

MONDAY – 5:30 P.M.

MAY 24, 2010

WORK SESSION

The City Council of the City of Elizabeth City held a work session on the above date and time in the City Council Chambers with Mayor R. A. McLean presiding and members: J. M. Baker, M. E. Brooks, L. Hill-Lawrence, L. A. Hummer, R. E. King, B. S. Meggs, J. A. Stimatz and J. B. Walton in attendance. City staff members attending were: City Attorney W. H. Morgan, Deputy City Clerk V. D. White, Finance Director S. E. Blanchard, Public Utilities Director P. A. Fredette, Planning Director J. C. Brooks, Police Chief C. E. Crudup, Fire Chief L. M. Mackey, Inspections Director S. E. Ward, Electrical Director K. F. Clow and Parks and Recreation Director B. V. White.

Mayor McLean opened the meeting and established a quorum as present and called the meeting to order. He called upon Councilwoman Lena Hill-Lawrence for the invocation after which the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was given.

1} APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Mayor McLean called for action regarding the prepared agenda.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer, seconded by Councilwoman J. M. Baker to approve the prepared agenda as presented. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Hummer, Baker, Brooks, Hill-Lawrence, King, Meggs, Stimatz and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

2} PRESENTATION – ALBEMARLE HOMECARE/HOSPICE OVERVIEW – ALTHEA KEATON:

Ms. Keaton talked about the recent health care fair that was recently held and she thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing her to come in and present the services. This was a great opportunity for the city employees to come by and learn about the different services and vendors that are out there to help them do their job safely. With today's economy there is an increase in number of patients without insurance coverage due to companies cutting back on expenses or general layoffs. Medical care and medications we are seeing have been on the rise. The financial status of the nation, state and local counties puts funding limitations on the programs that we offer. She quickly reviewed the services offered by Albemarle Home Care as it does cover six counties and we serve over 1700 patients a year. We have been providing services for 42 years. We are

unique and different in that we are a program of Albemarle Regional Health Services. We provide multiply programs including Home Health Program which is a Medicare and Medicaid certified skilled service program. We provide the Hospice Program which is for terminally ill patients and adult day care services which are for patients 18 years old and older. We do case management for the CAP Medicaid program. We have approximately 100 employees just within Albemarle Home Care and Hospice. Funding for our services is federal, state and county. Each County does contribute to our budget to help up to continue to provide services. To give you a brief overview of Albemarle Home Care Services we do the skilled discipline of nursing, physical occupation speech therapy along with home health aid and social workers. We only can provide those services under a physician order. Nursing services can be simple as medication management for newly diagnosis patients. That is really important for a lot of people that may be newly diagnosis with diabetes. We can also do the high end service of therapy and wound care. Payment for services Medicare does require that the patient be homebound. The services are provided in the home. We do ask for the support of the family members so that the care of the patient will meet the goal. Our Adult Day Care Program is located in Edgewood section over by Elizabeth City State University. That is for patients that are 18 and older. They provide breakfast, lunch and snacks. There is a nurse on staff at all times. There are lots of activities going on there. There are plenty of events and lots of hugs. She briefly went over some other programs they offered.

3} REQUESTS FOR FUNDING BY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS:

The following non-profit organizations presented their request for funds to members of City Council.

- 1} Community Relations Commission - Hezekiah Brown, Kurt Hunsberger and Ernest Sutton - \$2,755.
- 2} Food Bank of the Albemarle – Liz Reasoner – \$20,000
- 3} Habitat for Humanity – Pat Franzese - \$5,000
- 4} Healthy Carolinians of the Albemarle – Ann Roach - Unspecified
- 5} Northeast Coalition to End homelessness – Jennifer Palestrant - \$8,000
- 6} Port Discover – LuAnne Pendergraft - \$10,000
- 7} River City CDC - Angie Wills - \$5,000

- 8} Skills, Inc – Theo Bohn - Unspecified
- 9] Pasquotank-Camden Library – Mark Maland - \$1,000
- 10} Carolina Cup Regatta - \$3,430

Councilman Walton stated that he is chairman of the Youth Initiative Committee and he would like to be placed in this group for perhaps some funding in the coming budget. It is hard to get anything done without any funds. If there is some money from last year's budget that has yet been spent if we could have some type of start up money it would be appreciated.

Ms. Blanchard stated that we have about \$900 left in contingencies this year.

Mayor McLean stated he has had a chance to visit some of the organizations that are sponsoring services at no cost to citizens. He visited Albemarle Clinic. They give out almost \$2 million per year in free prescriptions. He was totally unaware of that. We have to applaud the not for profits for giving so much to our citizens.

Councilman King said that in June we normally support Juneteenth and it is coming up. He wanted to put that in Council's mind.

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer said in response to Councilman Walton's request, she had asked that it would be put on tonight's agenda but it is not on either agenda tonight.

4} ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS FOR WATER TREATMENT PLANT:

Mayor McLean called upon Public Works Director Fredette for comments.

Mr. Fredette stated the Water Treatment Plant is on the National Registry of Historic Places. About a year ago, Ms. Hummer got a letter from Mr. Cherry about the condition of the Water Treatment Plant specifically the windows were broken in the front, sign out front and he referred to it as the most significant historic building that the City owned. In an attempt to address some of these issues over the last couple of years, we have tried to include some budget items to repair the windows. We found to replace the windows in the front of the building would cost about \$150,000. We have a roof that is leaking. That is going to be a very expensive repair. Most importantly to him were the conditions that the staff is working under. For three years now in most of the offices upstairs there is no central heating or air conditioning for the staff.

He initiated an attempt to put that kind of money together in this year's budget and we may come close to it. He has been looking at stimulus monies. To qualify for the project we want to create the insulated envelope so that if we put heat/air conditioning we will do it energy efficiently. The Energy Office will be accepting applications for grant funding soon. We feel we would have a pretty good chance at funding. We are going to try to get it. He wanted to let you know that we are looking at this year's budget very closely and if he can get the money he would like to move forward with this project.

5} COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Due to a lack of time the Committee Reports will be deferred to the Regular City Council meeting at seven.

6} ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the meeting at this time, Mayor McLean entertained a motion for adjournment.

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

Mayor McLean adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

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