror the existing landscape island to create uniformity, and Mr. Monroe agreed to the request. He added the TRC also requested an additional Crepe Myrtle tree along the front of the property. Mr. Mitchell noted Mr. Monroe did not support the request for an additional tree. He explained the business to the north of Mr. Monroe's property is being redeveloped, and he plans to work with the property owner to create uniform landscaping. He added Mr. Monroe also indicated the additional tree would make it difficult for drivers to see the restaurant and its sign. He noted the Planning Board removed the additional tree recommendation.

Mr. Mitchell stated there are no specific policies in the Downtown Master Plan 2010 update that address this area. He referenced the Vision 2020 Comprehensive Plan and he noted:

- Policy D-12: In-fill and replace missing storefronts
  - If the property is ever redeveloped the building should come up to the street in DMX zoning
- Applying the CD Overlay, shifting development rights back to DMX if redeveloped, and applying recommended conditions assists with Vision 2020 compliance

Mr. Mitchell indicated the Planning Board convened on June 23, 2015 and recommend approval of the DMX-CD with conditions:

- CD Overlay only removes front yard parking restriction
- Addition of another landscaping island in far northwest corner of master lot
- If the site is razed and redeveloped, DMX front yard parking prohibition remains
- Recommended not inconsistent with the Downtown Master Plan 2010 Update
- Recommended consistent with the Vision 2020 plan subject to the aforementioned conditions

(b) Mayor Woodson convened a public hearing, after due notice thereof, to receive comments regarding CD-05-2015.

Mr. Richard Monroe, owner Richard's BBQ 522 North Main Street, stated he supports the proposed rezoning request.

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

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell noted there is one landscape island on the back of the property. She asked why an additional landscape island was not required to create consistency along the back of the property. City Manager Lane Bailey pointed out there is a dumpster in the back of the property which limits the room for additional landscaping.

Mr. Kennedy stated the City Council hereby finds and determines that adoption of an Ordinance to rezone the property as described herein and establishing a Conditional District Overlay to permit front yard parking expansion is reasonable, in the public interest, and not inconsistent with the 2010 Downtown Master Plan because according to the proposed petition and observations provided by City planning staff, there are no policies directly related to the request; and that adoption of the Ordinance is consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the Vision 2020 Comprehensive Plan as evidenced by the approval of this Ordinance, as conditioned, which supports Downtown Policy D-12 by restoring the North Main street-front if the site is razed and redeveloped with the following development conditions:

- (1) Conditional District Overlay only removes the front yard parking restriction
- (2) An additional landscape island in the far northwest corner of Tax Map 011, Parcel 075 shall be installed
- (3) If the site is razed and redeveloped, all Land Development Ordinance parking provisions resume as adopted

Thereupon, Mr. Kennedy 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 approximately 3/4-acre at 522 North Main Street by applying the Downtown Mixed-Use District to the petition site and establishing a Conditional District Overlay. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE AND THE LAND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT MAP OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA, BY REZONING APPROXIMATELY 3/4-ACRE AT 522 NORTH MAIN STREET BY APPLYING THE DOWNTOWN MIXED-USE DISTRICT TO THE PETITION SITE AND ESTABLISHING A CONDITIONAL DISTRICT OVERLAY.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. at Page No. 53-54, and is known as Ordinance 2015-23)

### **TEMPORARY USE PERMIT – KRAZY KLEARANCE SIDEWALK SALE**

Zoning Administrator David Phillips explained staff received a request from Downtown Salisbury Inc. (DSI) for a temporary use permit for a carnival to operate as part of the annual Krazy Klearance Sidewalk Sale to be held Saturday, July 18, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in the Wells Fargo parking lot.

Mr. Phillips explained the event is considered a carnival because it includes a Ferris wheel, kiddie swing, and other attractions. He displayed an aerial photograph, and he pointed out the location of the carnival which DSI hopes will attract people to downtown.

Mr. Phillips stated DSI applied for a Special Event Permit from the Police Department to close the street, and he added staff recommends approval of the temporary use for the carnival.

Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell asked if the City would be liable if there was an accident at the carnival. City Attorney Rivers Lawther stated the City would not be liable. DSI President Paula Bohland noted DSI carries event insurance.

Councilmember Kennedy asked about security for the event. DSI Promotions Director Mollie Ruff, noted DSI hires off-duty police officers for all downtown events. She added DSI will hire two off-duty police officers to provide security for the carnival. Mr. Kennedy asked if the event had been approved by Police Chief Rory Collins. Ms. Ruff stated the event received a Special Event Permit from the Police Department. Mr. Phillips pointed out security issues are taken into consideration when the Police Department issues a Special Event Permit.

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** to approve a temporary use permit for a carnival to operate as part of the annual Krazy Klearance Sidewalk Sale Saturday, July 18, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on West Fisher Street. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

### **SPEED LIMIT – JAKE ALEXANDER BOULEVARD**

Traffic Engineering Coordinator Vickie Eddleman stated the speed limit reduction request before Council is from the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) for a portion of Jake Alexander Boulevard. She pointed out the area is approximately one-fourth of one mile from Woodleaf Road to the City limits near White Farm Road. She explained this is the only portion of Jake Alexander Boulevard within the City limits that has a posted speed limit of 55 mph. She added the area contains access points for two schools, Isenberg Elementary and Sacred Heart Catholic. She noted the speed limit reduction would create a uniform speed limit along this section of Jake Alexander Boulevard. She commented the speed limit would increase to 55 mph outside the City limits.

Ms. Eddleman explained North Carolina base speed limits are set at 35 mph inside the city limits and 55 mph outside the city limits. She pointed out NCDOT and/or cities can increase or decrease speed limits based upon North Carolina General Statutes. She indicated NCDOT evaluated this section of street and recommends the City adopt a concurrent municipal Ordinance to establish a 45 mph speed limit within this section of Jake Alexander Boulevard.

Councilmember Alexander pointed out there are two schools in the area. She asked if there is a 25 mph speed limit restriction in school districts. Ms. Eddleman noted NCDOT determined 45 mph to be an appropriate speed along this section of Jake Alexander Boulevard.

Mayor Woodson asked about the length of the proposed speed reduction. Ms. Eddleman noted the area is approximately one mile.

Councilmember Kennedy asked how citizens will be made aware of the speed limit reduction. Ms. Eddleman noted NCDOT will post the sign change. Salisbury Police Department Captain Melonie Thompson explained for the first two weeks police officers typically give warning citations, and she added the speed limit change would be noted in the *Salisbury Post*.

Thereupon, Mr. Kennedy made a **motion** to adopt an Ordinance amending Section 13-336, Article X, Chapter 13 of the Code of the City of Salisbury, relating to speed limits – generally. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13-336, ARTICLE X, CHAPTER 13 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS – GENERALLY.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. at Page No. 55, and is known as Ordinance 2015-24)

### **SPEED LIMIT – THE GABLES NEIGHBORHOOD**

Traffic Engineering Coordinator Vickie Eddleman indicated staff received a petition to reduce the posted speed limit within The Gables neighborhood from 35 mph to 25 mph. She noted the affected streets include Garner and River Birch Drives and Cordova Court. She added the Gables neighborhood is located off of Faith Road between Morlan Park and Heilig Roads.

Ms. Eddleman explained the petition is signed by 83 percent of the area property owners who support the request, and staff recommends Council adopt an Ordinance amending Section 13-336 of the City Code, related to speed limits.

Mayor Woodson noted the petition requires 60 percent support for a change in speed limit. Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell pointed out the petition received support from 83 percent of the neighborhood.

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to adopt an Ordinance amending Section 13-336, Article X, Chapter 13 of the Code of the City of Salisbury, relating to speed limits – generally. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion.

Councilmember Kennedy asked staff to remind residents of the speed limit changes.



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

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13-336, ARTICLE X, CHAPTER 13 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS – GENERALLY.

(The above Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book No. at Page No. 56, and is known as Ordinance 2015-25)

**RIGHT OF WAY USE PERMIT – ST. LUKE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Traffic Engineering Coordinator Vickie Eddleman explained the request before Council is for an extension of a temporary right-of-way use permit for St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, located at 130 West Council Street, beginning June 30, 2015 and ending on November 1, 2015. She pointed out the request requires Council’s approval since it exceeds 14 calendar days and includes the closure of a parking lane. She added staff granted a temporary permit through July 14, 2015.

Ms. Eddleman pointed out the request includes three parking spaces on the north side of the street, in front of the church. She stated the project will not block the travel lane or the sidewalk. She indicated the area will house vehicles and a trailer needed for renovations to the church. She explained the typical workday will be Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. She added the petitioner does not anticipate overnight use of the parking spaces. She explained when the petitioner does not need the parking spaces they will be available for public use.

Thereupon, Mr. Kennedy made a **motion** to approve a permit for St. Luke’s Episcopal Church for use of the public right-of-way for three parking spaces adjacent to 130 West Council Street between the hours of 6:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. beginning June 30, 2015 and ending November 1, 2015. Mr. Alexander seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

**RIGHT OF WAY REQUEST – TIME WARNER CABLE**

City Engineer Wendy Brindle noted staff received a request from Time Warner Cable to tie into and operate approximately 3,969 feet of fiber in the public right-of-way in accordance with Section 11-24(27) of the City Code. She explained the request was reviewed by Engineering, Public Services, Salisbury-Rowan Utilities (SRU), and Infrastructure Services.

Ms. Brindle noted the request is to install fiber inside the City limits within public right-of-ways. She reviewed the locations:

- Old Concord Road near Arlington Street
  - Old Concord Road is a State road and also requires North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) approval
- Lincolnton Road
- Old Concord Road near Gold Hill Drive

- Gold Hill Drive

Ms. Brindle explained there is a tax associated with underground pipe or cable laid across any public right-of-way. She noted in the past the tax was set at \$.10 per linear foot but has been increased to \$1.00 per linear foot. She stated the total tax is \$3,969 per year payable to the City.

Ms. Brindle noted staff recommended approval with conditions:

- All improvements and restoration shall be made at no cost to the City
- Any markers or underground facilities shall be flush with the ground
- Lane closures shall be coordinated through the City's Engineering Department
- Time Warner Cable shall participate in the State's one-call locating program, and appropriate locator tape shall be installed to facilitate future field locations
- Engineering as-built plans shall be maintained by Time Warner Cable and available to the City upon request
- If the City or State makes an improvement to the public right-of-way, Time Warner Cable facilities shall be adjusted or relocated at no cost to the City or State

Mayor Woodson asked about the \$1.00 tax per linear foot of cable. Ms. Brindle noted the change was made in the current Budget, and she pointed out the old rate had been in place for many years. Mayor Pro Tem Blackwell commented the new tax rate is compatible to tax rates in other communities.

Councilmember Kennedy asked if the State requires the City to allow Fibrant's competitors to use City right-of-ways to install fiber. Ms. Brindle noted the City has franchise agreements with utility companies and must provide the service.

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** to approve a request from Time Warner Cable to tie into and operate approximately 3,969 feet of fiber in the public right-of-way in accordance with Section 11-24(27) of the City Code subject to conditions given by City Engineer Wendy Brindle. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

### **RIGHT OF WAY REQUEST – TIME WARNER CABLE**

City Engineer Wendy Brindle noted staff received a request from Time Warner Cable to tie into and operate approximately 67 feet of fiber in the public right-of-way in accordance with Section 11-24(27) of the City Code. She added the tie-in will provide service to one business and run across North Arlington Street between Burger King and Chic-Fil-A.

Ms. Brindle explained the request was reviewed by Engineering, Public Services, Salisbury-Rowan Utilities (SRU), and Infrastructure Services, and she noted staff recommends

approval with conditions:

- All improvements and restoration shall be made at no cost to the City
- Any markers or underground facilities shall be flush with the ground
- Lane closures shall be coordinated through the City's Engineering Department
- Time Warner Cable shall participate in the State's one-call locating program, and appropriate locator tape shall be installed to facilitate future field locations
- Engineering as-built plans shall be maintained by Time Warner Cable and available to the City upon request
- If the City or State makes an improvement to the public right-of-way, Time Warner Cable facilities shall be adjusted or relocated at no cost to the City or State

Thereupon, Ms. Blackwell made a **motion** to approve a request from Time Warner Cable to tie into and operate approximately 67 feet of fiber in the public right-of-way in accordance with Section 11-24(27) of the City Code subject to all conditions. Ms. Alexander seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

### **2015 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT**

Salisbury Police Captain Melonie Thompson explained the City is preparing to submit its application for a 2015 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the United States Department of Justice. She indicated the amount allocated for Rowan County is \$32,047 with \$11,704 allocated to the Rowan County Sheriff's Department and \$20,343 allocated to the Police Department. She stated the Police Department plans to purchase a Morpho Trak Live Scan finger printing system for \$17,023 and two Ballistic Shields for \$1,660 each.

Captain Thompson noted members of the community must have 30-days to examine the grant application and provide feedback to the Police Department. She stated anyone who would like to view the application can contact the Salisbury Police Department at (704) 638-5333 within the next 30 days. She added a public hearing is no longer required to receive the grant.

Councilmember Kennedy stated it is important to seek grants and make the most of Federal funding.

Thereupon, Mr. Kennedy made a **motion** to approve a 2015 Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$32,047. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Meses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

### **APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

### **Human Relations Council**

Upon a motion by Ms. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Kennedy and with Mr. Woodson and Ms. Blackwell voting AYE, the following appointments were made to the Human Relations Council to fill unexpired terms:

Ms. Dora Wood  
Ms. Sue McHugh

Term Expires 03/31/16  
Term Expires 03/31/16

### **CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

There were no comments.

### **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a) 2015 Citizen's Academy

Mayor Woodson announced Applications are now being accepted for the 2015 Salisbury Citizen's Academy. The academy is a 10-week program that meets each Thursday evening from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. beginning September 10, 2015 and ending with graduation November 5, 2015. Participants will meet at various city facilities and have an inside view of City operations. Applications are available online or by calling the City Clerk's office at 704-638-5224. All applications must be received by July 17, 2015.

(b) Movies in the Park

Mayor Woodson announced Salisbury Parks and Recreation will host "Movies in the Park" at City Park, Friday, July 10, 2015. Pre-movie activities will begin at 8:00 p.m. The movie will begin at approximately 9:00 p.m. Bring a blanket or chair to watch the featured movie "The Book of Life." This free event is sponsored by Fibrant and open to the public.

(c) Confederate Statue

Mayor Woodson announced Council has received a number of communications calling for action by the City in response to the massacre of nine black worshippers at their church in Charleston, South Carolina. He added many have questioned the prominent place where the Confederate Statue is currently located. He stated Council knows this is an issue of utmost importance, and it will work diligently to seek a solution. He pointed out Council has not progressed to a point where productive public discussion could be accomplished. He assured citizens Council will give this matter its full consideration. He stated Council will receive public comments at its July 21, 2015 meeting.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Mayor Woodson requested Council go into a closed session to consult with an attorney as allowed by NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3).

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** to go into closed session to consult with an attorney as allowed by NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3). Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

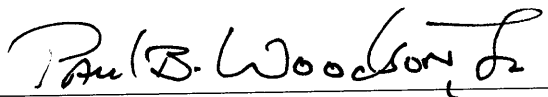
Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** for Council to return to open session. Ms. Blackwell seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

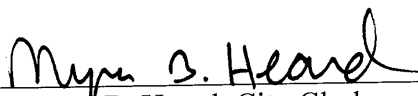
Mayor Woodson announced no action was taken in closed session. He noted there was discussion regarding the Salisbury-Rowan Utilities' (SRU) service for China Grove.

Thereupon, Ms. Alexander made a **motion** to proceed with condemnation of Sanitary Sewer Easement for the Centerview Sanitary Sewer Project in China Grove, North Carolina on the property of Larry and Lois Page, Tax Map 124, Parcel 03501. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. Messrs. Kennedy and Woodson, and Mses. Alexander and Blackwell voted AYE. (4-0)

### **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 6:03 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul B. Woodson, Jr., Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Myra B. Heard, City Clerk