

TUESDAY-7:00 P.M.

JUNE 12, 2007

CITY COUNCIL

The regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Elizabeth City was held on the above date and time in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building with Mayor C. L. Foster presiding. Councilors attending were: J. M. Baker, M. E. Brooks, L. A. Hummer, B. S. Meggs, E. K. Rivers, J. A. Stimatz and J. B. Walton. D. K. Stallings was absent. City Staff attending were: City Manager R. C. Olson, City Clerk D. S. Pierce-Tamplen, City Attorney W. H. Morgan, Fire Chief W. C. Pritchard, Public Utilities Director P. A. Fredette, Inspection Director S. E. Ward, Police Chief C. E. Crudup, Finance Director S. E. Blanchard, Human Resource Director K. W. Felton and Electric Superintendent K. F. Clow.

Mayor Foster opened the meeting by welcoming those attending. He gave the invocation after which Councilman J. A. Stimatz led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

1} AGENDA APPROVAL:

Mayor Foster called for approval on the prepared agenda.

A motion was made by Councilwoman J. M. Baker, seconded by Councilman J. A. Stimatz to approve the agenda as presented. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Baker, Stimatz, Brooks, Hummer, Meggs, Rivers and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

2} APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Mayor Foster called for action regarding the written minutes of the April 23, 2007 Regular Meeting.

A motion was made by Councilwoman J. M. Baker, seconded by Councilman J. A. Stimatz to approve the April 23, 2007 Regular Meeting as presented. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Baker, Stimatz, Brooks, Hummer, Meggs, Rivers and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

3} COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Foster asked the Deputy Clerk if we had anyone to sign up to speak. Upon a reply of no, Mayor Foster moved to the next item on the agenda.

4} PRESENTATION:

Mr. Ken Raber from Electricities of North Carolina presented to the City's Electric Department a RP3 Award. The American Public Power Association is a national service organization representing municipal and other state or local community owned electric utilities throughout the United States and Canada. APPA's program RP3 encourages public power utilities to demonstrate proficiency in four important disciplines. They are reliability, safety, training and system improvement. Electric Superintendent K. F. Clow received the reward and make brief remarks.

5} REGULAR AGENDA:

a} Consideration – Appointments to various committees:

Mayor Foster stated that pursuant to legislation, our Airport Authority consists of six members. Three are appointed by the County and three from the City. The non-voting chairman is rotated between the City and the County. The City's appointees at this time are Kirk Rivers, Bill Barker and Billie Joe Reid. Mr. Reid has submitted his letter of resignation and Mr. Barker's term has expired. He would like to request that Jean Pierre Miller be appointed to replace Mr. Barker on the Authority and appoint Mr. Wayne Perry as the City's choice for chairman. May I have a motion to confirm these two appointments?

A motion was made by Councilman J. A. Stimatz, seconded by Councilwoman B. S. Meggs to confirm the appointment of Jean Pierre Miller to replace Bill Barker and confirm the appointment of Wayne Perry as the Chairman. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Stimatz, Meggs, Baker, Brooks, Hummer, Rivers and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

b} Recommendations from the Mayor's Task Force on Non-Profits:

Mayor Foster called upon City Manager Olson for comments on this item.

Mr. Olson stated that as you are aware the Mayor did appoint a Mayor's Task Force to look at funding the non-profits. The City Council several months ago approved specific guidelines on how those applications should be received and graded. The Mayor's Task Force met on several occasions and evaluated the different proposals that were received from numerous non-profits within the area. Their recommendation to the City Council is as follows:

Pasquotank Arts Council	\$ 2,500
Tabernacle of Faith Outreach	\$14,000
National Council of Negro Women	\$ 2,800
Port Discover	\$ 4,000
Civil Air Patrol	\$ 4,500
Food Bank	\$12,200
Cann Memorial Presbyterian Church	\$ 2,500
College of the Albemarle	\$ 2,500

In addition the City Council had already included in the budget document \$50,000 for funding of non-profits. The amount of money they are allocating is \$45,000 and they are requesting that \$5,000 be put in a Council contingency fund that the Council can use throughout the year when needed organization come forward and makes specific requests. Dianne Pierce-Tamplen worked very closely with this particular group and if there are any specific questions he or Dianne can answer them.

A motion was made by Councilwoman J. M. Baker, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer to approve the recommendations as provided by the Mayor's Task Force on Non-Profits.

Councilman J. B. Walton said that he had questions himself. He believes that the Task Force went forward with what we asked them to do. They may not have known our mission. When you are not clear on a mission it is hard to make recommendations. As he looks at this non-profit list we said that we could approve the \$50,000 but we didn't have to approve how it was given out at this time. To him he thinks that we need to reconsider some things because as he looks at this and we say that we are going to look out for the youth and it is not many things in this here involved with the youth. Even the Mayor you suggested that to us many times. He doesn't see anything that the Boys and Girls Club is involved with. They may not have submitted an application but one of our goals was to look out for them. Sometimes you don't have to put things in writing to know that it needs to be done. He doesn't even know where we stand with the Boys and Girls Club but he knows that it was stated by Phil Donahue that there were going to be some things done at EC Middle School and hopefully the government will give us some grants. He knows that if they give us some grants we are going to have to have some matching funds some kind of way. So just as we did with Roanoke Avenue and as we did with Oak Grove we need to put aside some money so when they do ask for that grant then we will have money to help with the match. Right now we don't have anything in place if there were something to come down and say the government will give us lets say \$500,000 if the City, County or whatever organization will match a \$100,000. If we don't have anything in place so that will be another problem for us. He feels like these

non-profit organizations should include the Boys and Girls Club at least. Then there are those up here that he feels and he is not trying to be contrary but if you open it up for one church are we setting a precedent for the next year. He knows that all church organization kind of have at-risk programs for the summer and they try to look out for all kids during the summer, but if we open it up for one church he can see how that would lead to a big problem next year. He doesn't hold anything against Cann Memorial but we would be opening up a can of worms. Ok, he doesn't have anything against the National Council of Negro Women as his wife is one of those persons and he loves her dearly but it is nothing in place to look out for black males. The stats show that they are the most at risk group in this area from what he is reading. If you go back to the homicides rates in the last three or four years it will show you this is true. There is nothing in this here that will look out for those guys. We need to have programs. Today he went to a gang awareness seminar. John Young and some other officers put on a good session. They had some people from the western part of the state that had a great educational session. You would be surprise to see how much intelligence that they have and how much education they spread today. We don't have anything in place that will look out for those at risk kids. We need to re-look at this before we vote it in. If we vote it in then we are looking at a whole another 365 days before we can do anything else. We have already said that we have a bare budget so we need to put some of that in place before we go any further.

Councilman Brooks said that he has a tendency to be on the line with what Johnnie is saying. He has already talked about the youth. He understands also that the Boys and Girls Club didn't apply. But we are talking about reaching out to the youth and at-risk but yet there is nothing here. Although the Boys Club didn't apply he thinks that they should get a percentage of the money. The Boys and Girls Club is about to shut down as he understands it. We don't even know the status of it. The youth that goes to the Boys and Girls Club can't afford to get out to the YMCA. So we can't talk looking out for the youth and trying to impose a whole lot of restrictions on it but then give them nothing to do. He understands that because they didn't apply for whatever reason that don't forget the fact that we can give them some monies for that. It might be opening up a can of worms but you must understand that you have churches that are being given money also. Even COA and he is sure that you have Elizabeth City State University and also Roanoke Bible College. It is easy for him to say but the committee and he has to commend the committee for whatever reason or whatever way they used to come up with these recommendations and he won't dispute that. At least it took it out of the hands of Council. But, he thinks even in that we should include the Boys and Girls Club. He had a discussion earlier on and he has no problem approving what is here but if we can find a way like 25% of whatever is here and give that to the Boys and Girls Club because there is no such thing as having to much activities for the youth. He thinks that we are

mindful often times of how many youths that is actually in this area. For an area the size of Elizabeth City we have three colleges and three high schools and we are not even counting the other schools. Yet we are trying to push them aside and worry about them getting entangled in criminal activity. We can't talk one thing and not giving them financial support on another.

Councilman Stimatz stated for clarification. The Tabernacle of Faith Outreach is that the money that we gave for the homeless shelter.

Mr. Olson replied that is a separate allocation. Included in the budget is a specific line item in the non-departmental of the General Fund. This is in addition to that money.

Mr. Stimatz said this one is the one that assist children, elderly, physically handicapped or mentally handicapped person who are low income residents. Help him with the math here as it appears to him that all but \$3,000 of the \$45,000 allocated goes directly to programs that help the youth. He does not understand where you can say that we are not helping the youth. He understands that the Boys and Girls Club has come up quite frequently in this place but they didn't come to us. Everyone else came up. We created a process and now we don't want to follow our own process. His only thought is that he looked at the numbers and he read the description and he was very concerned about reaching the youth. The Civil Air Patrol is a very positive program for youth to get involved in the community and has direct potential for job recruitment and a life time career. So, he has less of a problem with it.

Councilwoman Baker stated she wanted to congratulate the Task Force as it is not an easy job and she knows that they spent a lot of time on it. She has spoken with Joe Francese and congratulated him individually for chairing that committee. It is a thankless job and we have many discussions for many years regarding the non-profits, but it was offered to all non-profits and anyone could apply. She is sorry if they didn't. Any church could also apply that is a non-profit. She thinks that the Task Force did a great job and she saw in the paper recently where the Boys and Girls Club were awarded \$25,000 by the Jaycees. She knows that they have gotten some funds. She knows that the county is working on the school issue whereby they are going to allow some non-profits to go into there.

Mr. Brooks said that all this finding and then you talk about them being given \$25,000 and that is fine and dandy. We can't put a price on what it takes to save our children. We can't put a price on that. Just give them \$25,000 and that should save them all. When you are talking about the Civil Air Patrol that is just like the YMCA sitting out there by the hospital. These at risk children are not going to get in that. You have to draw them in somehow. The largest youth

organization in this area that he knows of is the Boys and Girls Club. We are going to act like those other ones that applied that they are going to take up and take all of our youth that the Boys and Girls Club and get them involved. He didn't even know that they had a program that deals with the youth at the magnitude that the Boys and Girls Club does. So what we are trying to do and he understands the process and he is in favor of the process but he thinks that we should give some money to the Boys and Girls Club no matter. If he had it he would give them three million dollars. Even in light of this process that we are going through. We do have a process. We know that the Boys and Girls Club carry the most youth than any other of these groups put together on this paper. What we are trying to do now is trying to say ok. He agrees with Jean that they did a great job of what they did and although they didn't apply we don't know what they are going through or what caused them not to apply. But we do know that they need money. If anyone don't think that they don't need money let them go to the Boys and Girls Club and visit those children and see for themselves and then visit these other groups that claim that they are helping the youth and see who measures up to what. He finds it amazing that we talk about understanding the process but we are talking about helping the youth. But the biggest organization that carries our youth we want to cut them off. The Tabernacle of Faith deals mostly with the homeless. It is easy to put down on paper that we help the youth. He knows because he was there with them. All he is asking is these hard liners that say we have to go strictly by this to lets do something. We want to stick to the rules but when it comes to our youth we want to punish them quickly. That is kind of bad. He gets excited when you talk about the youth because he does not understand. We haven't gotten so far in life and experience that we have forgotten what it is like to be children and then you talk about summer is here and you have youth that has nothing to do and chances are their parents are working and the Boys Club is where they are going to lay their hats because they can't afford child care. Any of these other organizations that say that they help the youth they can't go there all day as a babysitting service. That is what the Boys and Girls Club does. Let's not say because they were given \$25,000 that they can't use anymore money. He will ask each one of you to go through there and look for yourself and try to remember back how it was to be a youth with nothing to do. He just finds this amazing that we want to put these stringent caps on our kids as far as doing something to help them because all of a sudden for whatever reason. We know that it is in turmoil and we know that between them selling and whatever the management is there we know that something could have gotten lost in there. He understands the process, but then don't forget the fact that we should do something to help the kids and don't lay it off on these people who say that they could possibly be when we know that the Boys and Girls Club is setting out there and we haven't even found a place yet where they can actually be. If the Boys and Girls Club gets bought today we can't come up with a place where we can

send these children. He still thinks that we should think on terms giving them something if at all possible.

Councilman Rivers stated that when he ran for City Council, Council stated that we were going to support the youth. The Boys and Girls Club did not apply but in the motion it was to include giving the Boys and Girls Club \$10,000 at that time. They did not apply but the Council saw fit that it was a positive organization and that we needed to put influence money into that to show that we supported that organization. Year after year the non-profits are one of the hardest parts of this budget. Every organization that has received funds will tell you that they are criticized and belittled in the newspaper because of the application process that we make and we seek out certain organizations. It would be hard for him as an Executive Director to ask for City Council and he has said this every year, because you get singled out and you get picked on by certain council members, the Council itself and then you get picked on by the Daily Advance. Is it worth the \$4,000? He has always stated that. Sometimes we recognize the quality that we have. We earmarked \$50,000 for non-profits but it is not limited to as we did not say those were the only organizations. We asked them to narrow it down and come back with a recommendation. The recommendation could be added to. Then he looks at that we have the city people and politics plays a very harsh role in terms of helping our kids because what we do we cause good organizations not to apply because of they don't want the negative criticism. We have Project Voice which last year he voted for that is in a city-owned building that the city started but yet we forget about them. Now, he has no problem with what the Committee recommended as they did exactly what we asked them to do. Make a recommendation and now it is time for Council to critique what they did and then we come with the final presentation on what we would like to see. We have recognized that we have a gang problem or that is what everyone is saying. He thinks that we should open our funds up for community organizations that come up with proposals that will address the gangs. Right now he believes that Project Voice, Elizabeth City Boys and Girls Club, Girls, Inc. they are our hopefuls right now because those are three programs that operate right here. He is in no way knocking any of the other organizations on this paper but he cannot go forward and give them without having what we have already identified as a problem. We have funds set aside in the budget this year for the Police Athletic League which we have always supported then we look at AAU always comes and we are talking about programs that are ineffective. He can't vote for these groups unless we add more. The Committee did their job but now we can add to and break it down and get it into the necessary format that it needs to be. He thinks before we can vote on those we need to add the Boys and Girls Club. They are in the process of management and how can they apply. But they didn't apply the first time either. The City sent them a letter letting them know that they had been voted on by the City Council to receive funds. They didn't come ask and City Council

had it in their hearts and they know the programs and how effective they were. That is what we need to do with the list that was given.

Mayor Foster tabled discussion on this item until after the public hearing.

6} PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Foster called upon Mr. Olson for comments on the first item under public hearing.

Mr. Olson stated that we do have a very short power point presentation for you tonight. It is just a quick overview of the budget itself. As Council is well aware we started several months ago with budget work sessions. We have made the changes that Council asked us to do throughout that process. What we have here is and is included as the Budget Ordinance is our 2007-2008 Actual Operating Budget. The General Fund of \$18,195,120, the Electric Fund of \$32,687,810, the Water and Sewer Fund of \$8,167,420, the Stormwater Utilities Fund of \$791,000 and total budget of \$59,841,350 plus our inner fund transfers of \$2,104,085 so the total effect of our Budget is \$57,737,265. The assessed valuation of our tax is \$1,277,278,562.00 and the tax rate is \$.41 per \$100 valuation. That will raise roughly \$4,988,500 in tax revenue. The highlights of the General Fund very quickly are a 2% COLA for all employees, the hiring of two additional police officers, the continuation of 1% Christmas bonus, the Longevity Pay for employees, an installment purchase plan to purchase two pickups, five police cars and a grapple truck. \$50,000 was appropriated for non-profit organizations. The Power Bill funds will be utilized to pay the City's share of the replacement of Charles Creek Bridge coming up next spring. The Stormwater Utilities fund is \$36 per lot for residential property. The assessment against commercial property will be based on 1 cent per square footages of impervious area within a minimum charge of \$36 per commercial property. Also, the commercial entities will receive a \$25 credit if they have their own retention facilities. Funds will be utilized for drainage projects on Roanoke Avenue and in the Oak Grove Subdivision. In the Water and Sewer Fund, there are no rate increases planned. Capital projects include Hughes Boulevard Sewer Interceptor line, the Hughes Boulevard Water Line and the construction of the Knobbs Creek lift station. In the Electric Fund will include a 4% rate increase effective with July 2007 billings. Load management credits and the underground credits will be eliminated. The load management switches will become mandatory where possible and the developers will be responsible for underground electric service costs in new subdivisions. Basically that is a quick overview of the budget that you have in front of you and the budget ordinance that was drafted by city staff.

Mayor Foster declared the meeting into public hearing. He asked Ms. White if we had anyone that had signed up to speak. Upon a reply of no, Mayor Foster declared the public hearing closed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman B. S. Meggs, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer to accept the budget and approve the following budget ordinance as presented.

**ORDINANCE #07061
BUDGET ORDINANCE
FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008**

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City, North Carolina:

SECTION 1: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available for the City of Elizabeth City for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008:

General Fund

Current Year's Property Taxes	\$ 4,988,500
Delinquent Property Taxes	242,360
Franchise Taxes	939,000
Powell Bill Funds	535,000
Local Option Sales Tax	3,042,500
Investment Earnings	350,000
Licenses and Permits	867,700
Sales and Services	1,113,500
Payments in Lieu of Taxes & Services	1,785,000
Other Revenues	4,106,133
Fund Balance Appropriated	59,977
Fund Balance Appropriated – Powell Bill	165,450

TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES \$18,195,120

Electric Fund

Energy Sales	\$31,200,000
Other Revenues	1,487,810

TOTAL ELECTRIC FUND REVENUES \$32,687,810

Water & Sewer Fund

Water Sales	\$ 4,700,000
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Sewer Sales	2,710,000
Other Revenues	757,420

TOTAL WATER & SEWER REVENUES	\$ 8,167,420
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Stormwater Utility Fund

Residential Revenue	\$ 180,000
Commercial Revenue	150,000
Other Revenues	346,250
Retained Earnings Appropriated	114,750

TOTAL STORMWATER UTILITY FUND REVENUES	\$ 791,000
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SUBTOTAL	\$59,841,350
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LESS INTERFUND PAYMENTS	<2,104,085>
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TOTAL	\$57,737,265
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SECTION 2. The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of the City of Elizabeth City and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008:

General Fund

Legislative	\$ 117,736
Administrative	321,454
Finance	338,295
Tax	120,000
Legal	50,800
Planning	437,404
Public Building	227,448
Police	4,832,110
Fire	3,135,754
Fire Inspections	388,389
Inspections	400,630
Public Works	4,942,274
Parks and Recreation	1,962,497
Non-Departmental	707,290
Human Resources/Safety Liability	213,039

TOTAL GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS	\$18,195,120
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Electric Fund

Data Processing	\$ 118,428
Warehouse & Purchasing	182,450
Non-Departmental	27,756,325
Customer Service Department	487,303
Electric Distribution	3,075,982
Energy Management	1,067,322

TOTAL ELECTRIC FUND APPROPRIATIONS \$32,687,810

Water & Sewer Fund

Data Processing	\$ 107,979
Non-Departmental	2,990,485
Customer Service Department	400,101
Water Supply & Treatment	1,357,444
Wastewater Treatment	1,352,042
Water & Sewer Maintenance	1,959,369

TOTAL WATER & SEWER FUND APPROPRIATIONS \$ 8,167,420

Stormwater Utility Fund

Stormwater Utility	\$ 791,000
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TOTAL STORMWATER UTILITY FUND APPROPRIATIONS \$ 791,000

SUBTOTAL \$59,841,350

LESS INTERFUND PAYMENTS <2,104,085>

TOTAL \$57,737,265

SECTION 3. There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of \$.41 per \$100 valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2007 for the purpose of raising the revenue listed as "Current Year's Property Taxes" as set forth in the foregoing estimates of revenue (of which \$.0125 will be removed upon debt repayment of police vehicles and computers included in the 2005 CIP) and a motor vehicle fee of \$5.00 per vehicle.

The tax rate is based on an estimated total valuation of property for the purpose of taxation of \$1,277,278,562 and an estimated rate of collection of 95 percent.

SECTION 4. There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of \$.06 per \$100 valuation of property listed for taxes as of January 1, 2007 located within the Municipal Service Tax District.

SECTION 5. That an increase of 2 percent cost of living adjustment be established for City payroll.

SECTION 6. That a Christmas bonus of 1 percent be given.

SECTION 7. That a longevity bonus plan be continued.

SECTION 8. That the health insurance coverage be authorized with Municipal Insurance Trust of the North Carolina League of Municipalities.

SECTION 9. That a 4 percent electric rate increase be authorized effective with the July billing.

SECTION 10. That load management and underground credits be discontinued. Load Management switches will be required on all residential property with electrical hot water heaters and central air conditioners. That underground electric service be funded by developers.

SECTION 11. That a Stormwater fee be authorized of \$36.00 per residential parcel and \$.01 per square foot of impervious area per commercial parcel with a minimum of \$36.00. A credit of 25 percent shall be given to any commercial property who maintains their own Stormwater retention pond.

SECTION 12. That a surcharge of \$.43/1,000 gallons of water usage be continued.

SECTION 13. The Budget Office shall be authorized to reallocate departmental appropriations among the various expenditures within each department.

SECTION 14. Outstanding purchase orders and projects as of June 30, 2007, are hereby re-appropriated to this budget.

SECTION 15. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby appealed.

ADOPTED, this the 12th day of June 2007.

Charles L. Foster
Mayor

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

Councilman Rivers stated that he thinks that since a council member is not here that we table action on this item tonight. We have known from the first of the year that Councilman Stallings could not make this meeting. He is at a conference and it is mandatory that he attends it. Based off of that and the fact that he said from day one he can't go in favor of voting on this budget without him being here. He tried to change the meeting date in advance. We can call for a meeting on Monday and he is in by no means in favor of moving forward with a vote on this tonight.

Councilwoman Meggs said he asked for us to change it from Monday night to Tuesday night because she had to rearrange her schedule because Darryl asked us to do that.

Councilman Rivers said that he asked for it to go to the last Monday and he couldn't make it because he was going to be out of town. He wanted to let you know that this is the same convention that goes on every year and it is in a different city and it is from Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and that is why at the beginning of the year he asked for it to be from the second to the fourth to the first and the third. Then when it came up two months ago he asked that it go to the first Monday and he couldn't be here because he would be out of town. That is when it was decided to go to a Tuesday meeting. It is the same days every year so regardless he is not here. The point is that we do have other Mondays available. When it comes down to a budget that is the budget for the whole year that everyone operates under and you do have other Mondays available. He does not see why we can't hold it for the opinion and the recordation.

Councilwoman Baker stated that we don't give other people any consideration for being absent. We moved this meeting because we thought that he would be able to attend. You certainly didn't give others any consideration. Herself specifically because she couldn't be here.

Councilman Walton stated that there are two commandments and one of them is there is no other God before me and the other is treat others like you want to be treated. Not like how they treat you. Darryl is not here and this is one of the

biggest issues that we will be faced with. On the Agenda it says that we are going to have a public hearing and it didn't say that we had to vote on the budget tonight. He does have some questions about the budget. Bob put an article in the newspaper today saying that we were transferring one million dollars but what he is reading here is that we are transferring two million. He would like a little bit more insight on the \$2 million.

Mr. Olson said that basically we have transferred from a variety of different funds to different accounts for debt payments and everything else. He thinks that may be some of the confusion associated with that. From the Electric Fund to the General Fund, there is a \$1,550,000 transfer. There is a payment in lieu of services of \$500,000 also include that from the Electric Fund to the General Fund. Then there are other payments that we transfer from different utilities that are basically considered fund transfers. The State does not want us double counting those in our budget and that is why we factor out that \$2 million transfer issue.

Mr. Walton said that this year we are looking at a net of \$59,000,000. It seems like to him that we made more revenue last year and we did less with it. That is why he needs those improvements that have completed and you say that you were going to have a copy of those. That is why he is saying that we shouldn't rush voting on this budget because there is still incomplete information that he needs for his intelligence. He knows that some of us may just feel like it is a done deal but to him he needs information before he can make a positive decision that he feels is positive. Last year we had in the Electric Revenue we had \$34,000,000. Why are we not going to have more revenue as much this year as we had last year? This year we are proposing that it is going to be \$32,000,000. Last year it was proposed \$34,000,000. As bad as this winter supposed to have been that we talked about it seems like to him that we would make more than we did last year.

Mr. Olson replied that what we base our revenue on besides our actual sales information, Electricities does provide us with what they anticipate selling next year. That is one of the numbers that we have used. Of course, we have other income that is included in your budget which we discussed during our electrical fund presentation.

Councilman Walton said that is why he asked for a capital improvement listing. He asked that for a reason. He didn't ask that just to come here and then vote on the budget for this year. He needed some information and he doesn't have that information. He cannot make a true vote at this time. He needs that information.

Councilman Stimatz said that if he is correct one of the other reasons that amount of revenue is down is we projected 250 new homes and we got half of those.

Mr. Olson replied that is correct.

Mr. Stimatz stated that he had an inquiry from a constituent regarding the code enforcement budget. He thinks he understands it but he wanted to bring it up in public. When we go out and do work on a property owners' property we take that money from the budget, but once we get that money back we put it back in.

Mr. Olson answered it comes back and is put in the General Fund. It does not go back in the code enforcement budget. But, throughout the year we do budget amendments if we have a large cost of tearing down a structure or doing an abatement of some sort and that is paid by the individual then we come back to Council to do a budget amendment to credit that back to that account. We have done that once this year.

Mr. Stimatz said that he is prepared to show the same consideration that was given to him two other times when he asked to table an issue and it was turned down. He will give the same consideration that was given to him by those people.

Councilman Brooks stated that he recalls when Jean wasn't here and we voted and he disagreed with that her not being here to get a chance to vote and he stands on the same thing with Councilman Stallings. Fair is fair and he thought that it was inappropriate to vote when Jean wasn't here and he definitely thinks that it is inappropriate for us to vote on the same thing when Councilman Stallings is not here to voice his opinion on his concerns with the budget. What we have to do sometimes say ok, it happened to him and he thinks that Johnnie gave a great scenario, Just because it was done to me that don't mean that he has to do that to someone else. We have to keep that in focus. We are talking about fair across the board. He was vocal when you did it to Jean and he will be just as vocal when it is done to Darryl. At least there is some consistency with him.

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer said that it is her recollection that the discussion on changing the day and she recalls Mr. Stallings agreeing to tonight's move. She very distantly recalls that. She feels like that until we get this budget passed that attending the budget sessions were more important than a conference. We have two weeks left to adopt a budget.

Councilman Walton stated that was a very important statement, Mayor Pro Tem we have two weeks to do that. We have been to the point that we went to the

23rd hour so there is no need to rush that. You know vindication has its place but it is not up to us to be vindicated. You know we are talking about a \$50,000 decision over a \$59 million decision. We are talking about a misdemeanor compared to a felony but we want to set back and say that you treated me bad and you knocked the block off my shoulder so I am going to knock it back off of someone else's shoulder. If that is the way that we are and you can live with it he is sure everyone else can live with it. Betty, if you have something to say you can say it out loud. The situation that we voted on is when we brought the non-profit situation that everybody was so mad about. Now we have a non-profit situation and we have a chance to help the most neglected group in the whole city. Last week we were talking about at-risk people. People on this Council make their own arguments because of what the issues are. Last week we talked about at-risk kids. Now, we don't even want to talk about them this week. Seven days later we don't even want to talk about them. We just want to vote things through because somebody is not here. That is what type of council we have.

Councilman Rivers said that when we talk about voting on this budget that tonight is Tuesday night. He had four people that called him last night asking him if the meeting was scheduled for Monday and at the public hearing we had no comment. Check the record and see how many times that has happened especially when you are looking at an electric increase and a tax increase. By no way can he vote for this budget with two increases. He has been consistent in voting against increases. Electric and tax increases. We make money off of the electric. Transfer that to the General Fund. Everyone will get affected. You can't write off electric bills. Then when you raised property taxes everybody gets to write that off. For this Council to feel that we can vote in favor of a budget that everyone talks about running and doing things for the youth but yet he doesn't see a large expenditure in our budget for youth. He sees positive things for crime watch communities. He sees cameras in there and that is a good thing. He sees police officers and that is a good thing. But, yet he doesn't see anything for our youth. Let's be consistent about what we talked about. But, yet we are the first one to vote for a tax increase, electric increase but yet, we hear a citizen complain about the electric rates yet we are transferring \$1.5 million by the time you pay in lieu whereas if we do not send that over to the General Fund it seems like we wouldn't have to do an electric increase. Yet we are voting to raise both. It is hard to set here and the citizens are crying that we are hitting them in the head. Last year we had water and sewer increases as well as a storm water fee. Every year Council just continues to raise, raise, raise and the people cannot take and continue to have these increases put on every year, year after year. He can't vote in favor of this budget because there are two increases.

Councilwoman Baker stated that Councilman Rivers and Councilman Stallings have said all along that they are not going to support a tax increase or an electric increase. We know how Councilman Stallings is going to vote on this budget. This is not vindictive nor is it about an eye for an eye. It is only about saving the Mayor a tie breaking vote. She calls for the question.

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer asked to speak.

Mayor Foster replied that he had given everyone a chance to speak and at this time he called for a vote on the above stated motion.

Those voting in favor of the motion were: Meggs, Hummer, Baker, Stimatz and Walton. Against: Brooks and Rivers. Motion is carried.

Councilman Walton stated that he would like a roll call on that vote and he will appeal the decision to vote on it.

City Clerk Pierce-Tamplen replied those voting in favor of the motion were: Baker, Hummer, Meggs and Stimatz.

Councilman Walton stated that he voted yes also.

Ms. Pierce-Tamplen continued with Councilman Walton voting yea. Councilman Brooks and Councilman Rivers voting nay.

Councilman Walton asked if he could bring this up at the next meeting. Attorney.

City Attorney Morgan said that he believes that you have the right too.

Mr. Walton said ok.

Mr. Olson stated that he believes that staff needs to do some research on this. This is a budget ordinance and it has specific rules if he is not mistaken because we need to certify this and once it is certified to the Council he does not think that we have the right to go back.

Mr. Walton said that he does not have a right and left hand. He can't vote until he has the information.

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer said that it is her understanding that once you have voted for a tax increase you can't change it.

Mr. Morgan said that what Ms. Hummer is saying certainly makes sense to him as he has never been asked this question. He is not in a position to answer it at this time.

Mr. Walton said that she is using her understanding and he would like to have ruling on it.

Mr. Morgan stated that he would try to get you ruling in the next few days.

Councilman Walton stated that if he doesn't have the information he can't vote. He needs to be able to vote on the budget but he doesn't have the information.

Mayor Foster stated that we don't have to vote on the motion again.

Councilman Rivers asked what was the count on the motion.

Ms. Pierce-Tamplen replied that it was 5-2.

Councilman Walton said that it may be 4-3, he needs information.

Ms. Pierce-Tamplen replied that you have already voted councilman.

Mr. Walton replied that no he had not. He is jut trying to tell you that he has not voted because he does not have the information.

Mayor Foster asked didn't he hear you say a while ago that you voted yes.

Mr. Walton said but he needs understanding. He will say yea one way and nay the other way. He doesn't know which way it is because he doesn't have the information.

7} REGULAR AGENDA ITEM B CONTINUED:

Mayor Foster advised that we would continue discussing the non-profits.

Mr. Olson stated that there is a motion on the floor to accept the Non-Profit Task Force's recommendations.

Councilwoman Meggs said that the point that she was going to make is that there are some things in this recommendation that if we voted for each individual one she would be against it. However, we voted to have a group to present a recommendation to us for the non-profits. For us to not go by what they have said she just doesn't think it is the right thing to do.

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer said that on May 1st the City Manager sent us a list from the Mayor's Non-Profit Task Force. Those who did apply and what their project was going to be. She would like to address some of Councilman Walton's concerns. Pasquotank Arts Council was for at-risk children summer program. COA was transportation costs for drop out recovery program. Port Discover was education program for children. Cann Memorial Church project is for the Fearing Street Fund Program Healthy Food and activities summer programs. That is one high crime street filled with children. That is a project that Cann Memorial is taking on and if that doesn't fit the billing then she doesn't know what does. This may not apply directly to the budget but the Governor's Crime Commission received \$22 million dollars for gang intervention. She asked at least a month ago that an application be submitted so that we could get some of that money. She called Representative Bill Owens and he told her to tell staff to get that into him and he and Marc Basnight would see that it went on through. That would be money that we could well use. She has asked the question today did we apply. Hopeline got almost a half million dollars and theirs has already been approved. It has been passed and it is there for at-risk children. There is money that we can get. There in this list of non-profits justification for at-risk children.

Councilman Walton stated that he can see Anita's point about the at-risk kids. He still does not think there are as many at risk kids in all of those organizations together as the Boys and Girls Club. Betty, for you to say that they worked hard, he has heard that statement by other Council members. For somebody to work hard and bring you something does not mean you have to go along with that. You said if they went through this here that there were some of them that you would not vote for. You still have that choice. It is not cut or dry just because somebody brought you back something. You know years ago the President started a war that so many people supported. But, now you can't even find five people on one hand that is going to support the war. If it is not a good decision why are you going to support something that is not good? If the plan is not good, why support it. If you do that then he doesn't understand as you are not a leader. You need to be somewhere else. You don't need to be up here making leadership decisions. We don't have to just go along with something just because somebody brings us something back. That is our choice and life is predicated on decisions and choices. Let's make the right ones.

Councilman Brooks said that he agrees. He thinks that the committee worked very hard and he thinks they did a good, decent job. We have to think on terms like this. No one is saying eliminate any of these non profits from having money. He would not say that at all. Although they don't service at risk children as the Boys and Girls Club. He is talking about all of the combined. He was hoping that we could give the Boys and Girls Club something. If he was to write a proposal and try to get some money he would love to have seen what they had in place as far as how the program is being initiated to help these at risk children rather

than just saying it. He would like to know if they have a program set up. Most churches in the summer time have programs for at risk children. That means any or almost every church have something in place for that purpose. What he is saying is that he can't even conceive how we can take whatever services those non-profits that we give that amount of money to and how can we compare them to the Boys and Girls Club. He is not saying not give them anything because the Committee did pick out the non-profits. They probably worked hard Ms. Meggs but how can we sit there and say but don't give the Boys and Girls Club anything. We have been fighting for the at-risk youth. Now we are saying ok we talked about it last week and it doesn't exist and it has probably been taken care of. We know there is a problem but we are not going to throw any money to help with the problem. That is the only thing. We are not fighting against snatching the total amount of money for the ones that the Committee recommended but what we are saying is that we think that the Boys and Girls Club, the largest organization that serves our youth, deserves some also. It doesn't make any sense to eliminate them from the money that we have allocated. Councilwoman Hummer had it right we are slack in a lot of areas because if that money was allocated and we didn't even apply for it then we are dropping the ball. The \$50,000 that we have out there is not a drop in the bucket to what was available for us. We are fighting over crumbs when there are two thirds or half a cake setting over there that we didn't even try to dip into.

Councilman Stimatz said that he is glad that we are having this discussion and he doesn't care to be characterized as someone that doesn't want to talk about youth when I want to put the matter out to a public hearing. He feels very strongly about at-risk youth. His concern is and he has said this before, he can gladly give it all to the Boys and Girls Club. They didn't apply and he does not know why. He doesn't know if they applied to the Governor's Crime Fund. He does not know what they are doing or what they are planning on doing. He does know that we set up a process to let anyone that wanted to apply to do so. Any of those churches out there could apply and they didn't. Cann Memorial chose too. This was the list that was given to the group. That being said, again and this goes back to his call with the Mayor to create a Task Force on At-Risk Youth because it needs to get down to the level of do we need to commit a bigger part of the City's budget and if we have to pay for that how. While Councilman Rivers is against a tax increase he wasn't here last week to discuss it when we had the meeting. If we didn't make that transfer to the General Fund we would be raising taxes eleven cents on property tax which you would vote against too. There is no win there for the City. His point being that he doesn't know why the Boys and Girls Club didn't come in. We can think about the fact that we would like to give them money but they didn't apply. That would infer that they don't need money. They haven't come to us. We know that is not true and we also know that they need money. He would say that no these are not

set in concrete but they are a good group of what we were given. If there is an overriding need for some group and the Boys and the Girls Club is the only one that he would consider in his own mind to look at because he understands exactly what Michael is saying. 150 kids go over there and it is a great place for them to go as they learn skills and he knew that the Boys and Girls Club were in trouble last year. We have 60 and 70 year old men saying that if it hadn't been for the Boys Club they wouldn't know where they would be at now. So, it has that kind of impact. We haven't tapped into the whole at-risk youth thing. What he would ask Councilman Brooks or anyone that would like to distribute this money is how much do you proposed to cut out of whose budget to do this. What are your suggestions? He is not against redistribution because he personally thinks that the Boys and Girls Club is a great place to put money. But, given that he has this list and they all look good and they all appear to provide some services. The one question that he asked himself and didn't get any answer to was how many people are served with this group. That to him is a very key element. If you are giving someone \$5,000 and they are serving 30 kids that is not good. If we are giving out \$6000 and only doing 20 housing sessions, that is a lot of money per housing session. That is not good. He does not know the answer to that question and he has to assume that the committee looked at that as they had those numbers and that was explained to them. So he goes on faith that they had the information and they looked at it. He is going on faith on this, but he is not against what Councilman Brooks has talked about and the idea that we know that the Boys and Girls Club need money. Should we as a City do something? He doesn't have a problem with that. His question is what cuts you are going to make on whose budgets.

Councilman Brooks stated that he had a great conversation with the City Manager Olson today and he thinks he had a great proposal. Can you tell them what you said Rich. He thought that it was a good proposal on how to get the money.

Mr. Olson replied that from staff's opinion that all of these groups are very deserving and having sat on these committees himself over the years he knows that there is a lot of energy that went into this by the Mayor's Task Force. It is a thankless job. They spent a lot of time reviewing each one of these applications and they took their task to heart. Now, he thinks that we will run into a political issue if we say well the Tabernacle of Faith shouldn't get that much. The only ethical way of doing this is to basically decrease the funding on all those receiving funding by 25% and that money be allocated to the Boys and Girls Club which would be \$11,500. That way the cut is across the board and we are not singling out one group over another group. We gave the Boys and Girls Club \$15,000 last year. There is some money in the Council's discretionary fund and you can allocated that also but he would caution you to hold that money as there

are always needs that come up. The AAU team will be here next week to ask for some funds.

Councilman Brooks asked if there could be a friendly amendment made to the motion.

Councilwoman Baker stated that it was her motion to accept the recommendation of the Task Force and her motion stands. If you take the 25% from the list that the group came up with what about the other groups that didn't apply. Then where do you go. You are opening up two big a can of worms. You can't do it. It is just not fair to all the other non-profits, Project Voice or anybody else that got money last year that did not choose to apply this year. It is not fair and it cannot work.

Councilwoman Meggs stated that she thinks Skills Incorporated applied but there was some way or other they didn't do their application right and they were disqualified. Now, do we go back and include them. They are for the handicapped.

Councilman Walton said that was rim and reason that Rich came up with Mike and thanks for allowing him to do that because we talk about grants but we don't control grants. We control \$50,000 that we are talking about for non-profits. Jean, he apologies for voting for the process last time that you were not here for the \$50,000. We gave certain groups amounts because he felt like the process was better than the one that we had in place previously whereby we just let money sit there for bricks and mortar and we finally gave the money to fireworks. Last year we gave money to Teen Voice - \$17,000 and other organizations and it may not have been fair but he voted on the process. This year he is trying to vote on a process. They brought us back a recommendation. That is what it is a recommendation. It is not set in granite or stone. The Boys and Girls Club needs some help. They are at-risk. He is going to tell you why they didn't get an application sent in because they are at-risk. They are so bad at-risk that they can't even get an application sent in. We need to look out for those people that can't look out for themselves. They can't even get an application sent in. All of a sudden we see somebody giving them \$25,000. That isn't even close to what they need. If there is a big grant given to upscale Elizabeth City Middle School it will cost big moneys to be a match. We need to give some money to the Boys and Girls Club. \$11,000 is better than nothing. If we give them nothing, you all don't come up here and talk about no at-risk kids anymore because he does not want to hear it.

Mayor Foster called for the vote on the motion.

Councilman Rivers stated that he would like to continue discussing the item. You just had someone bring up an idea about the Boys and Girls Club and we are talking about the budget a year around thing and sometimes we have to spend a little more time.

Mayor Foster said that he understands what you are saying but if you will remember way back when we spent a long time discussing and some of you talked more than twice then and this time now some of you are talking more and it is time for us to cast our vote.

Mr. Rivers said that he respects that but when we are talking \$59 million some people might speak more. He might speak five minutes but someone might speak 30 minutes. All he is asking that on some issues and he agrees we do need to control the time but when we are talking about \$59 million budget and then the non-profits and this council has stated continuously and then you just had Councilman Stimatz who just asked a question. Councilman Brooks just brought back a different scenario within the last round of discussion and then we are discussing and Councilman Walton talked about Councilman Brook's discussion and then we are talking about a new topic within the same realm. That is the only reason why before it gets voted because if it passes then the Boys and Girls Club is a null vote because we did not have a friendly amendment accepted. So, that is the reason why discussion should be allowed to continue.

Mayor Foster asked if he would like to have discussion remarks at this time.

Councilman Rivers said that when we talk about the Boys and Girls Club did not apply. He doesn't know if we think that we are untouchable when we think that everyone always has to ask. Sometime we have to give and seek. That is what he stated earlier that the Boys and Girls Club not once when they were first implemented did they ask this Council. This Council thought that the Boys and Girls Club within the largest serving the youth that we know as a public entity and constantly throughout the last year there have been plenty of discussions on the Boys and Girls Club. How can we support them? Well, finance—lets dig into our pockets and let's support them but yet we are going to vote. There is a meeting every Tuesday within the Planning Department with the Planning Commission. They make recommendations but this Council votes them up and this Council votes them down. It is a recommendation. This committee did an outstanding job and by no way has anyone said not to give anyone they did what they were doing and what we are saying is to add the one that this Council makes a priority and add them to the list and what Councilman Brooks gave in terms of a suggestion. That is adding to the work that the Committee did to narrow these and bring back forth eight organizations and make it nine. He still supports the Teen Center. That is a City started organization. Politics gets into it and if he was them he wouldn't apply either. You get tired of getting beat up

every year within the newspaper. Sometimes you just get tired. So, this Council we don't need to be high and mighty. If we see organizations that need assistance that we feel is reverent to what we would like for our city to participate in we need to give them funds and every year we have AAU. How many years have they come before us?

Mr. Olson replied that at least three years.

Mr. Rivers continued by saying every time that they come before us we vote to give them money, but if we know that we are going to continue to give them money then we need to allocate something here because that is a large program during the summer that keeps the kids off of the streets. What is the amount that we are giving in the budget for the Police Athletic League?

Mr. Olson replied \$15,000.

Mr. Rivers said that is the reason that he voted last year for the ones that he did because of the fact that they were youth orientated and we gave to them. Sometimes you just have to give and say we appreciate your services and not be high and mighty and think they always have to come here and ask.

A motion was made by Councilman J. B. Walton to amend the previous motion. Councilman Rivers seconded the motion. His motion is that all organizations receiving moneys would be reduced by 25% and those proceeds be given to the Boys and Girls Club.

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer stated that we decided and voted and the Mayor appointed this committee to take the politics out, but what do we have here tonight but politics. And, we have \$5,000 in a contingency fund and we can give that to the Boys and Girls Club. Then hopefully we can get some money from the Governor's Crime Commission grants. We could do something else.

Councilman Brooks stated that we are not voting against any of the non profits that were recommended by the Task Force, we are doing that. We have a choice to make. It makes more sense to give the Boys and Girls Club than buying assault weapons. It just makes more sense to him. If we take the money that we spent buying assault weapons and give it to the Boys and Girls Club he would be more content with that. He does not think that politics are in this as we are trying to help the at-risk kids that have the biggest numbers. This has nothing to do with politics as he thinks that the committee did a great job in picking the ones to give money. No one out there in the audience or those of us sitting on Council can look in the mirror and say that Boys and Girls Club doesn't need money. That is the largest at-risk youth there is. We can throw the what

ifs in there but the bottom line is that the Boys and Girls Club need money. Either we help them out now or the judiciary system will help them out later.

Mayor Foster stated that at this time we will vote on Walton's amended motion.

Those voting in favor of the amended motion were: Walton, Rivers, Brooks and Stimatz. Against: Baker, Hummer and Meggs. Motion carried.

c} Implementation of traffic calming policy:

Mayor Foster called upon City Manager Olson for comments.

Mr. Olson stated that one of the items discussed at your last City Council meeting was the installation of stop signs on Church Street. As you are well aware the City's Public Works Director recommended against that as that is not an approved method on the ITE Manuel. City Staff has been working on for several months now a traffic calming policy. It is not his intention tonight to go into great details concerning the policy because this policy should most likely be discussed in a work session. City staff is still trying to find cost estimates associated with it. We would be following the Institute of Traffic Engineers definition of traffic calming. We will give you several items that can be used in traffic calming. As always any traffic calming measures would only be installed on the city's streets. What we would like to do is to go ahead and workshop this particular item at your June 25th meeting.

8} COMMENTS AND INQUIRES ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Mayor Foster stated that he would go around the table and call upon the Manager and each member of Council for comments.

City Manager Olson stated that he had no further comments.

Councilman Stimatz said that he didn't know if anyone went down to the boat races this weekend. He was there Saturday and Sunday. It was very exciting. It was a great event and he thought that it was very well done. He got to talk with some of the people that participated and they were very enthusiastic about the reception that they got. There were probably about 300 people down at Waterfront Park at any one time. It was his understanding that Camden Causeway was full of people as well. He thinks that is great and it was a great event and he wants to thank those involved.

He would like to request that the electric department hold a community outreach meeting to gather citizen input for making bill paying easier or more convenient.

Some of the suggestions that he has gotten so far was, allow a level pay budget plan for anyone especially late payers. That way they can budget and you can put it in there and you can set it up and if you want to you can take it out of their wages directly and they won't have to worry about it. They will know that their electric bill is going to be paid and they don't have to sweat it. Another is to extend the grace period to 15 days. That may have already been done as he doesn't know. But the idea would be to reach out to the citizens and ask them for their input on this. The other thing is he thinks that it would be a good opportunity for the Electric Department to let the citizens know what we are doing for them. 99% that the lights are on is a very good accomplishment. No lost time accident is another one. He plays with electricity a little at home. Stanley knows as he has watched him do it. The point being that is a great thing. He thinks that it is a great opportunity to show our citizens. He would suggest every department have some kind of outreach every year. Invite the citizens and ask them to tell us what they think.

The last thing he has is he went to the Historic District Watch meeting and made them aware of the decision to not pursue the stop signs but to look at other traffic calming methods. While he was there he saw an excellent demonstration by Officer Needham and Canine Officer Buck apprehending a perpetrator. It was very impressive. He thinks that it would be interesting to make a video of what these canines are capable of and put that video on Channel 11 on a regular basis. He was asked if the dogs have body armor and the answer is no. That is something that we should look into as we have a large investment in these dogs.

Councilman Walton asked Chief Crudup if he was there the day of gangs awareness and one of the things that they brought up was that we need a plan. Are we going to start to put one together? What is your take on surveillance cameras? He hates to put you on the spot but it has been one of our biggest topics this last year.

Chief Crudup stated he believes that surveillance cameras are a good investment if they are used correctly. They have their good points and they have their bad points.

Councilman Walton asked if he had had exposure to some of those and Chief Crudup replied yes he had.

Mr. Walton continued by saying that this is one of the biggest times of the year and there is tension because after you make a budget it takes the rest of the year to do the process. Attorney he still wants to know the appeal process because he did not have all information and that is why he could not make a fair judgment for himself and he wanted to stake it on that preference because he did not have all the information. You know when we come up here and if he

offended anybody he apologizes but sometimes when you make a long sentence you got all of a sudden to take the noun and that is you and put the verb to it. But, that is action. All that other stuff doesn't mean anything. All of the conjunctions, prepositions and adjectives are nothing. You are who you are. If you take a stand that is what you are. If you put a whole lot of words to something that doesn't mean anything that is still who you are but if we say we are going to look after at-risk kids that is what we need to do. We don't talk it one week and then the next week eliminate them just by a vote.

Councilwoman Meggs thanked Karl Clow for the award that the City received earlier.

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer stated that she would also like to thank Karl and the Electric Department as it is a great record to have. She would like to thank the Non-Profit Task Force for what they did. We tried to put something in place and then we got political about it. With all the gnashing and gnawing we still get things accomplished. She would really like to thank all of our staff for their many hours that they have put into this budget. We have asked them to look at things that were almost impossible to find. They spent a lot of time on it and she truly felt that we should have acted on it tonight.

She is going to take this opportunity to answer a question that a lot of people have been asking her. This microphone is used for everything else. That question is, is she going to run again in the fall and her answer is yes. If the people in the Second Ward will have her she would like to be back. There are a lot of exciting things going on that and she would like to continue to be a part of things that she has been involved in. We are not through with Sawyertown and we are not through with Pennsylvania Avenue. Laura Park needs help as well as Harrington Road, Oak Grove, Old Oak, Church Street and the Historic District. So many things need to be done. We need to do everything that we can to continue to give our police and fire departments the best technology that we can find. We have gone after a lot of grants and we have to give our manager credit for the grants that he has gotten for us these past two years. We have accomplished a lot with the limited amount of funds that we have. She thinks this Council now that the budget is over we need to set down again and we need to leave a legacy that the next Council can build on and forget all the personalities and disagreements. You are right Johnnie, you are who you are. She is who she is and you are who you are.

Mr. Walton said that sounds good.

Ms. Hummer continued by saying that she does hope that we can put some more plans into place because there is still a lot to do.

Councilman Brooks stated that he just wanted to thank Councilman Stimatz, Councilman Rivers and Councilman Walton for understanding the need to support the at-risk children. He wants to thank them for taking the opportunity to put our money where our mouth was for the last two months. We talk about helping them and then we vote against helping them. That didn't make any sense to him. He asked for an update on Franklin Street and the trucks not being able to turn around.

Mr. Olson replied that they are going to put no parking on one side of the street.

Councilwoman Baker said that she saw the canine demonstration also and it was fabulous. The boat races were also very exciting.

The Boys Club thing. She does not want anyone thinking that she is against the Boys Club. It was not a vote against helping at-risk kids. It was a vote for doing what we set out for the committee to do and just playing by the rules that we as a council set. That is all that it was. The Boys Club as well as any other non profit. Like she said before they could have come and asked for dollars. Now everybody else that didn't apply are asking why they didn't get money. The Boys Club didn't apply but yet they are now getting money. It just isn't fair to set out rules and task a committee with carrying out those rules for you and then tear it apart and changing their outcome. It is just not fair. How are you going to continue to have volunteers to help this City grow and do good things for the City if you are not to listen to them and take their advice? If you are always going to second guess them then what is the point. Who is going to want to volunteer and who is going to want to run for Council when they see this mess up here? It is just crazy. Congratulations to Karl and the Electric Department and thank you to the Mayor's Task Force on Non-Profits for doing a good job.

Councilman Rivers stated that on some of the streets that run off from Southern Avenue can we send out crews out to overlay as the concrete does not run smoothly onto the older streets. We need to check them to see that they blend. In the Newport Avenue, Rich your staff, Electric Department, Public Works and Code Enforcement he would like to thank them for taking an area after a shooting occurred in that neighborhood. You clean it out and it looks good. Can we now look at a light to shine in that area of that section?

He said also that he is glad that politics were used to get funding for the Boys and Girls Club. He thinks that if you go back and look at the budget he voted against the tax increase, the electric increase but it passed and he looks forward to working the next six months with the budget that has been prepared. He wants to move forward and not having to worry over spilled milk but to move forward on July 1, 2007. He hopes that we continue to make the improvements that we made last year regardless of win or lose. He thinks that City is moving

in the right direction and he thinks that this Council can continue. We all have opinions and we are all opinionated. He doesn't think that he takes anything personally against anyone and he looks forward to moving forward next year. We have a lot to accomplish and we will start off the year and look forward to the projects that the manager has. He thinks that the Mayor is to be commended for his role during the budget sessions. You carry out the meeting very well even if we were allow two times to talk or more. He respects the way that you handle the meetings. He congratulates you publicly for the way the meetings were and you did keep the confusion down

Mayor Foster said that he would like to thank this Council and he knows and he believes that you know that we have done some good things this year and we still have some more to do. There is some improvement and we are going to improve. We are determine to be responsive to needs of our citizens in this City. He wants to say to the people that are on the other side of the table that we thank God for your presence. We want you to continue to come to our meetings. He wishes more people would come like you because we want you to hold us accountable. He believes that the city council and the mayor should be accountable to the citizens. Always know that you are free to share your concerns with us. As your Mayor, he appreciates you. He also appreciates our employees. Their work speaks for themselves. He wants everyone to know that his door is always open and the Manager's door is too. You are welcome to come in anytime to share a concern or ask a question or to just talk.

9} ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before Council at this time, Mayor Foster entertained a motion for adjournment.

A motion was made by Councilwoman B. S. Meggs, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer to adjourn. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Meggs, Hummer, Baker, Brooks, Rivers, Stimatz and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Foster adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

Charles L. Foster
Mayor