



TO: Mayor and City Councilors

FROM: Rich Olson, City Manager

REF: FYI ~ Week Ending December 22, 2006

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1. The Hugh Cale Community Resource Center punch list has been completed by A. R. Chesson, with the exception of several light fixtures that are on back-order. The light fixtures should be here after the first of the year. The original contract was in the amount of \$644,935. There were \$22,470.95 in change orders, which covered the removal and replacement of unsuitable soil, a fire alarm system, phone system and the addition of one door. These changes bring the total construction cost to \$667,405.95. The City owes A. R. Chesson \$309,453.72. Payment will be made once DCA approves Year Four funding, which is presently pending. Year Four funding for this project is capped at \$250,000. The remaining \$59,453.72 will come from the Year Five budget, which staff will be submitting to DCA around the end of January 2007. We will need to utilize local funds to pay the contractor until the City is reimbursed from the State. If you have not had a chance to visit the facility, I would encourage you to do so.
2. This week, staff met with Hobbs, Upchurch & Associates to discuss the status of the Hughes Boulevard interceptor line. The project is 90% complete and is on schedule. We anticipate the project going out to bid in July 2007. Due to the size of the lift station at Knobbs Creek, we are in the process of having an Environmental Assessment completed. I anticipate having our Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) around the first of May. Due to capacity concerns associated with the force main, we will be increasing the force main from 16 inches to 18 inches from Church Street to the Knobbs Creek lift station. The City will need to acquire easements from two property owners. One is along the cemetery at Hughes Boulevard and Burke Street; while the other is by West End Station. Surveyors will be in town the week of January 8 to prepare legal descriptions.

3. NCDOT and City staff walked ditches and reviewed the drainage along Mill Street, the railroad tracks, and Hughes Boulevard from Main Street to Parsonage Street today. We also reviewed NCDOT stormwater plans for the inlets, pipes and outfalls along Hughes Boulevard for this area. The previous week, an NCDOT hydrologist looked over the same area trying to determine reasons for the drainage problems. We found several problems that need attention. First, the outlet serving the Hughes Boulevard stormwater pipe from Colonial to beyond Parsonage is blocked; plus the corresponding outlet ditch on the "fairground" property is completely blocked. The ditch appears to be on City-owned property and NCDOT is willing to cooperate with the City in cleaning this critical blockage. Second, the drainage inlet on the north side of Hughes Boulevard near Colonial is blocked. Clearing this blockage should help with drainage from the swimming pool business and Allstate Building Supply. Third, it is reported that the drainage way along Main Street Extended north of Hughes Boulevard to Knobbs Creek is blocked at Knobbs Creek. That will be investigated by the City. This blockage may be causing some of the problems at the intersection of Main Street and Hughes. My understanding is that NCDOT will assist in locating old plans for the ditch on the "fairgrounds" property and cooperate in helping to clean that ditch. NCDOT will also clean the inlet by the railroad near Colonial Avenue. The City will investigate the possible Main Street Extended blockage at Knobbs Creek and will cooperate with NCDOT in getting the outfall and ditch cleaned at the "fairgrounds" property.
4. The DRS-TAMSCO Ramp Project is progressing quickly. Barnhill Construction has completed pouring all the concrete associated with the project. The bio-retention ponds are about 70% complete. Final grade needs to be established and the vegetation planted. Asphalt work to tie the concrete apron to the existing asphalt ramp still needs to be completed. The City has received two payment requests from Barnhill totaling \$724,364.61. The original contract was for \$1,309,366.90. There have been four change orders totaling \$62,237.10. The revised contract price is \$1,371,604.90. The project is still on schedule and within budget. All work should be completed by mid-January.
5. Since 2004, the City has reviewed twenty-one (21) subdivisions totaling 2,397 lots. Only ten (10) of these subdivisions have received preliminary plat approval and five (5) subdivisions have received final plat approval. Of the 2,397 lots reviewed, only 149 lots have been recorded. These lots include parcels located at Adams Landing, Heron's Ridge Phase I, Harbor Bay Townhouses, Morington and City Center West.

6. I have been informed that one of the City's taxicab franchisees has relinquished his franchise. Pursuant to the City's Code of Ordinances, we will conduct a lottery for the available franchise. There are fifteen individuals who have submitted an application since September 1, 2006. These individuals will be contacted by the Police Department to make sure they still have an interest in obtaining a franchise. A lottery will be held in mid-January and the item will be brought to the City Council for action at the January 22, 2007 meeting.
7. Carl Classen has informed me that he has taken the position of Interim County Manager for Hyde County. He will assume these duties on January 2, 2007. I am still at least thirty days away from naming a Director of Public Utilities. Larnetta Brothers will serve as the Acting Director until I have filled the position. I would like to thank Carl for all the work he has done over the last ninety days.
8. Upcoming Event: There will be a Ceremonial Swearing In for Judge-Elect Eula Etheridge Reid at 2:30 P.M. on December 31, 2006 in Courtroom A, Pasquotank County Courthouse.
9. I would like to wish the Council, our employees and all recipients of this FYI a very happy and safe holiday.

RCO/vdw