City of High Point

Municipal Office Building
211 South Hamilton Street
High Point, NC 27261

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 6, 2011

4:45:00 PM

Council Chambers

Rebecca R. Smothers, Mayor
Latimer B. Alexander, IV, Mayor Pro Tem
James Corey, Foster Douglas, A.B. Henley, III,
Britt W. Moore, Michael D. Pugh,
Bernita Sims, M. Christopher Whitley

ROLL CALL, PRAYER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Present: Mayor Smothers, Council Member Alexander, Council Member Moore, Council Member Sims, Council Member Douglas, Council Member Pugh, Council Member Whitley and Council Member Corey
Absent: Council Member Henley

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the following meeting were unanimously approved as submitted upon motion by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander and second by Council Member Whitley.

Combined Meeting; Monday, August 15th @ 4:45/5:30 p.m.

FINAL ACTION TAKEN AT THIS MEETING

At the conclusion of the Committee of the Whole Session, and after all matters were heard by Council, **motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Sims to suspend the rules in order to take final action on these matters at tonight's meeting. [8-0 vote] [Council Member Henley was absent]**

Motion was then made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Sims that all Committee recommendations stand as final action regarding these matters. The motion carried unanimously.
[8-0 vote] [Council Member Henley was absent]

PRESENTATION OF ITEMS

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Council Member Alexander, Chair
Committee Members: Whitley, Smothers and Corey

(all were present)

Contract - Piggyback Bid - Southern Pines - Sewer Jet Vacuum Truck

110173 Approval of contract awarding a Piggyback Bid with the Town of Southern Pines for the purchase of a sewer jet vacuum combination truck. Purchasing and Fleet Services recommend that contract be awarded to Rodders & Jet Supply Co., in the amount of $291,280.00.

The Committee recommended this matter be placed on Thursday's Agenda with a favorable recommendation for approval.

Approved contract with Rodders & Jet Supply Co., in the amount of $291,280.00 for the purchase of a sewer jet vacuum combination truck.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Whitley, that this matter be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Contract - Bid No. 51 - Knuckle boom Loader

110174 Approval of contract awarding Bid No. 51 for the purchase of a Knuckleboom Loader for use by the Public Services Department. Purchasing and Fleet Services recommend that contract be awarded to Amick Equipment Company in the amount of $118,655.00 which is the lowest responsible and responsive bidder meeting specifications.

Council Member Sims asked if this piece of equipment was used in the day-to-day operations. Gary Smith, Director of Fleet Services, replied that it is used quite regularly and is used to pick up all bulk items. Council Member Douglas asked how many of these were currently in the city's fleet and if it was being purchased from a local vendor and staff replied the city has five knuckleboom loaders and Amick Equipment Company was a local vendor.

The Committee recommended this matter be placed on Thursday's Agenda with a favorable recommendation.

Approved contract with Amick Equipment Company in the amount of $118,655.00 which is the lowest responsible and responsive bidder meeting specifications.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Sims, that this matter be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Budget Ordinance Amendment - The City Project

110180 Council is requested to adopt a budget ordinance amending the 2011-2012 Budget Ordinance to appropriate funds in the amount of $19,404 for the City Project.

The Committee recommended this matter be placed on Thursday's Agenda with a favorable recommendation.

Adopted ordinance amending the 2011-2012 Budget Ordinance to appropriate funds in the amount of $19,404 for the City Project.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Sims, that this matter be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Council Member Sims, Chair

Committee Members: Alexander, Douglas and Corey

(all were present)

Ordinance - Vacate/Close Dwelling - 205 Whittier Avenue

110175 Approval of an ordinance ordering the inspector to effectuate the vacating and closing of a dwelling located at 205 Whittier Avenue belonging to Evelyn G. Summer.

Chairwoman Sims noted the owner does intend to make the repairs, but cannot gain access to effect the repairs and has not obtained any permits for the repairs. Mayor

Pro Tem Alexander asked if the tenant would be eligible for relocation. Katherine Bossi, Local Codes Enforcement Supervisor noted she has advised Community Development that the tenant is still occupying the structure and they will be getting the paperwork ready over the next couple of days.

Council Member Moore expressed concerns that the owner had not obtained any permits, but the tenant was being cooperative. He questioned the logic and asked staff to respond. Ms. Bossi explained due to the types of repairs, and the conversations staff has had with the owner's representatives that when they go to the property, the tenant will not let them in and pointed out that the owner has not obtained any permits even for the major repairs that need to be effected. Council Member Moore questioned why the city would be assisting with relocating the tenant when the tenant was not being cooperative in the situation. Ms. Bossi noted that Community Development would make the decision as to whether or not the tenant would be eligible for relocation. Council Member Douglas felt this was another example of a landlord casting responsibility on the city to get a tenant removed from their property. Chairwoman Sims agreed that it did look like the city was being used to effect the tenant being removed from the property and pointed out that it's the city's actions that was causing the tenant to not have a place to stay.

Council Member Moore reiterated that the tenant has refused access to the property owner. Chairwoman Sims pointed out Council does not know this as a fact because this was the words from the owner, while the owner hasn't even pulled any permits. Council Member Pugh noted there were only two items on the list to be repaired that would require a permit--one being an electrical permit.

There being no further discussion, the Committee recommended this matter be placed on Thursday's Agenda with a favorable recommendation.

Adopted ordinance ordering the inspector to effectuate the vacating and closing of a dwelling located at 205 Whittier Avenue.

Ordinance No. 6841/11-49 **Introduced 9/6/2011**
Adopted 9/6/2011
Ordinance Book Volume XVII, Page 49

A motion was made by Council Member Sims, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, that this matter be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE - Council Member Whitley, Chair

Committee Members: Sims, Henley and Moore

(Henley was absent)

Pending Items

Part 150 Assessment Report

110038 Consideration of a report from the Planning and Development Department that assesses the PTIA Part 150 Airport Noise Compatibility Study including a recommendation to amend the Airport Overlay District.

Ordinance - Rezoning Case 11-08 (Tract B) - Yean Leong Chu - Westchester Drive

110176 A request by Yean Leong Chu to rezone approximately property from the Residential Single Family-7 (RS-7) District and Conditional Use General Business (CU-GB) District to a Conditional Zoning General Business (CZ-GB) District. The site is lying along the south side of Westchester Drive, approximately 465 feet west of N. Main Street (119 and 123 Westchester Drive).

Chairman Whitley reported that the owner has agreed to add the condition to pave the parking lot, but has not submitted anything to staff in writing.

Continued the public hearing on Rezoning Case 11-08 (Tract B) to Monday, September 19th.

MISCELLANEOUS

Appointment - Planning and Zoning Commission

110177 Mayor Pro Tem Alexander is recommending the appointment of Marie Stone to the Planning & Zoning Commission as his At-Large appointment. Appointment will be effective immediately and will expire 7/1/2014.

Approved the appointment of Marie Stone to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Sims, that this matter be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Appointment - Theatre Advisory Board

110178 As liaison to the Theatre Advisory Board, Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, is recommending the appointment of Joyce Allen-Crawford to the Theatre Advisory Board. Appointment will be effective immediately and will expire 6/1/2014.

Approved the appointment of Joyce Allen-Crawford to the Theatre Advisory Board.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Sims, that this matter be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Reappointment- Guilford County Historic Preservation Commission

110179 Consideration of reappointment of Abigaile Pittman to the Guilford County Historic Preservation Commission. Appointment will be effective immediately and will expire 4/1/2015.

Approved the reappointment of Abigaile Pittman to the Guilford County Historic Preservation Commission.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Whitley, that this matter be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Reappointments- Historic Preservation Commission

110181 Council Member Whitley has recommended the reappointment of Diane Peace (Ward 5) to the Historic Preservation Commission. Council Member Pugh has recommended the reappointment of Shane Brown (Ward 3) to the Historic Preservation Commission. Council Member Douglas has recommended the reappointment of Julius Clark (Ward 2) to the Historic Preservation Commission. All reappointments will be effective 10/17/2011 and will expire 7/1/2014.

Approved the reappointment of Diane Peace, Shane Brown and Julius Clark to the Historic Preservation Commission.

A motion was made by Member Moore, seconded by Council Member Whitley, that this matter be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Appointment/Reappointments - Board of Adjustment

110182 Consideration of the appointment of Gena Leonard Lester as an alternate member on the Board of Adjustment. Appointment to be effective immediately and will expire 7/1/2014.
Consideration of the appointment of James Davis as an alternate member on the Board of Adjustment. Appointment to be effective immediately and will expire 7/1/2012.
Consideration of the appointment of Harry Rowsey, Jr., as a regular member on the Board of Adjustment. Appointment to be effective immediately and will expire on 7/1/2013.
Consideration of the reappointment of Ozzie Hough and Allan Tarbell to the Board of Adjustment. Appointments to be effective immediately and will expire on 7/1/2014.

Since this matter did not originally appear on tonight's Agenda, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Sims to suspend the rules to place this matter on the agenda for consideration. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved the preceding appointments/reappointments to the Board of Adjustment.

A motion was made by Council Member Sims, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, that this matter be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Appointment/Reappointments to High Point Economic Development Corporation

110183 Consideration of the appointment of Lee Boone (Legacy Classic Furniture) to the High Point Economic Development Corporation. Mr. Boone will fill the seat of Ruffin Price (Ruffin Price Insurance Agency), who has completed 2.5 terms and is ineligible for reappointment. Appointment effective immediately and will expire 6/30/2013.

Consideration of the reappointment of Phil Fowler (Geneva Corporation/Covington Power); Steve Holcombe (TransTech Pharma); Annie Tyson Jett (B & C Associates); and Ralph Wear (Ralph Lauren Corporation: to the High Point Economic Development Corporation. Reappointments effective immediately and will expire 6/30/2013.

Since this matter did not originally appear on tonight's Agenda, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Alexander, seconded by Council Member Sims to suspend the rules to place this matter on the agenda for consideration. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved the preceding appointment/reappointments to the High Point Economic Development Corporation.

A motion was made by Council Member Sims, seconded by Council Member Douglas, that this matter be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - 5:15 P.M.

Mayor Smothers opened the floor for public comments. There being non one present to address Council, the public comment period was closed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ITEMS

There were no public hearings scheduled for tonight's meeting.

For Information Only:

Resolution of Appreciation

Mayor Smothers presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Mr. Farrell Grady recognizing his heroic efforts and his quick response in calling 911 to get emergency assistance for Officer Alex Lingerfelt, who was injured in a serious traffic accident in the 300 block of Model Farm Road in High Point on Thursday, July 21, 2011.

Officer Lingerfelt was present and stood with Mr. Grady as he was presented the resolution. The Mayor also recognized Officer Lingerfelt's father, Steve Lingerfelt, who was also in the audience for the special occasion. Steve Lingerfelt is the city's Director of Communication & Information Services.

Request to Loosen Debris Restrictions

Council Member Pugh reported that he has received numerous complaints from citizens regarding the city's restrictions on debris pick-up, particularly having to cut limbs to a 4-foot length and tie them in bundles. He felt Council should revisit it and loosen the restrictions. Chris Thompson, Director of Public Services, explained that the city does lift the restrictions on occasions such as storms, but has found that doing this leaves room for abuse. He pointed out that citizens does offer free disposal for those who can haul the debris to Ingleside. Council Member Sims encouraged Council Member Pugh to contact the city staff and report the calls when he receives them to allow staff to respond to these situations on a case-by-case basis. She did not feel a need to relax the regulations because she felt it was only in these isolated instances where the ordinance does not work.

Special Recognition

Mayor Smothers recognized Sid Adams and asked him to introduce the Boy Scouts present at the meeting. Mr. Adams recognized Boy Scout Erin Peacock, who was present and working on his Citizenship of the Community and Scout Leader Martin Wall with Boy Scout Troop #55.

Accolades- John Coltrane International Jazz & Blues Festival

Council Member Sims briefly reported on the success of the John Coltrane International Jazz & Blues Festival recently held on Saturday, September 3rd. She noted they received glowing comments from many of those who attended the event. She also publicly thanked the city staff and the many volunteers who helped make the event such a huge success and for the City Council who supported the endeavor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

____

Rebecca R. Smothers, Mayor

Attest:

____

Lisa B. Vierling, MMC
City Clerk