



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Councilors

FROM: Rich Olson, City Manager

DATE: April 13, 2006

REF: FYI

PC: Departmental Directors, etal

1. The Pasquotank County Tax Office notified the City this week that collection proceedings have begun on the unpaid sewer assessments associated with the 1998 involuntary annexation. The Assessment Resolution adopted by the City Council on March 15, 1999 levied a flat amount of \$2,285.25 on each annexed parcel. The resolution provided for affected property owners to receive a 5% discount on the assessment if the total amount was paid within thirty days of the published notice confirming the assessment roll. Those property owners who did not take advantage of the discount option were allowed to pay the assessment in five annual installments, which bore an annual interest rate of 2%. There were approximately 470 parcels affected by the assessment. Of that amount, only 41 parcels have assessments that remain either partially or totally unpaid. The total amount remaining that is due the City is \$64,778.97.
2. The Elizabeth City Police Department received notification from Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation that a grant has been awarded in the amount of \$5,000 for the purchase and implementation of equipment for "Project Lifesaver". As you know, "Project Lifesaver" is a program designed to locate missing individuals that suffer from Alzheimer's that may wander from home or other care facilities. The ECPD learned of program, "Project LifeSaver" from searchers participating in the search of an 86-year-old Alzheimer's patient that wandered away from a local healthcare facility.

3. Staff continues to work with Elizabeth City State University to relocate the generator situated at the former Winslow Memorial Home site to the K. E. White Graduate Center. As you are aware, the Center is used by the American Red Cross as an emergency shelter and it currently does not have emergency power. During Hurricane Isabel, the building was without power for five days while housing 350 persons displaced by the storm. Notification has been received from the NC State Property Office advising that it has no objection to placing the City's generator on State-owned property. Staff will work with ECSU officials to draft a maintenance agreement for the equipment prior to its installation. That agreement will be brought before the Council for consideration and approval in the very near future. Our goal is to have the generator installed prior to the start of hurricane season on June 1.
4. Design is nearing completion of the proposed Streetscape project along Main Street. The project will extend from Martin Luther King Drive to Road Street and consists of resurfacing the street, crosswalks and new decorative street lighting. Alternate bids will be received for sidewalk and curb and gutter replacement. The pre-bid meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2006, the bid opening is set for May 16, 2006 and recommendation of award for construction will be considered at the May 22, 2006 City Council meeting.
5. During the Albemarle Commission Board Meeting, which will be held at the Museum of the Albemarle on April 20th at 5:00 pm, Representative Bill Owens and Billy Ray Hall, President of the NC Rural Economic Development Center will present North Carolina's Vision 2030. Mr. Hall will explain Vision 2030 in detail and will document the growing need for critical investments in water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure. Sponsors of the meeting are the Rural Center, the NC League of Municipalities, the NC Association of County Commissioners, the Clear Water Management Trust Fund, the NC Chapter of the American Waterworks Association, the NC Rural Water Association and the American Council of Engineering Companies of North Carolina. The meeting is open to all Town and County officials within Albemarle Commission's service area. I plan to attend the meeting with two staff members and would welcome the participation of all Councilors as well.
6. The Elizabeth City Fire Department will hold its last orientation for applicants that have applied for the vacant firefighter positions on Saturday, April 29th at 9:00 am in room C-213 at the College of the Albemarle. Persons interested must have their application on file before attending an orientation session. The session will include a video explaining parts of the hiring process and a competency exam.

7. Reminder: The Elizabeth City/Pasquotank County Police Athletic League (PAL) will be hosting its 1st Police-A-Kid-Emy at the Elizabeth City Middle School during Spring Break, April 14-21, 2006. To date over 170 kids have registered for the camp. Pre-registration will be held today and tomorrow from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the lobby of the Police Department.
8. Reminder: Weather permitting, the Fire Department will conduct a “Live Fire Training Exercise” at 305 N. Martin Luther King Drive on Saturday April 15 beginning at 9 a.m. MLK Drive will be closed from Elizabeth Street to Pearl Street to lay water supply lines for the exercise.
9. There will be a ribbon cutting hosted by the Elizabeth City Area Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, April 20th at 5:00 for Courtneys Restaurant located at The Pines Country Club. If you plan to attend, please respond directly to the Chamber by calling 335-4365.
10. I would like to extend my best wishes to the Council and City employees for a safe and happy Easter holiday.

RCO/vdw