

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL HELD  
APRIL 17, 2017

**WORK SESSION**

The Mayor and Council of the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina, met in a Work Session in the Large Conference Room, City Hall Addition, 200 North Center Street, at 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2017 with attendance as follows:

Present: Mayor Chuck Allen, Presiding  
Mayor Pro Tem Bevan Foster  
Councilmember Antonio Williams  
Councilmember Bill Broadaway  
Councilmember Mark Stevens (arrived at 5:02 p.m.)  
Councilmember David Ham  
Jim Womble, Attorney  
Scott Stevens, City Manager  
Melissa Corser, City Clerk  
Randy Guthrie, Assistant City Manager  
Kaye Scott, Finance Director  
Jimmy Rowe, Planning Director  
Jennifer Collins, Assistant Planning Director  
Rick Fletcher, Public Works Director  
Mike Wagner, Assistant Public Utilities Director  
Chad Lemasters, Streets & Storms Superintendent  
Scott Williams, IT Director  
Shycole Simpson-Carter, Community Relations Director  
Pam Leake, Interim Human Resources Director  
Octavius Murphy, Assistant to the City Manager  
Allen Anderson, Chief Building Inspector  
Sherry Archibald, Paramount Theatre & GEC Director  
Tracie Davis, Communications & Marketing Director  
Mike West, Police Chief  
Scott Barnard, Parks & Recreation Director  
Gary Whaley, Fire Chief  
Fred Fontana, GWTA Director  
Ken Conners, News Director-Curtis Media Group East  
Rochelle Moore, Goldsboro News-Argus (arrived at 5:02 p.m.)  
Lonnie Casey, Citizen  
Shirley Edwards, Citizen  
Carl Martin, Citizen  
Lawrence Merritt, Citizen  
Bobby Mathis, Citizen  
Della Mathis, Citizen  
Ravonda Jacobs, Citizen (arrived at 5:16 p.m.)  
Sylvia Barnes, Citizen (arrived at 5:19 p.m.)  
Yvonna Moore, Citizen (arrived at 5:21 p.m.)

Absent: Councilmember Gene Aycock

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Allen at 5:00 p.m.

**Invocation.** The invocation was provided by Chief Whaley.

**Extended Bus Hours.** Mr. Fred Fontana, GWTA Director, provided an update on the extended bus hours. At their meeting on December 5, 2016 the Goldsboro City Council approved extended bus service hours for the green, blue, and purple bus routes. The service was on a three month trial basis from February 6 through May 5. While the extended service has only been operating for two months, ridership trends are clear. Through April 6 the bus departing at 6:30 PM on the blue and purple routes is much more popular than the 7:30 PM trip blue and purple are averaging 6.47 and 6.75 passengers respectively at 6:30 PM and 2.96 and 2.57 at 7:30 PM. This compares with 15.80 and

Mr. Fontana provided Council with the following cost estimates for extension of the routes.

2

Councilmember Williams stated the good thing is we have a surplus. Mr. Fontana stated we will actually give back about \$20,000 to the City. Councilmember Williams what we discussed during the board meeting to create a couple of jobs at GWTA and GWTA agreed was willing to take a couple of summer youth jobs for the kids.

Council’s consensus was to extend the blue and purple routes through Labor Day.

**Neighborhood Energy Saver Program.** Mr. Stevens shared Duke Energy will be at the May 8<sup>th</sup> Work Session to discuss.

**Stormwater Utility Discussion.** Mr. Rick Fletcher shared the following information:

City’s Stormwater System Overview

- What is the City’s responsibility?
  - ...to ensure the hydraulic conveyance of stormwater generated from City property and streets.
  - In general terms, to try and keep water from City property and streets flowing in ditches, channels and underground piped systems.
- What is the current state of the City’s stormwater system?
  - A substantial portion of the City’s stormwater conveyance infrastructure is in disrepair. The primarily reason is simply due to the age of the infrastructure, but the situation has been exacerbated over the years from a lack of sufficient funding to effectively perform preventative maintenance and upgrades.
  - With tens of millions projected in repair costs, the approximately \$220K currently allotted annually from the general fund will neither improve the current condition nor prevent further degradation of the City’s stormwater conveyance system.
- What are some typical projects & associated costs?

|   | Project Location                                             | Discrepancy                                                                              | Project Scope                                                  | Price     |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Lockhaven Drive                                              | 48” CMP Collapsing                                                                       | Remove/Replace ~ 1000’ of 48” CMP                              | \$210,000 |
| 2 | 200 & 300 block of Spruce St from James to George St         | 12” Vitrified Clay Pipe (VCP) deteriorated and caving in                                 | R & R 500 LF of 12” V.C.P with proposed 15” RCP                | \$68,500  |
| 3 | Mimosa Park Ditch Line btw Todd Dr & Cedar Rd                | Overgrown w/no access road. Stagnant w/improper flow direction & fences along ditch      | Clear & re-grade 2,600’ ditch line and realign fencing         | \$122,000 |
| 4 | 200 & 300 Block of West Vine St                              | Deteriorated 12” VCP - Cave-ins and flooding (50's)                                      | R & R 1,000 LF of 15” VCP w/15” RCP                            | \$145,000 |
| 5 | Glenwood Trail                                               | 48” CMP collapsing – multiple places                                                     | R & R ~1200’ of CMP & clear trees                              | \$279,000 |
| 6 | UEC Movie Theater to Howell Branch                           | Not enough fall from theater to Tenth St - overgrown & silted                            | Clear 1,650’ of ditch line & regrade                           | \$127,500 |
| 7 | Royal Meadow Creek 1701 S. Madison Ave to 105 South Randolph | Overgrown ditchline/easement                                                             | Clear trees & brush from 2,173’ of ditch line                  | \$250,000 |
| 8 | 1803 Salem Church Road & 707 Guilford Ln                     | Guilford Rd storm pipe empties into 1803 Salem Church Rd. Improper flow & silted ditches | Clean out ditch line and reseed -- propose piping with 18” RCP | \$16,125  |
| 9 | Jefferson St between Laurel and Pine                         | Undersize pipe - street floods during heavy rainfall                                     | Remove existing 15 inch pipe, replace with 36 inch RCP         | \$111,500 |

\$1,329,625

- What is our current funding source and amount?
  - General Fund – supported through City’s tax base
  - Current Stormwater Funding: ~ \$ 220,000/yr for General Maintenance
  - Expenses Far Exceed Annual Funds:
    - Major/Minor Projects – (\$1.3M highlighted)
    - Equipment – street sweeper & Jet-vac vehicles
    - Preventative Maintenance
    - Mapping of Stormwater System
    - Etc.
  - Currently Underfunded to Provide the Level of Service (LOS) that the Staff Would Like to Provide

- What options does the city have?
  1. Maintain Current Operations and Level of Service
  2. Increase Funding to Meet a Higher LOS
    - a. Pull Additional Money from the General Fund—Impact Taxes?
    - b. Implement a Stormwater Utility Program
- What would be the benefits of a stormwater utility?
  1. Funds Would be Obligated Solely for Stormwater Maintenance & Repair
  2. Tackle the Major/High Dollar Repair Projects
  3. Proactive Maintenance & Repair Program
  4. Ability to Map & Assess Our Entire Stormwater System
  5. All Parties Pay the Fee – Government, Churches, Non-profits, Residents, etc.
  6. Mitigate Issues w/Flooding & Erosion
- Is having a stormwater utility a new concept?

| City         | Fee (\$) | Revenue |
|--------------|----------|---------|
| Fayetteville | \$3.75   | \$6.7 M |
| Greenville   | \$9.70   | \$4.9 M |
| Jacksonville | \$5.00   | \$2.0 M |
| Kinston      | \$4.50   | \$1.4 M |
| Raleigh      | \$5.00   | \$17.7M |
| Rocky Mount  | \$5.00   | \$4.0 M |
| Wilmington   | \$7.66   | \$9.6 M |
| Wilson       | \$3.80   | \$2.6 M |

- What is the next course of action?
  - Per direction from council, a stormwater utility stakeholder committee was formed to discuss and determine the need and viability of establishing a stormwater utility for the City of Goldsboro.
  - Solicitation for members started in July/August of 2016 and the first meeting was held the 2nd of February 2017, followed by four subsequent meetings over a 5 week period—results are summarized in the handout.
  - I ask that council consider the recommendations presented by the Stormwater Stakeholder Committee and recommend we incorporate further discussions, and a final decision regarding the establishment of a stormwater utility program, into our budget process.

Recommendations from the Stormwater Stakeholder Committee:

1. Committee decisions and/or recommendations be made on a level of consensus.
2. Implement a stormwater utility fee versus funding stormwater infrastructure repairs through the general fund.
3. Limit maintenance and repairs to stormwater infrastructure and ditches conveying stormwater that originates from City property only.
4. Develop and provide resources (print/web/social) to assist citizens with getting help for private water issues.
5. Address stormwater infrastructure repairs as a level of “need” or project versus level of service.
6. Move forward and approve a stormwater utility fee and Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) levels, based on assumed infrastructure conditions and needs (\$1.5M - \$2M annually) as presented by the City, provided mapping and engineering assessment of the stormwater infrastructure system is funded the first year.
7. Fund the mapping and engineering assessment first or in conjunction with the ramp-up period—hiring personnel, purchasing equipment, etc.
8. Review and reevaluate the approved fee and ERU to determine whether or not they are appropriate--post stormwater infrastructure mapping and assessment.
9. Reassess City’s total impervious area distribution (residential vs. commercial), in conjunction with utility fees and ERU’s, at least every five years to ensure they remain fair and equitable.
10. Ensure funds raised through the stormwater utility fee program are proportional to the impervious area represented by both residential and commercial properties. It was determined that residents contribute approximately one-third and commercial property owners contribute two-thirds of the City’s total impervious area.
11. Assess a \$4.50 flat fee on residential properties in conjunction with establishing a 3,000 ft2 ERU to ensure the one-third to two-thirds impervious area ratio between residential and commercial properties. Actual ERU is 3,248 ft2



12. Continue annual funding of \$220K from the general fund to subsidize the stormwater utility program. (City Manager does not support this recommendation).
13. Mirror existing non-payment policies for water and sewer, providing resources for aid to citizens when possible.
14. Bill landlords and/or property owners of multi-family resident properties according their total impervious area versus billing individual tenants.
15. Pro-rate accordingly when new businesses are established mid-year when billed annually.
16. Research options to offer a “credit” program for businesses that reduce stormwater generated on commercial properties.
17. Advertise and/or publish information explaining the need for the stormwater utility program to citizens prior to implementing the program and charging the fee.
18. The committee voted unanimously to recommend the above items to Council.

Councilmember Broadway asked if there would be a cap on what business owners would pay, concerns had been expressed to him from some local business owners.

Mayor Allen asked if a property owner with a retention pond would receive credit. Mr. Fletcher replied yes, they would receive a credit.

Councilmember Ham asked how much revenue the fee would generate. Mr. Fletcher stated as proposed approximately \$1.4 million.

Mayor Pro Tem Foster asked if staff had looked at other ways to repair the infrastructure. It’s been neglected for so long, now it’s an issue and it’s the citizens’ problem?

Mayor Allen suggested Council wait until all members are present to vote.

Mr. Stevens reminded Council the only authority Council has is taxes and fees. A stormwater fee is an option many cities have gone to for the very same reason Goldsboro, at least from a staff side recommends to you now due to the pull on the General Fund. The pull on the General Fund has generally been beyond what the General Fund could support so the stormwater gets left off, that has been a very common place across the state and Goldsboro as well. You do have the authority to do that, you do not have to do that. It will be challenging in the General Fund to have a meaningful impact on it but you can. The other side, your non-profits and government entities which generate a ton of stormwater run-off, they do not pay taxes, they would pay the fee, a proportionate share of the stormwater fee.

**Hurricane Matthew Update.** Ms. Kaye Scott provided an update on finances. There has been a total estimated damage with the storm which includes cleanup, salaries, our expenses, around \$3.5 million is what the City has estimated the damage to be. We have been working with FEMA on project worksheets and so far I have signed project worksheets totaling a little over \$1.5 million that have already been submitted for reimbursement. The golf course is the last project worksheet to be submitted, we had to ask for an extension, it had been too wet for the crews to get in there. That is around \$850,000. We are almost through with our emergency repairs. We are working with public utilities with our final repairs there with a mitigation project and they total around \$800,000. Ms. Scott stated I am expecting to see some reimbursements start coming in soon. I did receive some reimbursement from our initial repairs to our pump stations which was around \$395,000. We are working and talking with FEMA.

Mr. Stevens asked Ms. Scott how much is still out there for reimbursement. Ms. Scott stated \$3.5 million altogether, \$2 million that I have not signed anything for. Mr. Stevens stated our challenge has been working with FEMA and their project worksheet writers which has been very slow, but pretty soon we will hit the June 30<sup>th</sup> timeframe which means your fund balance could have a pretty significant hit if we do not get those reimbursements. We have been pushing but it is hard to get that done. Ms. Scott stated if she can get reimbursement between July and September our auditors can accrue it back to this fiscal year, so I am pushing.

**Hurricane Matthew Update – Allocation of Disaster Recovery Program Funds for Stream Debris Removal.** Mr. Chad Lemasters shared information regarding a grant the city was awarded from the Disaster Recovery Program, a grant which he applied for in March. The City of Goldsboro has been allocated \$105,355 to conduct vegetative debris removal work in the following ditches; Howell Creek, Little River Arbitrary, Mimosa Park, Todd Drive, West Bear Creek Branch and Stoney Creek. The funds are to assist us with acquiring a contractor to clear, by hand in most cases, any vegetative debris or obstructions impeding water flow in creeks and streams.

**Hurricane Matthew Update –Grant Opportunity.** Mr. Octavius Murphy stated for the past few weeks we have been exploring funding opportunities for disaster recovery. This particular project is a joint collaboration between the Rural Economic Development Division and the Golden Leaf Foundation. Mr. Murphy provided information on the grant opportunity. We felt this could be an excellent opportunity to pursue additional funding. This funding focuses on infrastructure. Priority areas we will be submitting under are job creation and retention, efforts to support and develop economic strength for communities. Our project is the Multi-Sports Complex and we are asking for \$2 million. The reason we chose this project is because it is shovel ready, it is both public infrastructure and economic development. A letter of interest is due by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Stevens added we have talked about it costing just around \$7 million to construct, we have a \$3 million loan from the County, \$3 million bond, and about \$1.4 million in tourism tax some of which goes to build a small addition to the Base gym. We talked about building 6 fields initially, talked about lightning some of the fields but not all, this additional funding would let us proceed with more of that work sooner. It would still be a project we would phase over time, it’s just if there is outside funding that would let us do it sooner, it seemed to be a good project to submit because they are focused on jobs and economic development.

Mayor Pro Tem Foster asked if we could apply for the grant and keep the project within that \$6-7 million and save money, we are adding stuff, this is the first I have heard of this. Mr. Stevens stated I think it would be a better project if we show our \$6 million plus \$2 million but I do think we could apply with \$4 million and \$2 million.

Council discussed. Councilmember Williams stated he would like to see something for basketball because that was one of the biggest things we had a problem with. If we were able to get the grant and put in basketball courts that would be great. Support the community that doesn’t do soccer, there is a lot of our community that doesn’t play soccer but they play basketball. Mr. Stevens stated I do not disagree on the basketball side but we are not ready for this grant opportunity, we could not make the argument of a tournament venue and having space for bringing in hundreds of kids and having the economic impact. It would be good to have in terms of outdoor space but when you move it indoor your WA Foster with one gym had a cost around \$5 million. Councilmember Williams suggested bubble gyms. Council continued discussions.

Councilmember Ham made a motion to proceed with the grant opportunity as presented by staff, showing our \$6 million and applying for \$2 million. Councilmember Broadaway seconded the motion. Mayor Allen, Councilmembers Broadaway, Stevens, and Ham voted in favor of the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Foster and Councilmember Williams voted against the motion.

**Golf Course Membership Fees.** Mr. Scott Barnard shared the following information:

|            | Goldsboro | Southern Wayne | Three Eagles | Timberlake | Lane Tree | Walnut | Average |
|------------|-----------|----------------|--------------|------------|-----------|--------|---------|
| initiation | 0         | ?              | 0            | 0          | 500/1000  | ?      |         |
| regular    | 740       | 780            | 315-780      | 450        | 960       | 3000   | 1186    |
| senior     | 620       |                |              | 350        | 744       |        |         |
| junior     | 620       |                |              |            |           |        |         |



|              | Southern Wayne* | Lanetree | Timberlake | Wedgewood*  | Three Eagles | Average  | Goldsboro |
|--------------|-----------------|----------|------------|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Membership   | \$ 780.00       |          | \$ 450.00  | \$ 1,300.00 | 315-780      |          | \$ 740.00 |
| Weekday-walk | \$ 21.00        | \$ 23.00 | \$ 18.00   | \$ 13.00    | \$ 16.00     | \$ 18.20 | \$ 15.00  |
| Weekday-cart | \$ 35.00        | \$ 29.00 | \$ 30.00   | \$ 25.00    | \$ 28.00     | \$ 29.40 | \$ 26.00  |
| Weekend-walk | \$ 31.00        | \$ 31.00 | \$ 40.00   | \$ 18.00    | \$ 19.00     | \$ 27.80 | \$ 20.00  |
| Weekend-cart | \$ 46.00        | \$ 43.00 | \$ 24.00   | \$ 30.00    | \$ 31.00     | \$ 34.80 | \$ 31.00  |

\*Non-pool rates

\*\*Wedgewood membership includes cart

|                 | july         | august       | sept         | october      | november     | december     | jan          | feb          | march        | totals        |          |              |              |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Cart            | \$ 18,203.00 | \$ 21,868.00 | \$ 16,636.00 | \$ 13,235.00 | \$ 13,881.00 | \$ 5,186.00  | \$ 11,986.00 | \$ 16,351.00 | \$ 13,279.00 | \$ 130,625.00 | 0.375956 |              |              |
| Concessions     | \$ 5,980.00  | \$ 5,747.00  | \$ 3,987.00  | \$ 3,660.00  | \$ 3,244.00  | \$ 1,596.00  | \$ 6,782.00  | \$ 3,762.00  | \$ 2,970.00  | \$ 37,728.00  | 0.108586 |              |              |
| Greens Fees     | \$ 9,530.00  | \$ 10,205.00 | \$ 8,105.00  | \$ 4,714.00  | \$ 6,059.00  | \$ 1,997.00  | \$ 4,608.00  | \$ 7,660.00  | \$ 5,592.00  | \$ 58,470.00  | 0.168284 | 40%          | 10% increase |
| Membership Fees | \$ 10,536.00 | \$ 545.00    | \$ 11,787.00 | \$ 9,325.00  | \$ 1,234.00  | \$ 8,715.00  | \$ 18,257.00 | \$ 5,199.00  | \$ 14,984.00 | \$ 80,582.00  | 0.231925 | \$ 32,232.80 | \$ 35,456.08 |
| Driving Range   | \$ 1,371.00  | \$ 2,349.00  | \$ 1,056.00  | \$ 688.00    | \$ 767.00    | \$ 459.00    | \$ 926.00    | \$ 2,026.00  | \$ 2,094.00  | \$ 11,736.00  | 0.033778 |              |              |
| Pro Shop Sales  | \$ 2,572.00  | \$ 4,602.00  | \$ 7,795.00  | \$ 1,768.00  | \$ 1,795.00  | \$ 827.00    | \$ 2,090.00  | \$ 2,873.00  | \$ 2,320.00  | \$ 26,642.00  | 0.076679 |              |              |
| Golf Lessons    | \$ 610.00    | \$ 220.00    | \$ 70.00     | \$ 100.00    | \$ 70.00     | \$ 180.00    | \$ 180.00    | \$ -         | \$ 235.00    | \$ 1,665.00   | 0.004792 |              |              |
|                 | \$ 48,802.00 | \$ 45,536.00 | \$ 49,436.00 | \$ 33,490.00 | \$ 27,050.00 | \$ 18,960.00 | \$ 44,829.00 | \$ 37,871.00 | \$ 41,474.00 | \$ 347,448.00 | 1        |              |              |

Council discussed rates. Mr. Stevens stated I would recommend \$80 per month and give city residents a 10% discount.

Councilmember Broadaway suggested raising the cart fees by \$1.00.

Mr. Barnard shared the City of Wilmington offers city rates to 3 surrounding counties.

Upon motion of Councilmember Williams, seconded by Councilmember Ham and unanimously carried, Council agreed to charge \$80 per month, no initiation fee, provide a 10% discount on membership fees to city residents, increase cart fees by \$1.00 and greens fees at market rate effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Swimming Pool Discussion.** Mr. Scott Barnard provided an update on the city swimming pools. The City of Raleigh and Durham are having similar issues with shortages of lifeguards. Aquatech is unable to honor the contract, they are behind on hiring for pools they are already committed to manage. It would be my recommendation to Council that we operate the pools in-house. This past year we operated two pools at 49 hours per week each. It would be my recommendation we attempt to operate one pool for 49 hours a week, the pool behind WA Foster, Mina Weil pool, which would allow an opportunity for backup with staff who works at WA Foster. Mr. Barnard discussed staffing needs and certifications.

Mr. Stevens stated I would recommend Council allow us to do some pre-screening of applicants and pay for lifeguard certifications. We do have \$15,000 in the budget for the contract with the YMCA but we will likely need another \$25,000 for this fiscal year and a little more through August. We will bring back a budget amendment.

Mayor Allen stated I would like to publically thank the YMCA who have helped us with our pools for many years and I hate they will not be able to continue to help. I think I understood you recommended operating one pool but I feel at a minimum both pools should be ready and hopefully we can work it out where we can go back and forth or we man both pools.

**Mayor Pro Tem Discussion Items.** Councilmember Ham made a motion to remove Work Session Item g. from the agenda. Councilmember Broadaway seconded the motion. Mayor Allen, Councilmembers Broadaway, Stevens, and Ham voted in favor of the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Foster and Councilmember Williams voted against the motion. Work Session Item g. Discussion Items was removed from the agenda.

**Councilmember Williams Discussion Items – Summer Youth Program.** Councilmember Williams asked for an update on the Summer Youth Program. Ms. Shycole Simpson-Carter stated we currently have 45 completed applications (27 are hard copies). As of last week there were several community leaders who have set up sites to help kids apply online. Of the 27 hard copies received 20 are from low-mod income

levels, 7 are non-low-mod. We have 12 that are 14 years old, 7 that 15 years old, 2 that are 16 years old and 3 that are 17 years old. Those that are 18 years old or older will be referred to Wayne Community College’s program. Some applications have been faxed, we have contacted them to share we cannot accept faxed applications, hard copies are needed. The community is rallying behind this program. I would like to thank Council and the City Manager for your support.

Mayor Pro Tem Foster stated I have a question, on the application it states you cannot have 2 from the same household, in my district I have a mother of twins, I think that is unfair. I just want to be sure some kid does not get a job because of this, I would prefer it not be on the application. My second thing, the mandatory meeting, we are still taking applications to May 1<sup>st</sup>, the meeting is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup>, why not postpone until after all applications are in. Ms. Simpson-Carter stated the committee has discussed and if necessary we could do a second session.

Mayor Allen stated I was at Goldsboro High School the other day at the Health Fair and talked to Barbara Wilkins, and Pinky you came up. I mentioned this to the kids and they were really excited. Barbara Wilkins and Selena with Communities in School has agreed that they would get with the principal there and use the media center to have interviews with the kids. Just be sure we use that resource. Maybe we can have another meeting there if needed.

Councilmember Williams stated pertaining to the demographics I know you said NeoGov has had a lot of hits, but a lot of people are not able to access it, with the hard copies are you going to have a database because I know you are trying for federal funding next year. Ms. Simpson-Carter stated yes, with all the applications coming in I have been keying in Excel, which can pull any demographic you’d like. Councilmember Williams stated I appreciate all the work you are doing and I appreciate what the community is doing.

**Councilmember Williams Discussion Items – 24 Hours of Peace/Summer Zone.** Councilmember Williams stated at the Retreat we had Mr. Sharif present on 24 Hours of Peace/Summer Zone. He has not gotten any response. If we could do something to give our young people some enjoyment, something they can relate to. I think there is a need for that, Rocky Mount is doing something for their urban citizens.

Mayor Allen asked if Councilmember Williams could get some proposals from Mr. Sharif and bring back at the next Council Meeting. Councilmember Williams stated sure.

**Cover Agenda.** Each item on the cover agenda was generally discussed.

There being no further business, the work session adjourned.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The Mayor and Council of the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina, met in regular session in Council Chambers, City Hall, 214 North Center Street, at 7:00 p.m. on April 17, 2017 with attendance as follows:

Present: Mayor Chuck Allen, Presiding  
Mayor Pro Tem Bevan Foster  
Councilmember Antonio Williams  
Councilmember Bill Broadaway  
Councilmember Mark Stevens  
Councilmember David Ham

Absent: Councilmember Gene Aycock

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Allen at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Timothy Dortch with Word of Truth Christian Fellowship provided the invocation. The Pledge to the Flag followed.

**Golden STAR Awards.** Ms. Pamela Leake, Interim Human Resources shared the following about the Golden Star Awards: After receiving notification of an anonymous monetary donation to establish a recognition program for employees; a group of department heads were tasked with developing not only the criteria and guidelines to recognize our employees but also a name for the program. After several discussions and drafts, we selected The Golden STAR Award which also stands for Special Thanks and Recognition.

The award is to recognize employees in a timely manner for their contributions to the organization and the community. These contributions go above and beyond the normal scope of responsibilities of the performance of their duties.

The award focuses on customer service/professionalism, problem solving/quality improvement, teamwork/community partnership or other professional/personal achievement in a way that relates to the City's values and beliefs of integrity, professionalism, collaboration and promoting the quality of life. Anyone having knowledge of such characteristics displayed by an employee or group of employees may submit a nomination. The monthly recipients will receive a monetary award, a certificate signed by the City Manager and Mayor, and a pin signifying their STAR status.

Mayor Allen and Ms. Pamela Leake, Interim Human Resource Director presented an award to the following employees for going above and beyond:

- Stephanie Slusser – Paramount Theatre
- Captain Brandon Holland – Fire Department

**Small Business Week Proclamation.** Mayor Allen proclaimed the week of April 30-May 6, 2017 as Small Business Week in Goldsboro, North Carolina and declares support for our small businesses and recognizes the innovations and contributions of small businesses.

Mayor Allen presented a framed copy of the Proclamation to Ms. Kate Daniels, President and Executive Director of the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Daniels stated on behalf of the Chamber we appreciate the support of the City Council, the City of Goldsboro and all the citizens that support local businesses. We don't celebrate small business one week out of the year, we celebrate it 365 days a year. The Wayne County Chamber of Commerce is so proud of the work that is being done, the many people, the many businesses here in our community.

Mr. John Best, Chairman of the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors stated I want to begin by thanking this Council for your continued support and recognition of small businesses. The importance and impact of small businesses cannot be overstated more than half of all Americans either own or work in a small business and they create about 2 out of 3 new jobs in the US. We all know it takes a lot of courage and hard work to open and run a small business. It reminds me of the quote "Twenty years from now you will regret the things you didn't do more than you will regret the things you did do." Small business owners are the ones who had the courage to step forward and to say yes we can do that. If you think about it, small businesses are what enable the world to continue to grow and to prosper. Every large company, any successful business enterprise, started out as a small business. It started with an idea in a garage, in a basement, in a back room, so today, the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce was honored to join you in celebrating all those who had the courage to try something new and make society better for it. Thank you.

**Relay for Life Proclamation.** Mayor Allen proclaimed the month of May as "Relay for Life Month" in the city of Goldsboro, North Carolina, and urged all citizens to show their support for the American Cancer's Society annual Relay for Life to be held May 19-20, 2017 by wearing their Relay for Life T-shirts to work on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and by displaying their purple ribbons in support of "Show Your Purple Week" the entire week prior to the Relay event.



Mayor Allen presented a framed copy of the Proclamation to Ms. Brenda Robinson and Ms. Vicki Terrell.

Ms. Vickie Terrell stated on behalf of the American Cancer Society, Relay for Life and cancer survivors everywhere, we first want to thank you for your continued support and dedication to our event. Everyone here at least knows someone who has battled cancer or is surviving cancer today. Chances are they have benefited in some way from the services of the American Cancer Society. One interesting fact is this year alone in 2017 the American Cancer Society currently has over \$20,355,000 in research grants currently in place in North Carolina’s major medical universities alone. To learn more about these grants and what they do for our current survivors you can contact Brenda through our website at [www.relayforlife.org/waynenc](http://www.relayforlife.org/waynenc).

**CU-6-17 John Hodge (Well-Traveled Beer) – Southwest corner of South Center Street and Chestnut Street (Place of Entertainment with ABC Permits – Amendment). Public Hearing Held.** The applicant requests to amend a previously-issued Conditional Use Permit to allow the operation of a place of entertainment with ABC Permits (bar/lounge). The amendment would allow the expansion of the existing bar/lounge operation by adding 34 seats.

Frontage: 72.26 ft. (S. Center St.)  
119.4 ft. (W. Chestnut St.)  
Depth: 119.4 ft.  
Area: 8,609.06 sq. ft. or .2 acres  
Zoning: Central Business District (CBD)

Hours of Operation: Tuesday - Thursday (3pm-11pm)  
Friday – Saturday (3pm – 12am)  
Sunday (12pm-4pm)

Number of Employees: 2

The applicant was granted a Conditional Use Permit to allow the operation of a place of entertainment with ABC permits by City Council at their December 7, 2015 meeting. The applicant is now requesting to expand the operation for additional seating.

The applicant renovated approximately 1,600 sq. ft. of the existing two-story, 5,384 sq. ft. masonry-brick building for craft beer sales and consumption. The applicant now intends to renovate a portion of the 1,674 sq. ft. remaining first floor area facing West Chestnut Street for additional seating and storage.

The submitted floor plan for the expansion shows seating for thirty-four people. The existing operation included beverage shelving and display areas, seating for twenty-five people, bathrooms and a bar. The expansion of seating would allow for a total of fifty-nine people.

Mayor Allen opened the public hearing. No one spoke and the public hearing was closed.

No action necessary. The Planning Commission will have a recommendation for the Council’s meeting on May 8, 2017.

**CU-7-17 State Electric Supply Company - West side of North George Street between Vine Street and Holly Street. Public Hearing Held.** Applicant requests a Conditional Use Permit to allow the outside storage of goods or materials in conjunction with a contractor’s office and retail supply business.

Frontage: 430.5 ft.  
Depth: Avg. 420 ft.  
Area: Approximately 162,934 sq. ft. or 3.74 acres  
Zone: GB (General Business) and I-2 (General Industry)

The site consists of an existing 91,688 sq. ft. commercial building of masonry construction fronting N. Virginia, W. Vine and N. George Streets. CSX Railroad right-of-way abuts the property along the northern property line.

A portion of the property is zoned I-2 (General Industry) along W. Vine and N. Virginia Streets.

Monroe Hardware Company currently occupies approximately 46,777 sq. ft. of the existing building located within this zoning district. Another 49,717 sq. ft. of building space is currently vacant, available for lease and zoned GB (General Business) along N. George Street.

As previously stated, applicant proposes to maintain an outside storage yard in conjunction with the proposed business which requires Council approval.

The City's Unified Development Code requires the following:

- 1) Storage areas shall be screened from public view by an 8 ft. high solid fence. Fence may be reduced to 6 ft. if items for storage do not exceed 5 ft. in height.
- 2) No loading or unloading of materials shall occur outside of the fenced area.
- 3) Materials shall not be stacked so as to be visible from any public road right-of-way or adjoin property line.

The applicant proposes to use 5,985 sq. ft. of the vacant portion of the building for office and retail use and 35,986 sq. ft. for warehouse storage for a combined 41,971 sq. ft. of floor space within the GB (General Business) zoning district.

The applicant's floor plan indicates 7 offices, a conference room, a retail sales counter, a reception area and merchandise storage racks to be located on the first floor. Warehouse storage will be located directly behind the office and retail spaces. Four office spaces and a training room will occupy the second floor of the facility.

**Parking:** A total of 20 paved and striped parking spaces are required for the proposed use (including one handicapped space) as indicated on the site plan along N. George Street. In addition, one parking space is required for each vehicle stored on site. Applicant indicates that additional parking spaces have been provided for 4 company vehicles to include 2 vans, 1-16 ft. box truck and 1-24 ft. box truck to be located on the dock side of the facility facing W. Vine Street where loading and unloading deliveries will be made. A total of 25 parking spaces will be provided for the operation of the business.

**Landscaping:** Street trees are required along N. George Street, however NCDOT will not allow the installation of street trees since this is a State-maintained road. As a substitute, the installation of low growing shrubs is acceptable in the State right-of-way.

Mayor Allen opened the public hearing, no one spoke and the public hearing was closed.

No action necessary. Planning Commission will have a recommendation for the Council meeting on May 8, 2016.

**CU-8-17 Jared Grantham – Southwest corner of East Walnut Street and Ormond Avenue. Public Hearing Held.** The applicant requests a Conditional Use Permit to allow the operation of a Place of Entertainment with no ABC permits. The use proposed is a physical adventure gaming operation which is most commonly known as an "Escape Room."

Escape Rooms were originally developed in Japan. They are basically an activity where players are locked in a room and have to use elements of the room to solve a series of puzzles and escape within a set time limit, or after having completed a mission.

Escape rooms usually involve groups of people and can be used as teambuilding exercises for public, private or governmental entities or as an activity for individuals and families.

They are sometimes characterized as physical versions of escape-type video games.

The applicant proposes utilizing the entire upstairs of the structure which is to be divided into three separate escape rooms and also will include restrooms, a reception/waiting area, an office and storage.

Hours of Operation: Monday – Wednesday (By Appt.)  
Thursday and Friday (5:00 p. m. to 10:30 p. m.)  
Saturday (9:00 a. m. to 10:30 p. m.)  
Sunday (2:30 p. m. to 10:30 p. m.)

No. of Employees: 2

The property is located within that area of the Central Business District which is exempt from providing off-street parking.

Any exterior improvements will require review and approval by the Historic District Commission.

Mayor Allen opened the public hearing. The following person spoke after being properly sworn in:

Jared Grantham, 112 Carlyle Circle, Goldsboro stated I am the proposed owner/operator of the escape room coming to Goldsboro contingent upon approval. You have been given an example of what an escape room is, you are not actually locked in a room. Basically each room has its own set theme, with a series of games, typically lasting about an hour with unique characteristics. At the end of 2014 approximately 22 escape rooms were owned and operated in the United States, however, now there are over thousands. Currently the nearest one is New Bern as well as about 7 or 8 that have opened in Raleigh/Durham/Garner area. Benefits to these, it is a great team building exercise for corporations, non-profits, friends, family, to go and be a part of that. Many fortune companies are actually requiring their employees to use them now as a great team building exercise. We feel like it will be a great asset to the downtown community, providing a great place for entertainment. Currently we have opened up a lot of restaurants and bars, different boutiques and shops; this would give many of our Goldsboro residents a place to go and provide some entertainment for them in the downtown area. We have spoken to a lot of people in the downtown community as well as other business owners who seem very enthusiastic and excited about this opportunity for Goldsboro to host an escape room. However, after all of our due diligence, and requesting for this change of use, we did not get a lease for the property until this past Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately we were not able to negotiate the terms on that lease at the proposed residence. Due to that property being at 103 Ormond Street, on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup>, we have since moved onto another property, just to give you guys some information, it is directly next door to the property proposed. We have filed a conditional use on that property to be presented at the next Council meeting. We believe we have come to terms on a lease on that, so that will be set for presentation at the May meeting. Thank you.

No one else spoke and the public hearing was closed. No action necessary. Planning Commission will have a recommendation for the Council’s meeting on May 8, 2017.

**Planning Commission Excused.**

**Zoning Ordinance Amendment – Electronic Sweepstakes Facilities. Public Hearing Held. Ordinance Adopted.** At their work session held on March 6, 2017, the Council requested that the staff prepare an amendment to the City’s Unified Development Ordinance as it relates to electronic sweepstakes facilities (internet cafes).



The Council asked that the separation distance from specific uses use be increased and additional uses included in the separation distance.

Previously, based on the number of modifications which had been requested in conjunction with these uses, the Council had agreed to reduce the parking requirement for electronic sweepstakes facilities from two (2) spaces per machine to 1.5 spaces per machine. This change has now been formally included within the amendment.

The amendment would limit the zoning districts which would permit electronic gaming establishments as Conditional Uses to only the General Business zone.

In addition, the separation distance would be increased from 200 ft. to 500 ft. and would include not only residentially zoned or developed property, a church or school but would add “day care, playground or public park.”

The separation distance between such uses would be increased from 200 ft. to one mile (5,280 ft.).

Mayor Allen opened the public hearing. No one spoke and the public hearing was closed. No action necessary. The Planning Commission will have a recommendation for the Council’s meeting on May 8, 2017.

#### **Planning Commission Excused.**

**Contiguous Annexation Request – Mills Goldsboro Properties, LLC. Public Hearing Held.** The City Council, at their meeting on March 20, 2017, scheduled a public hearing for the proposed annexation of the subject property. A public hearing notice was properly advertised stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting.

Pursuant to G. S. 160A-31, at the public hearing all persons owning property in the area proposed to be annexed, as well as the residents of the municipality, shall be given an opportunity to be heard on the proposed annexation.

If the Council determines that the proposed annexation meets all the requirements of G. S. 160A-31, it has the authority to adopt an annexation ordinance.

A report was prepared by the Department of Planning and Community Development, in conjunction with other departments, concerning the subject annexation area. All City services can be provided to the property.

Upon motion of Councilmember Ham, seconded by Councilmember Broadaway and unanimously carried, Council adopted the following entitled Ordinance annexing the Mills Goldsboro Property effective April 30, 2017.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-20 “AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN CONTIGUOUS REAL PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO”**

**Public Comment Period.** Mayor Allen opened the Public Comment Period. The following people spoke:

1. Ravonda Jacobs, 301 A St, Goldsboro, stated good afternoon gentlemen. I actually was not going to say anything today but I went to the 5:00 meeting and I am going to be quite honest with you, Mr. Ham I was very disappointed that you did not want to discuss diversity in the workplace, you did not want to discuss employment qualifications. Mr. Broadaway, Mr. Stevens, you all did not want to discuss rules and regulations that the city government should work by, establishing proper structure of boards, discussion of promotion throughout the fire and police departments. To me, as a citizen, this is a serious problem because I understand we want the issue of what happened with the Police Chief and everything to kind of go away. But Ms. Shirley stated before, we can’t put Band-Aids on big things and we appreciate you

starting to come out and do more, but taking pictures with our kids in the community, picking up some trash, that's not the root to the problem. The root of the problem is the things that need to be discussed, the things that are happening in the City with the people who work here. I have had several people who have come to me and complained about, hey there is some stuff that happened to me on my job at the City but I was afraid to say something, so this whistleblower policy needs to be discussed. Now we say we want a better city, we want diversity but you are not willing to discuss the things that would truly bring diversity to the table. A lot of things are being hidden and pushed under the table, which shouldn't be, you shouldn't be hiding stuff from the community. I have a letter here...

There has been a tremendous amount of discussion about the Facebook post that Chief West posted in January. While opinions vary on the issue, the reality is some of our citizens were offended by what the Police Chief said. I believe City employees have the right to express their own beliefs when not at work and that we, their employer cannot discipline them when someone is offended. With that said, I expect my department heads to be sensitive to and understand the impact their comments can have on a city as a whole, due to their position. As a city manager, one of my duties is to evaluate our department heads. Chief West's annual review is due and while I am pleased with many things related to his self-development during this first year as Chief, the issues surrounding his Facebook posts will be reflected in his evaluation. This evaluation will have a financial impact on Chief West as I rate his performance. As city manager I want to thank Chief West for immediately removing his post when he was told some of the community were offended, apologizing, and allowing me to share this statement with you, however, I ask this letter not be shared publically as we are trying to bring to closure this unfortunate situation. Chief West has suffered emotionally, financially and has committed to working with anyone that seeks to make Goldsboro a better place for all of its citizens.

Ms. Jacobs stated that's a problem, the public should know what's going on. To know that city officials want to hide information from the public is a problem. To know there are things going on that you do not want to discuss and continue sweeping under the rug, it is a problem. We thank you for working the way you can but we need to work harder. These things that he wanted to discuss need to be discussed. Just like parents, your child will not say to you what they will say to their friends. People in our community will not say to you what they will say to us. These policies and things need to be reviewed because there is a large amount of people suffering in our community because you will not discuss the root. Thank you.

2. Geren Taylor, 1405 Allen Street, Goldsboro stated I do want to develop something Pinky had said about what was skipped in a discussion from earlier, 5:00, the diversity in the workplace. If this is true and we happened to have ran the numbers that Goldsboro's population is about 36,000 and if that's true it's African American population is about 19,000 and if that's true that puts you at a little more than 50% so the importance of discussing diversity in the workplace would be something like the Fire Department or the Police department. If the percentage of African people working for those departments are less than 10% then that's something that needs to be talked about because I will quote someone I've heard before, they don't necessarily understand the African American population, that would have been around the time Ms. Pinky delivered the books to Council so you could come to an understanding of the people and the population because if you do not understand people in the population then how do you think or how could you perceive that you could ever help the people by starting any program that would exist. Another thing I did want to talk about was the development from what Ms. Pinky had said was about the letter that was written. If there is anything being concealed from the people, then you definitely don't understand the people, therefore you are trying to hide it from them, if you are

trying to hide something from them, it makes the people think you are not competent to be in the position that you are currently in so anybody who wanted to hide anything from anybody when it should be public, that's unnecessary. The other thing I definitely wanted to say because I have spent a lot time talking to other organizations in Goldsboro community and one thing I have found out is they are a tad bit more passive then some of the younger guys in the community. That's important because a lot of the young guys are a lot more assertive, if you went to the basketball game tournament at Goldsboro High School you'd see how much energy the young guys have and like a lot of other people, they want to start programs for young people and if they don't properly channel that energy and it's not going to be done through passive way of doing things like some of my predecessors who are a little more passive in a way they want to complete a task, while some of the younger guys like me are a tad bit more strategic, tactful, almost to the point where are militant to get a job done, meaning, if we don't see the job being done by the Mayor and/or his city councilmembers then it's important or imperative that we take the initiative, let's say into our own hands and then maybe if anyone wants to start a program with the youth, that they will come talk to us before they talk to our kids, I would definitely think that's important since y'all want to hide information to begin with, but I definitely appreciate you listening.

No one else spoke and the public comment period was closed.

Councilmember Ham requested to speak. Mayor Pro Tem Foster stated I think he should wait until it's his time to speak, when we all have our personal time to speak, not right now.

Mayor Allen asked Councilmember Ham if that was ok with him and Councilmember Ham replied that's fine.

**Consent Agenda - Approved as Recommended.** City Manager, Scott A. Stevens, presented the Consent Agenda. All items were considered to be routine and could be enacted simultaneously with one motion and a roll call vote. If a Councilmember so requested, any item(s) could be removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed and considered separately. In that event, the remaining item(s) on the Consent Agenda would be acted on with one motion and roll call vote. Councilmember Ham moved the items on the Consent Agenda, Items I, J, K, and L be approved as recommended by the City Manager and staff. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Williams and a roll call vote resulted in all members voting in the affirmative. Mayor Allen declared the Consent Agenda approved as recommended. The items on the Consent Agenda were as follows:

**Bid Award Addendum for Ordinance No. 2017-5 to Pearson Pump for Westbrook Pump Station, Nationwide Electrical Services, Inc. for 117 Pump Station, TA Loving Company for Big Cherry Pump Station, and TA Loving Company for Little Cherry Pump Station – Hurricane Matthew Final Repair Projects and Mitigation. Resolution Adopted. Ordinance Adopted.** Bids were awarded January 24, 2017 per Ordinance No. 2017-5 for final repairs on Westbrook, 117, Big Cherry, and Little Cherry Pump Stations. Contracts for final repairs were held until it was determined that FEMA felt confident that the City would meet the qualifications for mitigation repairs. Mitigation estimates were received from the low bidders and evaluated by FEMA staff to be included in their Project Worksheets. The bid award contractor will make the final repairs and mitigation repairs to the Pump Stations.

The City of Goldsboro's lowest responsive bidder was Pearson Pump of Goldsboro, NC gave a Total Bid amount of \$93,150 for Westbrook Pump Station. The mitigation estimate was \$33,000, for a combined total of \$126,150. Nationwide Electrical Services, Inc. of Goldsboro, NC gave a Total Bid amount of \$112,800 for 117 Pump Station. The mitigation estimate was \$40,190, for a combined total of \$152,990. TA Loving Company of Goldsboro, NC gave a Total Bid amount of \$227,000 for Big Cherry Pump Station. The mitigation estimate was \$203,000, for a combined amount of \$430,000. TA Loving



Company of Goldsboro, NC gave a Total Bid amount of \$141,000 for Little Cherry Pump Station. The mitigation estimate was \$119,000, for a combined amount of \$260,000.

The final repair costs totaling \$573,950 were previously approved by the Goldsboro City Council on February 6, 2017 with Ordinance No. 2017-5.

Staff recommended the City Council adopt:

1. The following entitled Resolution authorizing the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute a contract with Pearson Pump not to exceed \$33,000 for Westbrook Pump Station; Nationwide Electrical Services, Inc. not to exceed \$40,190 for 117 Pump Station; TA Loving Company not to exceed \$203,000 for Big Cherry Pump Station; and TA Loving not to exceed \$119,000 for Little Cherry Pump Station to make the Hurricane Matthew final mitigation repairs at the pump stations.
2. The following entitled Ordinance to reflect an increase in Utility Fund revenues and an increase in the operating expenditures of the Utility Fund's Capital Project Division's budget by a total of \$395,190. Consent Agenda Approval. Ham/Williams

RESOLUTION NO. 2017- 29 "RESOLUTION AWARDING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT TO MAKE THE HURRICANE MATTHEW FINAL MITIGATION REPAIRS AT THE WESTBROOK PUMP STATION, 117 PUMP STATION, BIG CHERRY PUMP STATION, AND LITTLE CHERRY PUMP STATION"

ORDINANCE NO. 2017- 21 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO FOR THE 2016-2017 FISCAL YEAR"

**Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Public Improvement Bonds, Series 2017. Resolution Adopted.** The Goldsboro City Council authorized bond referendum for the \$3,000,000 of Parks and Recreational Facilities Bonds and \$7,000,000 Street Bonds. The election for these bonds was held on November 8, 2016 and passed by the voters. The City Council has approved the issuance for the \$3,000,000 of Parks and Recreational Facilities Bonds and \$2,500,000 of Street Bonds in May 2017.

The total of the Bond Order will be \$10,000,000 but will only sell \$5,500,000 on May 2, 2017. The Bonds shall be designated "General Obligation Public Improvements Bonds, Series 2017" and shall be dated May 23, 2017.

The following entitled Resolution authorizes the bond order and the issuance of \$5,500,000 to be sold.

Staff recommended Council approve the following entitled Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of the General Obligation Public Obligation Public Improvement Bonds, Series 2017 of the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina, pursuant to a bond order. Consent Agenda Approval. Ham/Williams

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-30 "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2017 OF THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA, PURSUANT TO BOND ORDERS HERETOFORE APPROVED AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, DETAILS AND PAYMENT THEREOF"

**Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017. Resolution Adopted.** The City of Goldsboro issued Street Improvement General Obligation Bonds in May 2008 and Sewer Improvement Bonds in April 2010. Interest rates have decreased since the bonds were issued and it may be in the City's best interest to refund a portion of the outstanding bonds in order to take advantage of these reduced costs.

The total of both of the refunding bonds will be \$9,700,000 and are scheduled to be sold on May 2, 2017. The Bonds shall be designated “General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017” and shall be dated May 23, 2017.

The following entitled Resolution authorizes the bond order and the issuance of these refunding bonds in the amount of \$9,700,000.

Staff recommended Council approve the following entitled Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of the General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017 of the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina, pursuant to a bond order. Consent Agenda Approval. Ham/Williams (7 Ayes)

**RESOLUTION NO. 2017-31 “RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2017 OF THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA, PURSUANT TO A BOND ORDER HERETOFORE APPROVED AND PROVIDING FOR THE FORM, DETAILS AND PAYMENT THEREOF”**

**Monthly Reports. Accepted as Information.** The various departmental reports for the month of March, 2017 were submitted for the Council’s approval. It was recommended that Council accept the reports as information. Consent Agenda Approval. Ham/Williams (7 Ayes)

**City Manager’s Report.** Mr. Scott Stevens stated just a reminder we have Social Media Training, the legal training side, scheduled for you tomorrow from 12:00-1:30 p.m.

**City Attorney’s Report.** No report.

**Mayor and Councilmembers’ Reports and Recommendations.** Mayor Allen read the following Resolution.

**Resolution Expressing Appreciation for Services Rendered by John Sexstella as an Employee of the City of Goldsboro for More Than 23 Years. Resolution Adopted.** John Sexstella retires on May 1, 2017 as a Wastewater Plant Operator III with the Public Utilities Department at the City of Goldsboro with more than 23 years of service. John began his career on February 16, 1994 as a Wastewater Plant Operator I with the Public Utilities Department. On February 16, 1996, John was promoted to Wastewater Plant Operator II with the Public Utilities Department. On August 26, 1998, John was promoted to Wastewater Plant Operator III with the Public Utilities Department where he has served until his retirement. John has proven himself to be a dedicated and efficient public servant who has gained the admiration and respect of his fellow workers and the citizens of the City of Goldsboro. The Mayor and City Council of the City of Goldsboro are desirous, on behalf of themselves, City employees and the citizens of the City of Goldsboro, of expressing to John Sexstella their deep appreciation and gratitude for the service rendered by him to the City over the years. We express to John Sexstella our deep appreciation and gratitude for the dedicated service rendered during his tenure with the City of Goldsboro. We offer John our very best wishes for success, happiness, prosperity and good health in his future endeavors.

Upon motion of Mayor Allen, seconded by Councilmember Ham and unanimously carried, Council adopted the following entitled Resolution.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2017-28 “RESOLUTION EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY JOHN SEXSTELLA AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO FOR MORE THAN 23 YEARS”**

Councilmember Broadway read the following Proclamation.

**National Day of Prayer Proclamation.** Mayor Allen proclaimed Thursday, May 4, 2017 as “National Day of Prayer” in the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina, and commend this observance to our citizens.

Mayor Allen read the following Proclamation.

**Physical Fitness Month Proclamation.** Mayor Allen proclaim the month of May as “Physical Fitness Month” in the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina and urge all citizens to show their support for Southeastern Cancer Care’s Annual Cure for the Colors to be held May 6, 2017 by wearing their Cures for the Colors T-shirts to work on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and by displaying a ribbon in support of all cancer patients the entire week prior to the event.

Mayor Allen recognized a group with the National Day of Prayer Proclamation. He stated I did not know you all were here, please forgive me. Mayor Allen presented Ms. Linda Meyers and Ms. Dawn Jones with a copy of the Proclamation. Ms. Jones stated we just wanted to say thank you for supporting us, this is our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual National Day of Prayer for Wayne County. Thank you very much for acknowledging it and supporting it. And it’s important to just let everyone here know, this is for every church in Wayne County, for every denomination in Wayne County. We are going to be praying for government, for businesses, education, there are several prayer points that will be targeted. We would love for you all to let your churches know. WE thank you for supporting this, it is a time for us to come together and pray and acknowledge God. We need him in our City like never before. Amen.

Ms. Sherry Archibald stated Chief Whaley will be representing government for us.

Councilmember Ham read the following Proclamation.

**See America Campaign – Prevent Blindness Day Proclamation.** Mayor Allen proclaimed Friday, May 5, 2017 as Prevent Blindness Day in the City of Goldsboro, North Carolina and commended this observance to our citizens.

Councilmember Williams stated I would like to thank all of our city staff, I want to thank Dr. Smith, I want to thank Rebuilding Broken Places, they did a mock interview for our summer youth program. We got a chance to interact with our young people and prepare them for our summer youth employment. I want to thank staff and I want to thank City Council. I think it’s a wonderful thing that’s taking place here, any parents who have actually volunteered and help give out applications; just want to thank you all. Ms. Pinky Jacobs, she did some mock interviews with us as well. So glad to see our city truly caring for our young people. Just keeping them busy is going to help the city, it’s going to drop our crime. It is going to give our Chief some time to focus on other things to, so thank you.

Councilmember Broadway stated I have some comments just to hit a few areas. I think I can say personally I have no problem talking about diversity. I have a lot of problems talking about diversity in generalities, we need to talk about diversity in very strict terms. The other thing is that I want to be open, this counsel has to be open. We have to be able to speak to people, we have to do it, and we can’t always do that in an adversarial method. I’m 72 years old, have a lot of trouble when I’m given homework. Also, I have a lot of trouble when I’m given time frames. I guess I’m old and cranky. I will say if there is a reason I voted against continuing on, that was the reason, let’s talk about items as adult people. For goodness sakes, let’s talk so that we all speak the same language and we don’t do it in an adversarial way. Thank you.

Councilmember Stevens stated I want to say thank you to everyone in the city for coming out and showing your support. I want to say congratulations to Mr. Peter Newsom for being third-place in the Special Olympics and his whole family for supporting him and thank you to those on the Mayors for Persons with Disabilities Committee for coming out. I also want to say to Mr. Timothy Gill and those connected to the lounge which is another outlet for young people to come together to celebrate their differences and love of the digital arts, trading cards and things of that nature, their place of business opened just



this past weekend, an African-American male who is doing very well. I just reliving what my father and grandfather fought for before they passed away which was African-American people coming together along with other people, every race, creed and culture to work together to have a future. I want to say thank you to him and also to reiterate what Councilmember Broadway stated, I also voted in regards to moving on in regards to the agenda. Specifically, yes we do need to talk about diversity and we do need to talk about all the other issues that are facing the city. If we cannot constructively work together and talk about doing homework, which is going back to 1819, when the city was developed, we can't change history but we can effectively influence the future and write laws that will change it for the future. If we want to talk about those things then yes I have no qualms with talking about that.

Mayor Pro Tem Foster stated I would like for Mr. Ham to go first.

Councilmember Ham stated I have two agendas here, one is April 4<sup>th</sup> and the other is April 17<sup>th</sup>. The April 17<sup>th</sup> agenda which includes the items that I made a motion to not discuss are almost identical to this April 4<sup>th</sup> agenda items that we did discuss. At one point I said, what is the point you're trying to make. There was no point made, it was just an ongoing dialogue or accusation or pointing out issues that this individual wanted to discuss. Mr. Foster has a right to talk about issues but bring us some resolutions, bring us some suggestions on how we might reach a point where we can have some agreement, how we go about changing the situation. But to come and take time to restate and reargue these points week after week when we have an agenda we hardly get to finish even under good nights in the work session, that's my concern, my reason for this. It was not an attempt to hide the issues people have talked about, we have already talked about those several times. The point that was made, I'm trying to hide something or other councilmembers are trying to hide something that is totally erroneous, now with that said, I want to say something positive here, a different subject. I was recently invited by Capt. Paige Learnard who is the Captain of Shift B in the Police Department, to accompany her and her shift the members to Edgewood Development School. She and her team arrived about 7:00 that morning to serve doughnuts to staff, bus drivers and parents who brought their kids to school. I had not been to that facility before, but I came away with a very heartwarming place in my inner being. Capt. Learnard showed up with coffee, doughnuts, soft drinks and water and I watched as the staff of this came in, as they were given doughnuts and exchanged information. I also movingly watched parents dropping off kids for that facility. I watched bus drivers drive up with kids that could not get off the bus by themselves, I watched staff members go to the bus and help them get off the bus, walk them to the classroom and at some point Principal Adams took me on a tour of the facility. I walked through and watched their teaching staff, their instructing staff working with kids handling kids in a very delicate way, taking time with them, cleaning them, feeding them, and giving them the attention they very well needed, not to say they didn't get it at home, but in that environment. They were special needs kids who needed that. Thank God we have dedicated people in that school. I spoke to one who drives from Clinton every day because she is dedicated to what she does. They speak highly of how the school is ran. I commend Principal Adams for the work she has carried on, she's getting near retirement but she said I don't think I want to retire yet I love what I'm doing, I feel like I have a purpose here. I also want to commend Capt. Learnard and her shift for showing the loving kindness they did. I'll tell you something, we have some really fine people here in the city and they come in all grades of age, color, creed and sex. By God, we need to show them appreciation and support them. What you heard tonight about hiding things, it's not about hiding things, and it's about trying to make things better for our city. I grew up in the city, I was born and raised here, and I love the city. We have challenges here we can work through them but it is going to take a team effort not a lot of finger-pointing. Let's be positive, get on positive footing and work together.

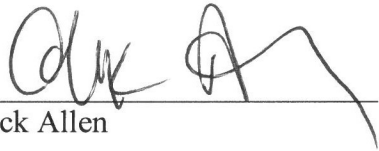
Mayor Pro Tem Foster stated I'm going to try to address each of you. Mr. Ham, you said that it is the same as last time and it is the same from the last session and the reason why it is the same is because we had not at that time decided to do anything. We just discussed some of the issues. Mr. Broadway himself asked me to make a small bullet under some of them so he would have something to look at, so that's what I did. I came up with days and number of days to set a guideline, I do not think we need to keep putting this off. We have a lot of issues going on in the city as far as jobs, as far as

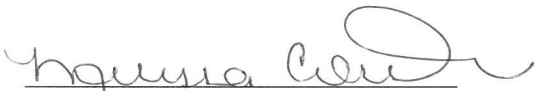
whistleblowing, as far as police testing, fire department, our boards around the city, or commission are being ran wrong, they are not structured right, they have ran that way for a while, that's not fair to our citizens, it's not fair to our employees. You said to be a team player, a team player would do his research, it's not for me to do your research. I do my research, I read, I've read the ordinances, the City of Goldsboro's work policies. You know, I think every board member should do that. If you have a problem with doing that then maybe we need to really look at some things because we are responsible for making these changes. We are responsible for changing the city for the better and I do not feel 45 or 60 days is out of reach, that's just not right. To Mr. Stevens, you said you are about fairness and doing things the right way, well this right here is going to create fairness, this is going to create the things so it can be done the right way; then one person is just not making the decision to do whatever they want to do. We're going to put standards in place for whoever that person is, has to follow those standards. So, therefore, it can't be I feel this or I thought this person was best suited for the job. No, you follow those standards, we go throughout other cities, and they have standards in place. They hire firms to come in and set; this person is making \$70,000 than they should have a degree, they should have this amount of training, this amount of certification, this amount of experience. That's what we need to do here. It's not being addressed and that's a shame. People that are applying for jobs, people that are throughout the city that are already working are being done unfairly and that's not right. Going to Mr. Broadway, we're going to go to this read thing, you sat there and read that proclamation just fine, so the same way you can read a proclamation is the same way we can read the rules and regulations. There are no excuses. If we are here to be attained, to work together, then let's work together, let's all read, let's all work, let's all come up with something to make this better. It should not just be me, I shouldn't have to present to you. You should be presenting something to me, like hey Bevan, I think we should do X, Y, Z. When we had the issue with the Police Chief, the city came together quickly to come up with all these regulations, all these things we're going to do within this small time frame. Why can't we do it for our employees, why is it an issue now. So, I am offended, I felt disrespected, you know you say in order to get respect you have to give it. I don't feel like I've disrespected anyone by putting these things on the agenda. I don't feel like I did but I was blatantly disrespected by you voting it off the agenda. That's it.

Mayor Allen stated I want to go back to the letter Pinky, Mr. Jacobs read to us, because I am a little bit disturbed because I think the letter was totally read out of context and I am the one that initiated the letter. So I'm going to take the credit for the letter. The letter was in no way shape or form done to hide anything from anybody. First off, my job as Mayor is to try to bring compromise everywhere and anywhere I can. We had the City Manager, the Police Chief, we have staff, and we have people with opinions all over thinking different things. We had the NAACP and others thinking Chief West got off scot-free, it's a recipe for disaster. Nobody was trying to work together to fix it and make it better. So my job is to try to do what I can to bring things together, that's what I believe I'm here to do, it's to try and work to make things better for everybody. So with that said, the City Manager had shared with me that the Chief's evaluation would be coming up and this would be part of his evaluation and my light clicked on and I said man I'm sure that's going to have a financial impact on the Chief. So I asked the Manager will you do me a favor, will you talk with the Chief and see if he minds if we share this, because it is a personnel policy that the Manager doesn't have to share it with anyone and shouldn't probably, the Chief doesn't have to share it with anybody and shouldn't but they agreed to do it for me, because I was trying to bring compromise amongst everyone and try to do the best we can to make the situation better for everybody. That was the whole intent of the letter. The NAACP and other people wanted something. This was something we could do, we were trying to bring closure to the whole thing, not trying to hide anything. We're trying to get people to talk about other things. Let's move on, it's over with, it's done, let's try to close this and move to the next thing. So that was the reason for the letter, I do not want anyone to misconstrue, I don't need anyone to blame the Manager or the Police Chief or anybody else. It was my ask for them to do this letter. I do want to tell you that I do not think anybody is working any harder or can work any harder to make the city cleaner, to make the city better, to build diversity, than what I'm trying to do right now, and it is the toughest job I have ever had. I've got people coming from all angles. My pledge to everybody is I am going to work with every group I can to do whatever I can to make the city better, to make it more

inclusive, that would include diversity and all these other things. I don't know how all this just happened, I've been on this Council for 20 years because we never had all these problems until just now that we have to figure out how to work on them, we are working on them. We are doing more in this last year than we have done in many years. Is it where everyone wants to be, maybe not but we are doing things and we are working hard, but people have to work with us too. It is a two way street. I'm out in the community all the time, I try to talk to people to see what we're doing that's good and not so good. I do want you to know we do care about everybody and we are trying to make the city better for everybody.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

  
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Chuck Allen  
Mayor

  
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Melissa Corser, MMC  
City Clerk