

The City Council of the City of Elizabeth City held their monthly work session on the above date and time in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Administration Building with Mayor R. A. McLean presiding. Counselors attending were: Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer, J. M. Baker, L. M. Hill-Lawrence, R. E. King, B. S. Meggs, J. A. Stimatz and J. B. Walton. M. E. Brooks was absent. Staff members attending were: City Manager R. C. Olson, City Clerk D. S. Pierce-Tamplen, City Attorney, W. H. Morgan, Deputy City Clerk V. D. White, Parks and Recreation Director B. V. White, Planning Director J. C. Brooks, Public Utilities Director P. A. Fredette, ECDI Director R. Cross, Electric Director K. F. Clow, Human Resource Director K. W. Felton, Police Chief C. E. Crudup and Finance Director S. E. Blanchard.

Mayor McLean established a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He called upon Councilman R. E. King 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 approval of the prepared agenda.

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

2} ELIZABETH STREET PROJECT UPDATE:

Mayor McLean recognized City Manager Olson for comments.

Mr. Olson stated that the City has been going through some major utility relocations associated with the Elizabeth Street project. It involves three separate contracts, Contract, I, II and III. Sean Robey is the design engineer and he has worked with Paul Fredette and NCDOT for the utility relocation part of the project. What we are looking at is a project that has a value of \$12 million dollars. To date the City will only have about \$450,000 worth of local match in any of that work. Sean Robey is here to give you an overview of the Elizabeth Street project.

Mr. Robey stated we started ground breaking on May 16th. That was the day we started changing a lot of the residents downtown, a lot of residents of the City and a lot of the downtown merchants lives by closing Water Street. The project has progress along fairly well from the original contract deadline and contract schedule that has been set forth by the contractor. We are probably running about two weeks behind his schedule. We had a one week delay for one of the construction processes on Colonial Avenue. Then we had another delay recently due to some of the rainfall that we have had. Other than those two for the most part we have gotten through the very difficult Phase I section of the project and we are moving into Phase II which has a paving date of completion towards the latter part of October. He proceeded to present a power point presentation showing various aspects of the project.

Councilman Stimatz suggested that we place the power point presentation on Channel 11 in order that the public will be able to see the progress of the project.

3} PASQUOTANK COUNTY'S PROPOSED KNOBBS CREEK DRAINAGE STUDY:

Mayor McLean called upon Public Utilities Director Fredette for comments.

Mr. Fredette stated representatives of Pasquotank County and the Pasquotank County Storm Water Committee met with representatives of the Corps of Engineers to discuss drainage concerns in the western branch of Knobbs Creek. Two possible funding sources were identified. They are State Planning Assistance Grants and Planning and Construction Grants (Section 205). There is presently a moratorium on the Section 205 Grants. A State Planning Assistance Grant could be used to identify possible improvements to the Knobbs Creek Drainage Basin, but would not provide funds to do the actual work. Planning Grants range from \$25,000 to \$75,000 and require a 50% local match. According to Rodney Bunch, it has now been determined that a \$75,000 Planning Grant is available which makes the cost of the study to Pasquotank County \$37,500. Based on the Council's previous consensus, the City's cost would be \$6,375 or 17%. The Finance Committee considered this item during its special meeting held on September 23, 2011 and recommends that the Council affirm its 17% funding share.

A motion was made by Councilman J. A. Stimatz, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem L. A. Hummer to reaffirm 17% as the City's share of the County's Knobbs Creek Drainage Study, contingent upon a cost to the City of \$6,375. Those voting in favor of the motion

were: Stimatz, Hummer, Baker, Hill-Lawrence, King, Meggs and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

4} COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. Albemarle Economic Development Commission – (Mayor Pro Tem Hummer, Councilwoman Hill-Lawrence and Mayor McLean)

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer stated that we have our next meeting this coming Wednesday.

- b. Central Communications Advisory Board – (Councilman Walton)

Councilman Walton stated we met and we discussed broad bands out in Newland. That is going to be a costly estimate and he still has to get with the City and the County to discuss the budget for putting the broadband up in the Newland area near where the fire station is located.

- c. Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Airport Authority – (Councilwoman Hill-Lawrence)

Councilwoman Hill-Lawrence stated the renovation at the airport is going well and it is really right on schedule for the October 29th celebration of the First Flight. We will be having the Candy Bomber back again. We have a new chairman, Mr. Pierre Miller and he is unfolding his agenda for his term to us.

- d. Fireman’s Relief Fund Board – (Councilman Stimatz)

Councilman Stimatz said we haven’t had a meeting in a couple or three months.

- e. Joint Land Use Plan Committee – (Councilman Stimatz)

Councilman Stimatz said Rich you were going to try and find out when we could go down and visit with our good friends. Have you heard anything? He knows you talked to Rodney.

Mr. Olson replied that he has talked with Rodney and we have not been able to set that meeting up to date. We have had some conversations with our local CAMA person trying to expedite the plan. We are not having much luck. He will try to get it set up some time in October.

- f. Joint Redevelopment Commission - (Councilman Brooks)

Mr. Brooks was not present.

g. North Carolina Eastern Municipal Agency – (City Manager Olson)

Mr. Olson said our meeting is this coming Wednesday and unfortunately he will not be able to attend the meeting because of another scheduling conflict. There is a rate committee meeting scheduled in Wilson on October 5th if anyone is interesting in going he has the information and he plans to attend it.

h. Solid Waste Committee – (Councilman King}

Councilman King stated he had no report.

i. Tourism Development Authority – (Councilwoman Baker)

Councilwoman Baker said we had a meeting last Thursday and we talked about how much value Elizabeth City gets from newspaper articles and magazine articles and she brought the State Magazine and showed Council what reporters and photographers do when they come to Elizabeth City. This two page spread of a picture of our waterfront is great publicity. This type of publicity costs \$31,000 if we had to pay for this kind of tourism effort. We are mentioned about seven times in this article alone. We get lots of that through the co-op in Raleigh and the Hampton Roads areas. Our tourism efforts are alive and well in Elizabeth City.

j. ECDI – (Councilwoman Meggs)

Councilwoman Meggs said the Downtown Association is alive and well and she wants to say the pictures that were taken when the signs were put up are great. She is going to combine Downtown and the Chamber because so much of it has one thing that plays off another. We have got a new restaurant named Sidney's. She has eaten there twice and the food is very good. Be sure to stop by and show your support. There are so many good things that are happening in Elizabeth City. Be sure to go in and find out about the season tickets for the events that are going to be taking place. Scott Hinton will be helping out with Port Discovery. Ribbon cutting for the Aviation and DRS is October 27th. COA's birthday was last week and it was a great celebration. October 8th the Chamber is having a golf tournament. Sylvan is offering training for the SAT's.

- k. Water Committee – (Councilwoman Baker, Councilman King and Councilman Walton)

Councilwoman Baker said she was out of town for the meeting.

Councilman Walton said they changed the time of the meeting and that was a bad time for him to be able to attend?

The City's attendance at this meeting was questioned.

- l. Chamber Board – (Councilwoman Meggs)

Councilwoman Meggs said she gave her report when she reported on the ECDI.

- m. Youth Task Force – (Councilman Walton)

Councilman Walton stated he wanted to try and set up a meeting for next week sometime. He has reviewed the PAL building and Lt. Young has done a tremendous job of renovating it. He would like to have the Task Force go over and see the improvements and then we can make some decisions after that. There are quite a few kids already attending but there is a need for more. If Council would like to go over and tour it then let him know and he will try to set it up.

- n. Storm Water Drainage Task Force – (Councilman Stimatz)

Councilman Stimatz stated we had a report from Mr. Fredette and sometime in the not to distant future, he intends to come back with the specific recommendations out of the Committee and have the Council formally adopt them similarly to what we did with the Customer Service Task Force.

- o. Finance Committee – (Mayor Pro Tem Hummer)

Mayor Pro Tem Hummer said the Finance Committee met last Friday to go over several Budget Amendments which were forwarded and you will see them on the agenda tonight. You will also see the Franchise Agreement for Waste Management. We reviewed the bids for the raw water line and forwarded all that to Council and it is all on the agenda for the next meeting.

- p. Personnel Committee – (Councilwoman Meggs)

Councilwoman Meggs stated we have not met.

- q. Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission – (Councilman King)

Councilman King stated he had nothing to report.

- r} Alleyway Committee – (Mayor Pro Tem Hummer, Councilwoman Baker, Councilman Walton and Councilman King). We need to place this committee on our list of committees for their reports.

5 | **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

A motion was made by Councilman B. S. Meggs, seconded by Councilman R. E. King to adjourn. Those voting in favor of the motion were: Meggs, King, Baker, Hill-Lawrence, Hummer, Stimatz and Walton. Against: None. Motion carried.

Mayor McLean adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Dianne S. Pierce-Tamplen, MMC
City Clerk

Roger A. McLean
Mayor