

**MONDAY-7:00 P.M.**

**JANUARY 11, 2010**

**CITY COUNCIL**

The City Council of the City of Elizabeth City held its first regular meeting of the year on the above date and time in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building with Mayor R. A. McLean presiding. Those members present were: J. M. Baker, M. E. Brooks, L. A. Hummer, L. Hill-Lawrence, R. E. King, B. S. Meggs, J. A. Stimatz and J. B. Walton. City Staff attending were: City Manager R. C. Olson, City Clerk D. S. Pierce-Tamplen, City Attorney W. H. Morgan, Human Resource Director K. W. Felton, Inspection Director S. E. Ward, Fire Chief L. M. Mackey, Parks and Recreation Director B. White, Police Chief C. E. Crudup, Planning Director J. C. Brooks, Finance Director S. E. Blanchard and Public Utilities Director P. A. Fredette.

Mayor R. A. McLean opened the meeting and established a quorum was present. He called upon Reverend Thelma Mitchell for the invocation after which the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

**1} APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Mayor McLean called for approval of the agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer asked to remove ***Item #8d-Discussion of request to appeal the denial of application to drive a taxicab;*** and ***Item 8-e-Discussion of demolition of property located at 517 South Road Street.***

Councilman R. E. King asked to remove ***Item 8-g- Water Agreements with Pasquotank County.***

Councilman J. A. Stimatz asked to remove from the Consent Agenda and place on the Regular Agenda for discussion ***Item 7-a2-Call for a public hearing regarding establishing an internet access provider fee of \$100 per terminal per year;*** and ***Item 7-e-Consideration of application to Tourism Authority in the amount of \$750.00 toward the Hands of Liberty restoration project.***

***A motion was made by Councilman J. A. Stimatz, seconded by Councilman R. E. King to approve the prepared agenda as presented to include the above noted changes. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Stimatz, King, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer, Meggs and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.***

**2} PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

There were four individuals attending that wished to address the City Council. They were as follows:

Mr. Darrell McKinley, 1716 Providence Road, Elizabeth City who spoke regarding the drainage situation throughout the City. He asked that Council consider putting a motion on the floor to stop issuing all building permits until the drainage problems were solved. He also asked that Council not consider reducing the electric rates if it means that other service fees would increase.

Ms. Lorna C. Wann, 409 Harney Street, Elizabeth City spoke regarding the taxicab ordinance. She hopes that Council will not place the meters in the taxicabs.

Ms. Freda L. Smith, 1509 Emerald Lake Circle, Elizabeth City spoke regarding her concerns on taxicab regulations.

Mr. Anthony Sawyer, 2715 West Main Street Extended also expressed his concerns regarding the regulations being place on taxicabs.

**3} APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

***A motion was made by Councilman R. E. King, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer, to approve the minutes of December 14, 2009 (a) & (b). Those voting in favor of the motion were: King, Hummer, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, Meggs, Stimatz and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.***

**4} CONSENT AGENDA:**

***A motion was made by Councilwoman J. M. Baker, seconded by Councilwoman B. S. Meggs to approve the following Consent Agenda. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Baker, Meggs, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer, King, Stimatz and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.***

Consent Agenda

a} Called a public hearing for Monday, January 25, 2010 to be held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building for Consideration of Text Amendment TA-05-09 to amend Section 12-10 of the UDO to allow more than one entry marker per development and allow 10 logos, trademarks of

symbols on entry markers within the Halstead Boulevard Extension Overlay District.

b} Approved the following 2010 City Council meeting schedule.

**CITY OF ELIZABETH CITY  
CITY COUNCIL  
2010 CALENDAR**

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>FIRST REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE MONTH</b>	<b>SECOND REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE MONTH</b>	<b>JOINT CITY COUNTY MEETING</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>February</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	
<b>March</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>April</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>26<sup>h</sup></b>	
<b>May</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>To Be Announced</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>July</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NONE</b>	
<b>August</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>September</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>October</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> Wednesday</b>	
<b>November</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>December</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NONE</b>	

**\*Regular City Council Meeting to begin at 7:00 p.m.**

**\*\*Work Session will begin at 5:30 p.m. prior to Second Regular City Council Meeting**

c} Approved the following Budget Amendments:

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS  
NUMBER 10-01**

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that the following amendments be made to the annual budget ordinance and capital project ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010:

**SECTION I.** That the General Fund Balance Appropriated (10.3990.0000) and the Elections Expenditure (10.6600.5880) be increased by \$2,386.

(To record election costs of \$43,386 – \$41,000 budgeted.)

**SECTION II.** That the Stormwater Retained Earnings Appropriated (34.3990.0000) be increased by \$140,000, the Transfer to Roanoke Drainage Project Fund (34.8500.9101) be increased by \$40,000, and the Transfer to Water & Sewer Fund (348.500.9103) be increased by \$100,000.

That the Roanoke Drainage Fund Transfer from Stormwater Fund (573.9700.0001) and Roanoke Drainage Construction (57.6600.8100) be increased by \$40,000.

That the Water & Sewer Transfer from Stormwater Fund (31.3970.3400) and the Water & Sewer Capital Improvements (31.8280.7300) be increased by \$100,000.

(To increase appropriation from Stormwater Fund to Roanoke Drainage Capital Project Fund and transfer funds from Stormwater Fund to Water & Sewer Fund for water and sewer improvements to be completed in conjunction with Roanoke Drainage Project. This transfer is in the form of a loan to be repaid \$20,000 annually beginning in fiscal year 2010/11.)

**SECTION III.** That the Water & Sewer Retained Earnings Appropriated (31.3990.0000) and Water & Sewer Capital Improvements (31.8280.7300) be increased by \$19,000.

(To record appropriation for Millbrook Subdivision for upsizing water line.)

**ADOPTED**, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January 2010.

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Roger A. McLean  
Mayor

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Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC  
City Clerk

**BUDGET AMENDMENT  
NUMBER 2010-2  
January 11, 2010**

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City that the following amendments be made to the annual budget ordinance and capital project ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010:

**SECTION I.** That the General Fund Balance Appropriated (103990.0000) and the Elections Expenditure (106600.5880) be increased by \$2,386.

**(To record election costs of \$43,386 – \$41,000 budgeted.)**

**SECTION II.** That the Stormwater Retained Earnings Appropriated (343990.0000) be increased by \$140,000, the Transfer to Roanoke Drainage Project Fund (348500.9101) be increased by \$40,000, and the Transfer to Water & Sewer Fund (348500.9103) be increased by \$100,000.

That the Roanoke Drainage Fund Transfer from Stormwater Fund (573970.0001) and Roanoke Drainage Construction (576600.8100) be increased by \$40,000.

That the Water & Sewer Transfer from Stormwater Fund (313970.3400) and the Water & Sewer Capital Improvements (318280.7300) be increased by \$100,000.

(To increase appropriation from Stormwater Fund to Roanoke Drainage Capital Project Fund and transfer funds from Stormwater Fund to Water & Sewer

Fund for water and sewer improvements to be completed in conjunction with Roanoke Drainage Project. This transfer is in the form of a loan to be repaid \$20,000 annually beginning in fiscal year 2010/11.)

**SECTION III.** That the Water & Sewer Retained Earnings Appropriated (313990.0000) and Water & Sewer Capital Improvements (318280.7300) be increased by \$19,000.

(To record appropriation for Millbrook Subdivision for upsizing water line.)

**ADOPTED**, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January 2010.

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Roger A. McLean  
Mayor

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Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC  
City Clerk

d} Authorized the execution of a reimbursable agreement with the Airport Authority

e} Approved the execution of Engineering Agreements with Progressive Engineering Consultants, Inc.

End of Consent Agenda

**5} REGULAR AGENDA:**

**a}** Call for a public hearing regarding establishing an Internet Access Provider Fee:

Mayor McLean called upon City Manager Olson for comments.

Mr. Olson advised that with the recent approval of Code changes that would allow Internet sweepstakes cafes' within the City, staff has been trying to determine which category and how much of a fee would need to be charged for a privilege license. After conferring with several other cities that allow these enterprises, it was determined that a majority of the cities have established a

separate fee. The fee structures have carried from a flat fee per business to a fee per terminal. Under our UDO the City Council must approve the number of terminals per location. Staff has designed a fee schedule based on an annual per-terminal charge. Two cities currently charge a flat fee' one charges \$2600 per year, while the other city charges \$1,000 per year. Staff is recommending that a public hearing be called for January 25, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. for consideration of an amendment to the privilege license fee schedule establishing an internet access provider fee of \$100 per terminal per year.

***A motion was made by Councilman J. A. Stimatz, seconded by Councilman M. E. Brooks to call for a public hearing to be held on January 25, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building for consideration of establishing an internet access provider fee of \$100 per terminal per year. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Stimatz, Brooks, Baker, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer, King, Meggs and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.***

**b}** Application to Tourism Authority in the amount of \$750.00 for the Hands of Liberty:

Mr. Olson stated that on the Pasquotank County Courthouse lawn is a statue called the "Hands of Liberty." The statue was donated by ECSU in 1976 as a gift for the bicentennial. Over the last 30 years, the base of the statue has suffered vandalism, a car wreck and severe deterioration. The ECSU Foundation has started a drive to renovate the base of the statue. The estimated cost to repair the base is \$3,500. This item was discussed at the last Elizabeth City Downtown, Inc. board meeting and Councilwoman Meggs has asked staff to place the matter on tonight's agenda. Annually, the City Council budgets money to be used by the Council throughout the year for contingency items such as this. Because of recent contributions to the three different homeless organizations there are no funds left in this contingency fund. The City does have approximately \$24,000 available for allocation through the Tourism Development Authority. It is being requested that the City Council submit an application to the TDA in the amount of \$750.00 as the City's share of the project.

Following discussion, the following motion was made:

***A motion was made by Councilman R. E. King, seconded by Councilman J. B. Walton to authorize the City Manager to submit an application in the amount of \$750.00 to the Tourism Development Authority to help fund repairs to the Hands of Liberty statue. Those voting in favor of the motion were: King,***

**Walton, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer and Meggs.  
Against: Stimatz. Motion carried.**

c} Appointment to Community Relations Commission:

Mayor McLean stated that there was a vacancy on the Community Relations Commission and he would like to submit the name of Pat Franzese for confirmation. The previous appointee was a member of the US Coast Guard and he has been transferred to Florida, thereby creating a vacancy on Community Relations Committee. Ms. Franzese previously served on the Commission and was a very active member. Thereby he is asking Council to confirm his recommendation of appointing Mrs. Pat Franzese to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Keith Jarvis.

**A motion was made by Councilman by R. E. King, seconded by Councilman J. B. Walton to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Mrs. Pat Franzese as a member of the Community Relations Commission to fill the unexpired term of Keith Jarvis. Those voting in favor of the motion were: King, Walton, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer, Meggs and Stimatz. Against: None. Motion carried.**

d} Taxicab Ordinance:

City Manager R. C. Olson stated that during the Council meeting of December 14, 2009, a motion was made to repeal the taxicab ordinance that was adopted on December 8, 2009. That motion would be considered as the introduction of an ordinance action; and, since it did not have the required three-fourths majority vote, a second reading is now required. If the repeal of the December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 taxicab ordinance is adopted on tonight it could mean that we would not have the ability to regulate taxicabs until a new ordinance is adopted that specifically gives us that power. The City is not required to regulate taxicabs under state law; however, previous City Council elected to do so. A new taxicab ordinance requires two readings, unless approved by a 2/3 majority vote on the first reading.

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer stated she would like to say it wasn't a fair setting for some of us to meet with taxicab drivers. She will meet with anyone that wants to meet with her. It really wasn't a fair setting at the Joint City/County meeting when we didn't have an ordinance in front of us without the Police Chief, the police office that is in charge of overseeing the taxicabs and the taxicab owners and drivers. She feels that we did the right thing by meeting with the owners and drivers as she wanted to hear what they had to say.

Councilman Stimatz said we took a vote to repeal the entire ordinance. We agree now that we are going to do a different route. To close the loop procedurally he thinks that we have to do something with that.

Mr. Morgan said that we just talked about that and he feels that we should vote down the total repeal and have a second motion that calls for a second public hearing to change the taxicab ordinance to incorporate these changes.

Mayor McLean asked if we vote the repeal down then what is in effect.

Mr. Morgan responded that the prior ordinance would be in effect until April 1st regardless. The one that was passed on December 8<sup>th</sup> was not to take effect until April 1, 2010.

Councilwoman Hill-Lawrence said that she wanted to say to Jean that the reason that Councilman Brooks and she took the effort to hold the meeting was because these cab drivers are in our Ward. They are in the Third and Fourth Wards so she thinks it is only right that we hold that meeting.

Councilwoman Baker said her question is could she have a list of what is left if we take out all these changes. What is left from what the Commission brought forth for changes to the originally ordinance?

Mr. Olson said that staff would provide Council with an add/delete revision to the December 8<sup>th</sup> action that the City Council took. If you remember when the committee brought items to the City Council, you added a number of items to that. He will have to go back and research what those items were.

Councilman Walter said as he stated earlier you have to look at things subjectively and not so objectively. The subjects now are the taxicab drivers. He thinks by reviewing things the way we have we are satisfying the same way that we did the developers. Always think of who is going to gain the most out of it. Help as many people as you can.

Councilman King said before we come back to send us a copy of the originally ordinance.

Mr. Olson said that he wants everyone to understand that if you repeal the December 8<sup>th</sup> ordinance it will not take actual effect of law until April 1<sup>st</sup>. We are still operating under the previous ordinance which is in the City's Code Book.

***A motion was made by Councilwoman L. Hill-Lawrence to repeal the December 8<sup>th</sup> Taxicab Ordinance. Councilman M. E. Brooks seconded the motion. Those voting in favor of the motion: Hill-***

**Lawrence, Brooks, Baker, Hummer, King, Meggs, Stimatz and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.**

**Councilman R. E. King made a motion, seconded by Councilman J. A. Stimatz, to call for a public hearing to be held on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building for consideration to amend the Taxicab Ordinance. Those voting in favor of the motion: King, Stimatz, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence-Hummer, Meggs and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.**

e} Electric Rate Decrease/Possible Budget Reductions:

Mr. Olson stated the City Council received a list of proposed cuts in both the Electrical and General Fund budgets. As the Council is well aware of for us to do anything with the electric rates we have two options available to us. One is to cut expenditures in the Electrical Fund and the other is to cut expenses in the General Fund which will allow us to not transfer as much money from the Electric Fund into the General Fund. He went over the proposed reductions. The total amount of decreases is \$625,684.00. To lower the electric rates by 1% we have to have \$380,000 worth of expenditures reductions. The \$625,000.00 reduction equals a 1.65% decrease in the Electric Rates. For the City Council to either increase or decrease rates does require an ordinance be adopted and that a public hearing held. One of staff's concerns is that if you decide to do a rate increase or a rate reduction that we make it effective with the next month's billing period just because of the way the cycles fall.

Councilwoman Hill-Lawrence asked under the General Fund Administrative she saw that you reduced that by \$15,000. Would that entail someone not getting a raise or something that is needed will be not gotten.

Mr. Olson said that is there because we had an Intern in the Manager's office and he is no longer working for the City. We will not be filling his position. That is where you see the \$15,000.

Councilman Brooks said just in case the people in the audience don't understand what is going on it is that the City Manager and Finance Director found some areas that we can do some cuts. We can't take a big bite out of reducing the electric rates but what happens is we are chopping away at it. When we said we were going to reduce the electric rates we didn't say for how much. We really have the people in mind and this is a beginning.

Councilwoman Baker asked how this would impact the repair of our streets.

Mr. Olson said what we are doing is we looked at the expenditures to date and we have just recently completed a \$1.5 overlay program. What you are seeing there is that we reduced contractual services by \$54,000. If we run into a problem what we will do is we will use Power Bill Funds to supplement that. We have \$1.8 million in Power Bill Funds. Remember \$500,000 of that will be our share of the Charles Creek Bridge Contract.

Ms. Baker asked how much of this change will be reflected in someone's bill?

Mr. Olson replied that a normal customer will see approximately \$2.00 reduction.

Ms. Baker said another way that we can possibly save some money is she knows that we have a 401 Program for our employees and she thinks what we do is everybody gets that 401K match from the City but they don't have to donate anything or contribute to their own retirement to get 401K from the City. How many employees would you say actually contribute 5% in order to be matched if we went on a match basis which most companies do. Nobody gives in fact she has found no companies that just give it outright if the employee doesn't match it.

Mr. Olson said approximately 25.

Councilwoman Baker asked if he could bring those numbers to us.

Mr. Olson said the problem is that it is hard for us to provide you numbers because you are asking us to determine what our employees are going to do.

Ms. Baker said base it on a 3% contribution. Pick a number. She thinks there is a maximum we can do as well as there is a maximum that they can do. Just based on how many employees contribute at least 3% to their own retirement or their own 401K.

Councilman Stimatz said we have been asking for this info for four years and haven't gotten these numbers before but that is a whole other issue. We are spending down the General Fund Reserve for \$200,000. He would like to apologize to the gentleman from Oxford Heights because we are going to use your tax money to defray electric bills. This is for this year. This is nice for now but the real hardship is when we start the budget. We know we have a \$140,000 hole because of the sales tax deferential. We know that sales taxes are down and other revenues are down so we are going to have more pressure on the General Fund budget. It will be interesting to see if you are going to turn this to a one-time or multi year thing.

Councilman Brooks said that he finds it amazing that with the last Council the rates were raised 18%; the water bill was raised and also raised taxes. All of a sudden you have a Council that is trying to make the burden a little lighter on people and fault is trying to be found in that. The problem that he has is that the scare tactics don't work anymore. There is nothing to fear as when the problems come up we will take care of them. We need to stop trying to put fear in our citizens. You have a council now that is really concerned about the well-being of our citizens. Let's not use the scare tactics.

Mayor McLean said he has a comment on this whole ordeal. He had a meeting with staff last week. This is staff from the City and he asked what was their opinion as to the number one problem in Elizabeth City. All but two of them said electric bills. As a Council we have to address that issue because we are losing customer base and people are moving from the City because they can't afford to pay their electric bill. The City is not affordable. He is going to applaud the staff for what they did here. When he worked for the state for twenty-three years when the State called ECSU and told them to reduce their budget by 10%, there was no public hearing. You had to give them a budget reduction of 10%. What he has seen here the staff needs to be applauded because we are moving in the right direction. The annual electric rate was reduced this year by 3.4%. As Mayor and he can't speak on behalf of the Council but we don't intent to stop there. We are planning to work with staff to come up with a budget that will give additional relief to the people of Elizabeth City because we are the ones with the burden. This year we had our electric rates increase by 18%, our property taxes increased by 10%, sales taxes increased by 1% and those total 29% in fees and taxes in one year. We do want to keep a fund balance. At the same time how about the people that live in the City that don't have bank accounts. What we want to do from a council standpoint is to show empathy and do what is necessary to provide relief as well as make our city more affordable. We want people saying good things about our City again and that is what we are trying to accomplish. We are not stopping with 3.3%. We hire people, we pay people and we work with people to come up with a plan that is good for our citizens. At the same time we are not going to bankrupt the City because we can operate on less because the people need more. If we get this thing through on January 25<sup>th</sup> this is going to put \$625,000 back into the hands of the citizens and the businesses.

***A motion was made by Councilman R. E. King, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer to call for a public hearing to be held on Monday, January 25, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. to be held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Administrative Building for consideration of an ordinance reflecting a 1.65% electric rate reduction. Those voting in favor of the motion were: King,***

***Hummer, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, Meggs, Stimatz and Walton.***

**6} COMMENTS AND INQUIRES ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

City Manager R. C. Olson stated he had no further comments.

Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer stated she would also like to commend the City Manager and the Department Heads and staff that were willing to look through their budgets and come up with these cuts. She appreciates the fact that there was no recommendation to cut 401K, salaries or city services. She is proud of everyone for not doing that. She also has one other item. She believes it was last weekend there was an honor bestow upon Mayor McLean's Father. He had a community center named after him in Rex, North Carolina. His father is such a wonderful dedicated citizen living in that community and they took the opportunity to name that center after him.

Councilman J. B. Walton said he would like to commend the city staff for doing such a good job. He was the one that put this motion in place. He is not going to critique the last Council because that is not the right thing to do. We are not going to be a council that is out to undo everything that the last council did. We are going to try to do the things that are right. They talked about the next budget being a problem but that is why we are here to solve those problems. Every time a problem comes up that is another opportunity to do something that is miraculous, not to sit back and cry about it but to make it work. He wants to commend the Mayor for his work as he is making things happen.

Councilwoman J. E. Baker said that she would like to commend Council too because it is not an easy thing to do. It is an easier thing to do to cut budget when you haven't spent the money and it will be a little tougher the next time around. You can find places to cut or use better methods to get where you want to go. Everybody has got to work at it. No matter what it takes we have got to do it. She attended the Committee of 100 meeting last week at the Pines that was very eye opening for the School of the Arts. They have a quarterly presentation that brings something to the community.

Councilman R. E. King said his question is Brooks Avenue has turned into Roanoke Avenue. We need to try to find something to do to fix it.

Councilwoman L. Hill-Lawrence said she wanted to remind everyone about the Martin Luther King breakfast at ECSU on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. Dianne has tickets if you need one. She knows she is going to see all the Council members there. She is excited about the Oak Grove project that is going to be started soon. We have to work on Spaulding Park now.

Councilwoman B. S. Meggs said that people say that Ward One has no drainage problems but when it is raining like it has been raining you see that Ward One also has drainage problems.

Councilman J. A. Stimatz said he had no further comments.

Councilman M. E. Brooks stated he had no further comments.

Mayor McLean said he has enjoyed working with all of Council. We are not always going to agree but he knows we will do what is best for the City. We are putting together a preferred maintenance plan and we are taking into consideration all the areas that we need to make improvements on. We are also going to put forth efforts to improve the customer services we offer. If you have ideas or suggestions you know where the Mayor's office is. Please go see Dianne Tamplen if you have problems. If you have good news, come see him. He has thoroughly enjoyed working with this Council. We are going to work together and we will take one step at a time.

**7} CLOSED SESSION:**

Mayor McLean entertained a motion to retire into Closed Session for consultation with the City Attorney as per NCGS 143-318.11(a) (5) and NCGS 143-318.11(a) (7); and NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6).

***A motion was made by Councilwoman B. S. Meggs, seconded by Councilman J. A. Stimatz to retire into Closed Session for consultation with the City Attorney as per NCGS 143-318.11(a) (5) and NCGS 143-318.11(a) (7); and NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6). Those voting in favor of the motion were: Meggs, Stimatz, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer, King and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.***

Upon the end of the Closed Session:

***A motion was made by Councilman J. A. Stimatz, seconded by Councilman R. E. King to return to Regular Session of Council. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Stimatz, King, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer, Meggs and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.***

**8} ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the City Council at this time, Mayor McLean called for a motion of adjournment.

***A motion was made by Councilman J. A. Stimatz, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hummer to adjourn the meeting. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Stimatz, Hummer, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, King, Meggs and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.***

Mayor McLean adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

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Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC  
City Clerk

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Roger A. McLean  
Mayor