

MINUTES OF MEETING OF MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL HELD
DECEMBER 21, 2015

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 December 21, 2015 with attendance as follows:

Present: Mayor Chuck Allen, Presiding
Councilmember Antonio Williams
Councilmember Bill Broadaway
Councilmember Mark Stevens
Councilmember Bevan Foster
Councilmember David Ham
Councilmember Gene Aycok
Jim Womble, City Attorney
Scott Stevens, City Manager
Melissa Corser, City Clerk
Randy Guthrie, Assistant City Manager
Jimmy Rowe, Planning Director
Kaye Scott, Finance Director
Mike West, Interim Police Chief
Betsy Rosemann, Travel & Tourism Director
Gary Whaley, Fire Chief
Allen Anderson, Chief Building Inspector
Karen Brashear, Public Utilities Director
Jennifer Collins, Assistant Planning Director
Jose Martinez, Public Works Director
Julie Metz, DGDC Director
Sherry Archibald, Paramount Theatre Director
Brad Hinnant, Server Database Administrator
Marty Anderson, City Engineer
Shycole Simpson-Carter, Community Development Director
Lonnie Casey, Citizen
Ethan Smith, Goldsboro News-Argus
Tommy Jarrett, Attorney (arrived at 6:30 p.m.)
Roy Creech, Citizen (arrived at 6:30 p.m.)

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

Invocation. Councilmember Broadaway provided the invocation.

TIGER Grant Project Outcomes Report Summary. Ms. Julie Metz shared the following information:

Background

- 1) TIGER V Grant Award, Sept. 2013
- 2) \$10M + \$1.67 + \$4M
- 3) Center Street: \$7.167M
GWTA Building: \$3.7M
Site Work: \$1.4M
Other Streetscape: \$2.98M
- 4) Contract Agreement Between City and USDOT
- 5) Quarterly Visits, Monthly Reports, Quarterly Reports and a Baseline and Project Outcomes Report Per Grant Contract

Baseline Measures Selected

- Main Street Statistic Data
- GWTA Boarding & Alighting Survey
- GWTA Employee Satisfaction Survey

- GWTA Customer Satisfaction Summary
Findings: GWTA Employee Satisfaction Survey
- 1) The employees feel the space for the customers is much improved from the former facility.
- 2) The employees feel there is a lack of space dedicated to the employees, particularly in the office, training, and storage areas. If a negative comment was provided regarding the conditions of the facility, it is the lack of space in these areas that was expressed.
- 3) Many of the employees of Gateway are drivers (71%). In the Baseline Report the overall consensus of the drivers shared there was a need for improved route and transfer communication, safer boarding and alighting of passengers at transfer point, and passenger amenities such as restrooms, vending machines and shelters. There were no comments regarding any of these concerns in the Project Outcomes survey.

Comments Received

- New space much larger and provides bathrooms
- New site closer to population in need of transportation (2),
- Customer area is excellent (6),
- Improved access to buses, it's nice and near downtown, everything is convenient and maintained (6)
- New site is easy to find and in a good location, roomy, everything is in one building.
- Great for centralizing transportation
- Safer & cleaner,
- Positive impact to neighborhood,
- Easy to get to (2)
- Comfort of waiting area
- Better working conditions.
- The new facility makes me want to keep facilities clean, seems to be an increase in respect, best facility since GWTA began, makes me proud to be a member of this team.
- I look forward to coming to work every day, it shows growth, the new facility sets a tone that makes a statement about the worth of a person we serve which keeps the bar high for customer service expectations.

Findings: GWTA Customer Satisfaction Survey

- 1) The vast majority of the customers are satisfied with the new facility.
- 2) Only one reply suggested time delays were a problem, specifically in inclement weather.
- 3) Very few comments were noted to specify particular feelings about the facility, compared to the survey for the Baseline Report which resulted in comments regarding issues with overall conditions, safety at transfer, shelter from inclement weather, adequate communication of transfer times.

Findings: Boarding & Alighting Survey

- 1) Five Routes
- 2) One Day Count
- 3) Routes Have Changed

General Assumptions:

- The total boarding and alighting counts show an increase in usage of the system, from 1,167 to 1,401, a 20% increase.
- The reasons for this could include: it is the holiday season and there may be more frequent shopping trips, the station is more accessible to a larger group of users, or the changes made to the routes during the interim improved access, times and customer satisfaction.

Findings: Economic Impact Data
Main Street Community Annual Statistics

The following statistics were from the period of July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

Bldg. Renovs.	New Jobs	Job Lost	Net Job Gain	New Business	Business Closed	Net Business Gain	Business Expansion	\$ Value of New Investment PUBLIC	\$ Value of New Investment PRIVATE
15	42	17	25	12	7	5	0	\$1,504,393	\$1,026,589

The following statistics were reported for the period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

Bldg. Renovs.	New Jobs	Job Lost	Net Job Gain	New Business	Business Closed	Net Business Gain	Business Expansion	\$ Value of New Investment PUBLIC	\$ Value of New Investment PRIVATE
14	73	25	48	15	7	8	1	\$10,635,878	\$415,731

Main Street Community Annual Statistics
July 1, 2015 to December 1, 2015

Bldg. Renovs.	New Jobs	Job Lost	Net Job Gain	New Business	Business Closed	Net Business Gain	Business Expansion	\$ Value of New Investment PUBLIC	\$ Value of New Investment PRIVATE
24	37	2	35	7	1	6	1	\$4,346,156	\$2,189,300

Main Street Community Annual Statistics
Previous 6 Months to July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

Bldg. Renovs.	New Jobs	Job Lost	Net Job Gain	New Business	Business Closed	Net Business Gain	Business Expansion	\$ Value of New Investment PUBLIC	\$ Value of New Investment PRIVATE
60% Increase	12% Decrease	88% Decrease	40% Increase	41% Decrease	86% Decrease	20% Increase	100% Increase	188% Increase	113% Increase

Findings: Economic Impact Data

- Twenty-nine new businesses have opened since September, 2013 when the TIGER 2013 award was made.
- Twenty-six new property acquisitions have occurred during the same period.
- Property and business owners are making improvements to their building facades.
- Currently, six of the new property acquisition projects will result in eleven new upper story residential units.
- Downtown business owners have reported an increase in sales since this time last year; some even reported that sales have doubled in their stores.

Councilmember Aycock asked that Ms. Metz share the information regarding Gateway with the Rebranding Company working with Gateway.

Downtown Parking & Traffic Analysis Study. Ms. Julie Metz shared the City of Goldsboro acting as the Lead Planning Agency for the Goldsboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is seeking Request for Qualifications for a Traffic & Parking Analysis Study. Ms. Jennifer Collins, Senior Planner, is the coordinator as the Planning Department works as the Lead Planning Agency for the City. As part of the MPO, we are required to prepare a Planning Work Program (PWP) for transportation needs with NCDOT. Planning is provided by NCDOT by an 80% match for transportation planning needs, it is not for construction, only for planning. In the current FY 15-16 budget, we earmarked funds for a Downtown Parking & Traffic Analysis Study. The overall goal is to identify traffic and/or parking needs and opportunities within the downtown area that will support a stronger mixed use district and enable private investment opportunities. Ms. Metz reviewed the scope and process of selection.

Councilmember Aycock shared a concern regarding the amount of money the City spends on consultants.

Mr. Scott Stevens stated the value of the study to him is knowing where we need parking. We know some areas, but we are also talking with new people downtown on a regular basis in different areas and their big concern is parking. Mr. Stevens stated he felt having a detailed study of how much is there and where we need it in the future would help. The other side is we have signs throughout the city but a lot downtown that were put up by an ordinance 30 years ago, 50 years ago, 80 years ago that really have no relevance today. The consultant could review and update. We are not asking Council to commit any monies tonight, you will have that opportunity once the RFQ is completed.

Police Department Update. Chief West provide an update on the following items:

- Take Home Cars
- Patrol Rifles/Shotguns
- Replacement of 3 K9's and 1 Handler
- Tasers
- Cell Phone Stipend
- Gym Equipment
- Health Insurance
- eCitation and Printers
- Body Cameras
- Shot Spotter

Councilmember Mark Stevens asked could those members of Council attend the presentation of Shot Spotter. Mr. Scott Stevens stated those who are interested could attend.

Council Committee Selections. Mayor Allen asked Councilmembers to review the committees and respond to Mr. Stevens or Ms. Corser with interest. Committee representation will be discussed at the next meeting.

Budget Amendments Discussion. Ms. Kaye Scott shared the following information:

NC Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act

1. G.S. 159-8 (a): Each local government and public authority shall operate under an annual balanced budget ordinance adopted and administered in accordance with this article. A budget ordinance is balanced when the sum of estimated net revenues and appropriated fund balances is equal to appropriations.
2. G.S. 159-8 (b): The budget ordinance of a unit of local government shall cover a fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30.
3. G.S. 159-15: Except as otherwise restricted by law, the governing board may amend the budget ordinance at any time after the ordinance's adoption in any manner, so long as the ordinance, as amended, continues to satisfy the requirements of G.S. 159-8 and 159-13.

Fund Balance - Adopted Budget Appropriations FY 2015-16

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. General Fund | None |
| 2. Utility Fund | \$273,794 |
| 3. DGDC | None |
| 4. Occupancy Tax Fund | \$ 24,850 |

Fund Balance - Council Appropriations FY 2015-16

- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| 1. General Fund | \$ 750,381 |
|-----------------|------------|

a. GWTA Bus Local Match	34,309.16
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b.	NC Governor's Crime Grant (Match)	5,111.91
c.	Resurfacing - Wm. St. Crossing	2,395.00
d.	KaBoom Grant (Match)	50,000.00
e.	Seasonal PT Sanitation Workers	27,000.00
f.	Pickle Ball Construction	20,000.00
g.	Police Gym Equipment	20,000.00
h.	Police Parking Lot (Paving)	28,000.00
i.	Police Phone Stipends	20,000.00
j.	Police Parking Repairs	15,000.00
k.	Lease Payment (Radio Lease)	95,000.00
l.	Art Lease (Streetscape)	6,000.00
m.	Streetscape Art Plaque	5,565.00
n.	Police Line Cars (10)	422,000.00
2.	Utility Fund	\$ 424,246
a.	Mulberry St. Water Improvements	\$141,701
b.	Streetscape Piping Change Order	\$282,545
3.	DGDC	\$ 10,086
a.	Façade Grant	
4.	Occupancy Tax Fund	None

Upcoming Budget Amendments FY 2015-16

1.	Walnut Street Resurfacing	\$110,000
2.	Additional Construction Management (Tiger Projects)	\$ 75,000
3.	Joint School Agreement (Extra Personnel)	\$ 50,000
4.	Election Costs (Primary)	\$ 40,000
5.	Revenues/Expenditures (Goldsboro Event Center)	?
6.	Fire Training Ground Expenditures	\$ 35,000

Ms. Scott reviewed the Finance Department's monthly report. Ms. Scott shared she would come back in and provide a six month update.

Cover Agenda. Each item on the cover agenda was generally discussed. Items with additional comments included the following:

Item E. Budget Amendment – Lighting Upgrades. Councilmember Stevens stated his main concern with a change in lighting would it be brighter or dimmer. Councilmember Williams stated high crime areas need lighting. Mr. Scott Stevens shared information regarding the City's lighting policy. Councilmember Williams suggested we look at solar lighting. Council agreed staff could proceed with the pilot program.

Item F. Informal Bid Request #2015-007 – Abatement and Demolition of Condemned Residential Properties. Councilmember Broadway asked about the permit process. Mr. Anderson stated when a permit to repair is obtained, the applicant must start within 6 months and the permit is valid for one year. Councilmember Foster asked if there was something else that could be done before the properties get to the point of condemnation, such as an investor. Council discussed the options and challenges involved.

Item C. Z-11-15 Heights Solar Farm. Mr. Rowe pointed out Council has a letter in their packet from Brian Quilan, Manager for Heights Solar Farm, LLC requesting the public hearing for the rezoning case be continued until January 19, 2016 to allow further time to address questions from a community meeting. Mr. Rowe suggested since the public hearing was advertised, hold the public hearing tonight and continue it to January 19, 2016 as requested.

Mr. Stevens shared information regarding a story on ABC News suggesting we disproportionately arrest black citizens more than white citizens. He stated staff needs time to research, however, the 2014 data does not support this information.

Councilmember Williams asked Mr. Anderson what was the department's need to help with the blight. Mr. Anderson stated Council approved a few months back to provide a full-time minimum housing inspector versus combining the position of a code enforcement officer and minimum housing inspector. Code Enforcement will now have two full-time code enforcement officers and he has a full-time minimum housing inspector.

Councilmember Aycock stated he would like to see everyone be more proactive in reporting potholes, we have city employees driving throughout the city every day.

There being no further business, the work session adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

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 December 21, 2015 with attendance as follows:

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Allen.

The invocation was given by Dr. Robert Fulkerson with Madison Avenue Baptist Church.

Approval of Minutes. Approved. Upon motion of Councilmember Broadaway, seconded by Councilmember Aycock and unanimously carried, Council approved the Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of November 2, 2015 as submitted.

Public Comment Period. Mayor Allen opened the public comment period. The following people spoke:

1. Herbert O. Herbst, 122 ½ S. Center Street, stated congrats on the new session and he looks forward to the progress we will make this year. He stated he believes on August 14th a group of 16 businesses was represented at a meeting with at that time, Mayor Pro Tem Allen, Mr. Scott Stevens, City Manager and half way through Mayor King came in. There were 31 people in the meeting. We addressed issues privately to you, we asked the newspaper to leave and DGDC because we wanted to keep it private amongst the businesses, issues and concerns that we had. Those concerns and issues were with lost businesses, businesses closed due to streetscape, the construction. Mr. Herbst stated first off he would like to say streetscape being completed has been a wonderful thing for downtown Goldsboro, it has brought returning customers and brought new customers so it is a positive impact, but during that time it created a lot of hardships towards businesses. We addressed our concerns with you as a group, at times it got emotional for those who have been here for a long time. He stated he is a new business, he opened in April. In a nutshell, we addressed options. You had expressed there was \$60,000 that could possibly be appropriated to help businesses. At a later date, we discussed it privately and it was said it was about \$20,000. In the meeting Scott had outlined some things. We all struggle with utilities, obviously you do not own the electric company or the gas company but you do have control

over the water company. Mr. Herbst stated through correspondence we are still working through some things and to be honest he is not particularly satisfied with the results. As a consensus of the business owners, we feel like we have not been responded back to. You said in the meeting you would get back to us about the issues we addressed. They feel neglected and feel disconnected from the City. The City Council needs to reach out to the businesses and make sure we reconnect and answers these questions you said you would answer. Mr. Herbst stated streetscape is a wonderful thing, but two businesses did close during this time. There is a landlord, Mr. Ernie Mansour, who said I could use his name, he has five businesses with the district of Center Street; he has to give them relief from their rent, because of lost sales during this time. There were street closings that were unnecessary. He stated his business was closed for two and half days because of that. They shut the water off. These are the things the City is obligated to make right. He stated he has heard that North Carolina does not do this or that, everyone else in the nation does. They give relief and help those who were effected. We as a group charge you to come back to us with a response to our questions from that day. Mr. Herbst stated if we need to update everybody on Council, we are happy to come down here. This has been drawn out way too long. Businesses are continuing to suffer from the damages done.

Mayor Allen stated we have a new Council and we need to get their thoughts. Mayor Allen shared we have been dealing with individuals on a case by case basis and if we owe a broader answer we will certainly provide one. We care about businesses and about people downtown. We would not have invested this money if we did not believe in downtown. Mayor Allen stated he does believe brighter days are ahead and he hopes that will make conversations better. Let us as a Council discuss and we will certainly respond.

2. David Glisson, 135 S. Center Street, stated just as a follow-up to that. He stated this is just his opinion, but he is not looking for one penny. He stated he is on Center Street, Councilmember Williams is on Center Street, and he's not sure how many businesses Chef Herb is talking about that are on Center Street. Mr. Glisson stated he understands there was some business loss here and there but in his opinion, we all knew this was coming. Center Street was closed a lot for 18 months, in one direction or the other. He stated he is on the side that suffered the longest with the Center Street construction, but he does not think it is the City's responsibility to keep him in business. He stated if you are going to help us out he would be glad to take the money but he would like to know in the discussion of who is getting compensated and how it will be worked out. Equally compensated, that is good.

Mayor Allen stated we were trying to come up with some way to do loans, but we are not a bank and we cannot loan money.

Mr. Stevens shared at meeting with the merchants we were asked if we could do loans. At that time, Mayor Allen said we could consider that. Truthfully, in terms of \$20,000 or \$60,000 in terms of an amount, it would take away from something else the Mayor and Council want to do, that's not the issue, it is do you have the legal authority to do. We are not just subject to just making loans for whatever. State law does not allow that. We do not have authority to make loans except for economic development and what we have talked to Council about before is structuring something similar to our Business Incentive program downtown which is open to new businesses and pays them a grant up to \$4,800. Chef Herb has applied and received that grant. We are answering some of the questions. Mr. Stevens stated he would say we have answered all the questions, it is just that we have said we cannot do that except for this business incentive loan, that we were discussing with the previous Council and when the election occurred, we had not developed a program and it seemed unfair to start that process when you as a Council may feel different. The problem with that is it will not help all the businesses downtown, it will help those who have opened within recent history. That is the challenge with loaning monies. As far as water

accounts, we cannot forgive water payment, we do work with all of our customers if they need to make payment arrangements. It cannot be forgiven because we as your staff have the duty under law to collect what is owed to the City. There was a claim submitted by Chef Herb to our insurance company for claimed minor damages that was denied by our insurance company. If we over ride that, it sets a precedent for Council, while you can pay it, how are you going to help other businesses throughout the city who has a similar loss based on a road closing. Mr. Stevens stated we have had ongoing conversations and feels we are responsive to people. We are just not telling the gentleman who spoke what he would like to hear.

3. Lonnie Casey, 1700 S. Slocumb Street, stated he would like to share a concern about the gas tankers who are traveling down Elm Street to Slocumb Street to deliver gas to the Base. He stated the trucks are tearing up Slocumb Street. He stated the trucks had traveled 117 to Arrington Bridge Road to Westbrook Road in the past and asked Council to share his concern with Base officials. Mr. Casey stated he would also like to commend the Chief, he has cleaned up gang activity on Slocumb Street.

Councilmember Aycock asked if it was a particular trucking company and Mr. Casey replied Waccamaw.

4. Shirley Edwards, 106 W. Walnut Street, stated you did promise to get back with the delegation that day and some have not heard from you. She stated she has tried to relay information but cannot always accurately report back to them. You talk about what you can do for the new businesses, but she has owned her building since 1996 and you have never done anything for her. Ms. Edwards stated she did not want them to go anything for her, but you did make her lose business. She stated what she say in that meeting privately, was that when you planned to do streetscape, it was very shortsighted of you to not look at the overall damage that it would do to the businesses. Other people have done it nationwide and provided incentives for those who were effected. It was a disservice and people have been effected. Ms. Edwards stated when you do not have a lot of businesses, and there are people on Walnut Street, they have lost what they had, they have been disproportionately hurt in this process. So whether anyone wants to admit it or not, the City does bear some responsibility.

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

Z-10-15 15 Roy Creech – South side of US 70 West between Claridge Nursery Road and Westwood Drive. Public Hearing Held. Applicant has requested rezoning the subject property from General Business (GB) to RM-8 (Residential Manufactured Home Park). Site and landscape development plans have been submitted as part of this rezoning request.

Frontage:	540 ft. (approx.)
Depth:	1,100 ft. (average)
Area:	17.0 acres (approx.)

North:	General Business and R-20A Residential
South:	Office & Institutional-1 (O&I-1) and R-16 Residential
East:	General Business
West:	General Business and R-16 Residential

Subject property has been operated as a mobile home park since 1972. Current signage designates the property as “Green Valley Mobile Estates.”

In January, 1994, the City of Goldsboro expanded its one-mile Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) to include the existing mobile home park. At that time, the City designated the property to be zoned General Business.

Within the ETJ, all City zoning, building and subdivision regulations are enforced in order to reduce the development transition between City and County jurisdictions.

The City's Land Use Plan, which was adopted in 2013, designates the subject property for commercial use.

The property is currently used as a mobile or manufactured home park. The current zoning is General Business which does not permit mobile or manufactured home parks.

Manufactured home parks that existed prior to the extension of the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction are allowed to continue as a nonconforming use as long as the number of spaces is not increased and the City's removal and replacement guidelines are followed.

The City's Ordinance allows replacement of mobile homes in mobile home parks within six month of one being removed. If a unit is not replaced within that time, the lot loses its legal nonconforming status and can no longer be replaced. This requirement helps to ensure that nonconforming situations, which may or may not be appropriate in their present state or location, are either upgraded or eliminated over a period of time.

The mobile home park was originally designed for a total of 49 lots in 1972. At the present time only 19 mobile units occupy 19 of the total 49 lots. The remaining 30 lots have been vacant for more than six months and, therefore, cannot now be replaced.

The applicant wishes to purchase and upgrade the mobile home park but wants to be able to utilize all 49 of the lots within the park. Rezoning of the property and site and landscape plan approval will be required in order to insure that the City's current mobile home park ordinance is met.

The City's UDO requires that new manufactured home parks meet design and performance standards including minimum individual lot size, paved streets, street lighting, open space, interior sidewalks, landscaping, refuse disposal, water and sewer facilities, parking, and landscaping.

In this case, the developer is attempting to meet as many of the City's standards as possible based on the existing configuration of the mobile home park. If the applicant cannot or does not wish to meet any of the City's requirements, modifications have to be requested and approved by City Council.

The submitted site plan addresses the City's design and performance standards as follows:

1. Access: There is an existing 24 ft. wide access drive to the park from Highway 70 West. A paved 20 ft. private circle drive is provided for access to each lot as well as refuse and recreation areas.
2. Landscaping: Existing wooded areas will serve as vegetative buffers between the subject property and adjacent properties to the north, south and west.
3. Street Trees: Applicant proposes to install a total of 7 Autumn Fantasy Maple trees to serve as the required street trees within the protected street yard along the highway frontage. In addition, a total of 68 Autumn Fantasy Maples have been proposed to serve as required street trees along the private circle drive serving as access to each mobile home lot.
4. Utilities: The site is served with City water, however, City sewer is not available. Existing septic systems are in place to serve each of the 49 lots. The addition, removal and replacement of homes shall meet the approval of Wayne County Environmental Health regarding the operation of existing and newly installed septic systems.
5. Refuse Collection: A commercial dumpster is shown near the southwestern property line which will be served by a private carrier. The dumpster will be screened and gated in accordance with City standards.

- 6. Floodplain: Subject property is located within the City of Goldsboro’s 100-year and 500-year floodplain. The addition, removal and replacement of homes will be required to meet the City’s Floodplain ordinance subject to approval by City Engineering.

The following modifications have been requested by the applicant:

- 1. Minimum size lot: From 8,000 sq. ft. to 6,000 sq. ft. (Average Existing Lot Size)
- 2. Minimum lot width: From 80 ft. to 50 ft. (Average Existing Lot Width)
- 3. Paving: To allow gravel in lieu of paved parking spaces for individual lots.
- 4. Provision of paved or concrete patios and walkways to each home entrance.
- 5. Interior sidewalks within the boundary of the park.
- 6. Dedication of open space ownership. The City’s Unified Development Ordinance requires that 15% of the entire park be preserved for recreation use and owned and maintained privately.

Mayor Allen opened the public hearing and the following person spoke:

Tommy Jarrett, Attorney, 1607 Evergreen Avenue, Goldsboro, stated as you heard, the park was opened in 1972, met the County specifications and as time evolved, the City’s requirements are much more stringent. Everything was stated just as he understands it. We also propose to remove and replace any substandard homes that are out there now. He stated he is not aware of any but there might be some. We would like to pave as needed and put in landscaping. The only thing that he heard that might be a problem, he stated he hopes it is not a problem, we did want to move away from the 8,000 sq. ft. minimum in area, some lots may be closer to 5,000 than 6,000. Mr. Jarrett stated he did want to point that out. What has happened is, Mr. Creech proposes to buy it, the current owner lives out of town and it has suffered in his absence. Simply put, Mr. Creech would like to rejuvenate it. Thank you.

No action necessary. Planning Commission will have a recommendation for the Council’s meeting on January 25, 2016.

Mayor Allen shared we are holding this public hearing on the Solar Farm tonight because it was advertised but they have asked for a continuation so we will have this public hearing again on January 19th.

Z-11-15 Heights Solar Farm, LLC – West side of Thoroughfare Road between Central Heights Road and the Norfolk-Southern Railroad. Public Hearing Held. The applicant requests a change of zone from R-16 Single-Family Residential to R-20A Residential Conditional District to limit the use of the property to a solar facility. Development plans detailing the project would have to be approved in conjunction with the rezoning request.

Frontage:	515 ft.
Depth:	2,000 ft. (approximately)
Area:	43.0 Acres
North:	R-12 and R-16 Residential and RM-9 Residential Mobile Home
South:	Industrial and Business Park-1
East:	R-12 and R-16 Residential and RM-9 Residential Mobile Home
West:	R-16 Residential and RM-8 Residential Mobile Home Park

The property is currently vacant woods.

If rezoned to the R-20A Conditional District, the use for the property would be limited to a solar facility and development plans detailing the use would be required.

The City’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan designates this property for Medium Density Residential development.

The City is currently holding water and sewer assessments for the property in abeyance until the property is annexed or until the developer requests connection to City utility lines. The costs are \$4,080 for water and \$7,650 for sewer. Although the submitted development plans do not include hooking on to City utilities, the utility assessments currently held in abeyance will have to be paid. Annexation will not be required. This property is not located within a Special Flood Hazard Area.

The submitted site plan indicates a gated 20 ft. wide soil access drive beginning at Thoroughfare Road and extending westerly through the development terminating at a cul-de-sac. Two spaces will provide parking at time of construction and for scheduled site visits twice a year.

The solar panels will be installed within a 32-acre area (out of the entire 43-acre site) surrounded by a six-ft. tall chain link fence topped with barbed wire. Existing woods will be retained for a width of at least 50 ft. along the frontage as well as the sides and rear of the property. Existing woods will also be retained along the railroad line which extends just to the south of the property. Staff will evaluate the need for supplemental landscaping in the event the existing 50 ft. vegetative buffer does not meet the landscape buffer requirements.

The proposed use could be a solar glare hazard to aircraft and a solar glare hazard analysis may be needed by Seymour Johnson AFB in order to evaluate the possible effects of the solar panels on the Base's mission. The City is awaiting comments from Base officials which should be submitted prior to the public hearing.

The Air Installation Compatible Use Zone Study (AICUZ) shows that there are two mapped flight tracks which traverse the subject property.

The applicant has indicated that construction on the site will take four to six months and that the operation will be basically unmanned with no daily personnel or activity at the site. Only twice-yearly site visits will be made to this location.

Mayor Allen opened the public hearing and the following person spoke:

Peter Stewart, 3027 Thoroughfare Road, stated he sent everyone the concerns on Thoroughfare Road. He stated he has actually spoke to everyone and got their names. It was unanimous that they do not want it there. Thoroughfare is growing now, it is been a kind of low income community, we are not renters, everyone owns for the most part. People are coming back to Thoroughfare that were born there. As a matter of fact, the Mitchell's just built a house. That big beautiful house will face this solar farm. People are concerned about their family. He stated he is concerned, there is such a thing as EMF, he has a pacemaker and is not supposed to be under the hood of a car and we are talking about maybe kilowatts. Mr. Stewart stated he is not supposed to walk through a door at Lowes if the motors are running. Now you are talking about solar farms, the electricity that runs through. We are talking about megawatts, major EMF's. We are also talking about EMR, electromagnetic radiation. He stated he has some information he will send to everyone about that, because it happens over a period of time. They are seeing it with cellphones. Mr. Stewart stated that thing will border his property and if his pacemaker stops, he does not wake up in the morning. Mr. Stewart stated the whole neighborhood is in agreement and he did send the information of the people of Thoroughfare and what our concerns are. He also shared concerns with annexation, they fought not to be annexed and were. He stated Lane Tree fought not to be annexed and were not annexed. He stated they did not get a solar farm but we do not want one. Do we have the same voice? He stated an environmental justice was also brought to his attention, they do not have the same income like Lane Tree.

Mayor Allen stated he would like to clarify three things. Lane Tree was annexed, the legislature, much to our dislike, un-annexed them at a huge cost to our tax base. Mayor Allen stated in his opinion the reason why the solar farm did not pass last time, it was located in our ETJ, outside of the city limits and had nothing to do with people being wealthy. He stated you are in the City and that property does pay taxes. He stated he just wanted to share those two differences. Mr. Stewart stated he has heard from several

people, why fight they are going to do what they want anyway. Mayor Allen stated the third thing is economic status does not matter to anyone up here and what we have always tried to do and hope we continue to do is what is right.

No action necessary. The Planning Commission will have a recommendation for the Council's meeting on January 4, 2016.

Planning Commission Excused

Non-Contiguous Annexation Request – Triangle East Timber Company, Inc. Property (East side of Wayne Memorial Drive and Best Avenue – 1.9 Acres).

Ordinance Adopted. The City Council, at their meeting on November 16, 2015, 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-58.2, 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 requirements of G. S. 160A-58, it has the authority to adopt an annexation ordinance.

In addition to those requirements, in 1988 the City Council, adopted a policy which allows annexation of noncontiguous areas subject to a number of requirements. On November 2, 2009, the Council amended the policy to more specifically refer to a "public water supply" being available to tracts of 20 acres or more which have been requested for annexation. The requirements governing noncontiguous annexations are as follows:

- a. The area is located within one mile of the established city limit line.
- b. The City's ability to contract for the provision of fire and police protection.
- c. In no instance shall a noncontiguous area have an adverse effect upon the City's overall annexation plans.
- d. If an area is situated beyond one mile of the city limits, the City may consider annexation of that area so long as a public water supply water is available or can be reasonably made available and the tract in question is 20 acres or more. If the tract in question is less than 20 acres, but is contiguous to another satellite annexation, the City will consider the smaller tract eligible for satellite annexation.

As indicated in the report, the area proposed for annexation meets items a, b, c, and d above.

A report prepared by the Department of Planning and Community Development, in conjunction with other departments, concerning the subject annexation area. Below are recommendations relative to the City's plans for extension of services to the annexation area.

Sewer Service: The property owner will be required to pay for expenses relative to the extension of sewer service to the property.

Refuse Service: The City will provide commercial refuse collection upon request to the property.

Fire Protection: The City will provide fire service to the property.

Police Protection: The City will provide police protection to the subject property.

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

Upon motion of Councilmember Aycock, seconded by Councilmember Broadaway and unanimously carried, Council adopted the following entitled Ordinance annexing the Triangle East Timber Company, Inc. Property effective December 31, 2015.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-50 “AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN NONCONTIGUOUS REAL PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA”

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 Broadaway moved the items on the Consent Agenda, Items E, F, G, H, 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:

Budget Amendment – Lighting Upgrades. Ordinance Adopted. For the past few months, staff has met with Duke Energy to discuss upgrading the City’s street lights to LED lighting. Duke performed an analysis of the City’s existing lights and cost savings. With new LED lighting, it would require less energy than existing lighting and significant lower operating costs for the City.

Since lighting plays an important role on our streets, Duke Energy has agreed to start a pilot streetlight replacement on 217 lights. Duke would start with 173 lights on Ash Street and 44 on Slocumb Street. The majority of the City’s existing lights are 22,000 lumen, sodium vapor enclosed lights and would be replaced with LED 105 and LED 150. The total upgrade cost for these lights is \$10,550. There is an expected savings of \$4,601 annually and break even within 2.2 years.

The Public Works Department evaluated the City-owned street, parking lots and exterior facility lighting. The majority of the lights we use now have low energy efficiencies and use high cost components when they do go bad. In respect to the energy use, Walnut Street and City Hall Lights currently cost approximately \$19,000 per year to operate. Switching to an LED equivalent would save around 70% in energy costs or \$14,000 per year. The cost of the conversion of all the lights would take us 1.7 years to break even and then we would have a net savings of \$14,000 per year perpetually. None of this includes the savings on labor which is much less with the new LEDs. The cost of upgrade and replacement is \$22,000.

Since funding was not appropriated for this upgrade within the current year’s budget, it is necessary to authorize the funding of \$32,550.

It is recommended the Council adopt the following entitled budget ordinance appropriating the funds from the Unassigned Fund Balance of the General Fund in the amount of \$32,550. Consent Agenda Approval. Broadaway/Williams (7 Ayes)

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-51 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO FOR THE 2014-15 FISCAL YEAR”

Informal Bid Request #2015-007 – Abatement and Demolition of Condemned Residential Properties. Ordinance Adopted. On Monday, November 16, 2015 in accordance with the provisions of the N.C. General Statutes, sealed bids were publicly opened for the abatement and demolition of the 13 condemned residential properties listed below:

1. 3918 E. Ash Street
2. 102 Bright Street
3. 724 W. Chestnut Street

4. 401 Creech Street
5. 1208 E. Elm Street
6. 404 Gulley Street
7. 1108 N. John Street
8. 1304 N. John Street
9. 403 W. Oak Street
10. 211 Shaw Court
11. 605 E. Spruce Street
12. 613 E. Spruce Street
13. 220 Wayne Avenue

A bid tabulation sheet is available.

The bids have been reviewed by the City's Inspection Department, checked for accuracy, and found to be in order. The low bid from AK Grading and Demolition, Inc. is being recommended in the amount of \$78,825. The current fiscal year's budget has sufficient funding for abatement and demolition for these 13 locations.

The City of Goldsboro has acquired several houses adjacent to Willowdale Cemetery to assist with the expansion of the cemetery. The following properties were acquired through donations from the Friends of Willowdale:

1. 214 E. Elm Street
2. 206 E. Elm Street
3. 200 E. Elm Street
4. 3 Houses at 200 Cemetery Street
5. 504 S. John Street

AK Grading and Demolition, Inc. submitted a proposal for the demolition and disposal of these houses, which will include the removal of the slabs and footings. The total cost is \$36,800. Additional funding is necessary in the amount of \$25,625 to demolish these houses.

It is recommended that Council:

1. Accept the bid of \$78,825 from AK Grading and Demolition, Inc. for the abatement and demolition of the 13 condemned residential properties.
2. Accept the proposal by AK Grading in the amount of \$36,800 for the demolition of the 7 houses adjacent to Willowdale Cemetery.
3. Adopt the following entitled ordinance appropriating \$25,625 from the General Fund's Unassigned Fund Balance. Consent Agenda Approval. Broadway/Williams (7 Ayes)

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-52 "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO FOR THE 2015-2016 FISCAL YEAR"

Supplemental Health Benefits – Flexible Spending Accounts. Approved.

Currently, the City of Goldsboro offers a pre-tax health savings account option to City employees to help with out-of-pocket health fees. On June 22, 2015, the General Assembly of North Carolina enacted a House Bill allowing local governmental units to join the State Health Plan. The City of Goldsboro opted to join the State Health Plan effective January 1, 2016. The State Health Plan does not offer a pre-tax health savings option.

The City would like to continue to offer employees a pre-tax health spending account plan. Flores and Associates, the City's COBRA plan administrator, has submitted a proposal for a Section 125 Flexible Spending Account Plan. The plan would allow employees to set up pre-tax deductions in accordance with the IRS guidelines. Flores and Associates would provide a turnkey installation and handle all enrollment and tracking of the accounts. Flores would charge a monthly fee of \$5.00 per participant.

It is recommended Council authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement with Flores and Associates for the City's medical reimbursement administration plan (Flexible Spending Account) with an effective start date of February 1, 2015. Consent Agenda Approval. Broadaway/Williams (7 Ayes)

2015 Priority Sewer Rehabilitation Project-Phase I FBR No. 2015-001 - Change Order No. 1. Resolution Adopted. The Phase I rehabilitation project consisted of replacement and installation of sanitary sewer lines and existing services at various locations in the City.

Due to additional work encountered and overages on estimated quantities, the total project cost exceeds the contract amount for the Phase I project by \$18,820.68. Line items added to this contract are detailed as follows:

- Additional point repair on Beech Street removal/disposal of 13" of asphalt
- Additional repair near 309 E. Chestnut Street removal/disposal of 13" of asphalt
- Additional lateral S9 on Daisy Street - find building lateral and extend lateral onto private property
- Additional raise buried manhole 2360A removal/disposal of 13" of asphalt

LUMP SUM TOTAL = \$18,820.68

We have reviewed the financing of Change Order No. 1 with the Finance Director and determined that sufficient funds are available in Sanitary Sewer Bond Proceeds.

It is recommended the City Council, by motion, adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a change order totaling \$18,820.68 with Prism Contractors and Engineers, Inc. for the 2015 Priority Sewer Rehabilitation Project-Phase I. Consent Agenda Approval. Consent Agenda Approval. Broadaway/Williams (7 Ayes)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-101 "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CHANGE ORDER WITH PRISM CONTRACTORS & ENGINEERS, INC. FOR THE 2015 PRIORITY SEWER REHAB PROJECT-PHASE I FORMAL BID REQUEST NO. 2015-001"

Facility Fee Schedule –Goldsboro Events Center (GEC). Approved. The former Goldsboro Country Club was purchased by the City of Goldsboro February 25, 2015 and renamed the Goldsboro Events Center. The property was purchased to enhance the appearance and use of the Goldsboro Municipal Golf Course, reduce expenses that would be required to improve the former GMGC pro-shop and to provide much needed rental banquet space to the community. Effective October 2015, and in collaboration with the Parks & Recreation Goldsboro Municipal Golf Course staff, the Paramount Theatre Director will oversee the management of the GEC.

During the initial renovations and major outdoor improvements, Parks & Recreation's Scott Barnard took a strong leadership role and provided a great vision for the collaboration of a pro-shop and rental space. He presented the original fee schedule and it was adopted on August 17, 2015. During renovations, Paramount staff has researched fee structures with eight surrounding venues, two of which are municipality managed. Through this research and in an effort to maintain consistency within the department a revised facility fee schedule is being presented.

It is recommended the Council approve the revised Goldsboro Events Center Facility Fee Structure. Consent Agenda Approval. Broadaway/Williams (7 Ayes)

Rescheduling Council Meetings for 2016 Due to Holidays. Approved. The Goldsboro City Council normally meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month for their Regular Council Meeting.

The following meetings need to be rescheduled due to holidays:

- Monday, January 18, 2016 is in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
- Monday, July 4, 2016 is in observance of Independence Day
- Monday, September 5, 2016 is in observance of Labor Day

Staff suggests Council consider rescheduling the above meetings to the following dates:

- Tuesday, January 19, 2016
- Tuesday, July 5, 2016
- Tuesday, September 6, 2016

It is recommended Council accept staff recommendations and approve the revised 2016 regular meeting schedule. Consent Agenda Approval. Broadaway/Williams (7 Ayes)

Advisory Board and Commission Appointments. Resolutions Adopted. There are currently several vacancies on Advisory Boards and Commissions. Citizen involvement is vital to the performance of City government. It is necessary that additional appointments be made in an effort to fill these vacancies.

Recommendations for appointments were requested from the respective Boards and Commissions. Applications were also solicited from the general public at large.

The City Council met in a work session on November 16, 2015, to review vacancies and applications received to fill the current vacancies. To date, eight applications have been received to fill the vacancies of eight boards and commissions. With these appointments, seven vacancies on the Appearance Commission, three vacancies (2 are alternates) on the Historic District Commission, seven vacancies on the Mayor's Committee for Person with Disabilities, one vacancy (at-large) on the Goldsboro Tourism Council, one vacancy on the Community Affairs Commission and three vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Community Development remain.

It is also customary for the City of Goldsboro to express its appreciation by Resolution to those members whose terms have expired, who have moved or resigned.

Staff recommended Council adopt the following entitled Resolutions appointing members to various Advisory Boards and Commissions in the City of Goldsboro and commending those individuals whose terms have expired, who have moved or resigned. Consent Agenda Approval. Broadaway/Williams (7 Ayes)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-102 "RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS"

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-103 "RESOLUTION COMMENDING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE SERVED ON VARIOUS ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OF THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO PRESENT THE INDIVIDUALS WITH A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION"

Monthly Reports. Accepted as Information. The various departmental reports for the month of November, 2015 were submitted for the Council's approval. It was recommended that Council accept the reports as information. Consent Agenda Approval. Broadaway/Williams (7 Ayes)

End of Consent Agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Selection. Upon motion of Councilmember Broadaway, seconded by Councilmember Ham and unanimously carried, Council selected Councilmember Aycock to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

Oath of Office. Ms. Melissa Corser, City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Pro Tem Gene Aycock.

City Manager's Report. Mr. Stevens stated he would like to address a report that was on ABC Eyewitness News about 4:30 this afternoon. Mr. Stevens stated we will be working on a response. He read the following report from ABC News:

"Driving while black." If you've never heard the expression, it refers to the long-standing perception that black drivers are treated differently than white drivers by police. An I-Team investigation using the new online archive opendatapolicingnc.com shows the perception is backed up by the numbers. In some cases, the disparity is startling.

The website looks at stop data for most larger cities in North Carolina and breaks down stops by race, ethnicity, and violation. The numbers show black and brown drivers are consistently both pulled over and searched far more frequently than white drivers.

Looking at just 2015, in Raleigh, black drivers were 258 percent more likely to be searched after being stopped for a speed limit violation; 274 percent more likely to be searched if stopped for a seatbelt violation; and 428 percent more likely to be searched if stopped for a stoplight/sign violation.

In Durham, the numbers were more startling: 302 percent for a stoplight/sign violation, 385 percent for a safe movement violation, and 690 percent for a speed limit violation.

In Fayetteville, where they've made a concerted and public effort recently to combat race-specific behaviors and perceptions, in 2015, black drivers were 233 percent more likely to be searched if stopped for a vehicle equipment violation. They were 243 percent more likely to be searched after a seatbelt violation stop and 288 percent more likely for a vehicle regulatory violation stop.

The most startling difference the I-Team found was in Goldsboro. Black drivers were more than 1,700 percent more likely to be searched than white drivers if they were pulled over for a vehicle equipment violation."

Mr. Stevens stated the data from 2014 for equipment vehicle stops, we stopped 184 non-white (57%) and 137 white (43%). Back to the article:

"Raleigh defense attorney Karl Knudsen says the numbers confirm what he and others have suspected for years.

"Unfortunately, the data that has come out has confirmed that this is not just a figment of people's imagination. There's a fundamental, statistical disparity between the number of black people that get stopped for certain very minor things and a huge disparity in terms of the number of those cases that result in a search," he said.

Knudsen says there may be other factors that escalate police activity to a search after a stop such as crime rates, drug trafficking, and the locations of things like DWI checkpoints. But Knudsen says the data bears out what he sees in the courtroom every day.

"It is much more likely that your encounter is going to go badly if you're non-white than if you're white," he said."

Mr. Stevens stated he looked at data a year ago regarding traffic stops but has been unable to drill down to the next level.

Councilmember Foster stated he just read the report and he thinks they are stating those who are stopped and searched versus stopped. He stated he thinks that might be the difference.

Mr. Stevens stated in 2014 we pulled over 184 non-white and 137 white for the vehicle equipment violation and if he understands it correctly of that 184 they were more likely to have their vehicle searched. He stated he did review the information quickly. If the data is correct we have some work to do, if the data is not correct, we have some work to do to educate people because it creates real concern.

Mr. Stevens also wished everyone a safe and Merry Christmas.

City Attorney's Report and Recommendations. Mr. Womble wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mayor and Councilmembers' Reports and Recommendations. Mayor Allen read the following Resolution:

Resolution Expressing Appreciation for Services Rendered by Kirk D. McLaurin as an Employee of the City of Goldsboro for More Than 30 Years.
Resolution Adopted. Kirk McLaurin retires on December 31, 2015 as an Equipment Operator II in the Public Works Department of the City of Goldsboro with more than 30 years of service. Kirk began his career on October 30, 1985 as a Leaf Collector in the Public Works Department. On March 26, 1986, Kirk was promoted to Laborer II in the Public Works Department. On June 1, 1988 Kirk was promoted to Equipment Operator II in the Public Works Department where he has served until his retirement. Kirk 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, the other City officials and employees and the citizens of the City of Goldsboro, of expressing to Kirk McLaurin their deep appreciation and gratitude for the service rendered by him to the City over the years.

Upon motion of Mayor Allen, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Aycock and unanimously carried, Council adopted the following entitled Resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-100 "RESOLUTION EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY KIRK D. MCLAURIN AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE CITY OF GOLDSBORO FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS"

Mayor Pro Tem Aycock shared has known Mr. McLaurin since he was in the 9th grade. He stated he has also been the driver on my route. Mr. McLaurin and his crew have always been very professional and he appreciates Mr. McLaurin's hard work and dedication to the City.

Councilmember Williams stated Happy Holidays to all of his constituents and he appreciated everything they have done to help him get elected. He stated he promises to work hard coming into this new year.

Councilmember Broadaway wished everyone a sage and Merry Christmas. He congratulated the Parks and Recreation Department for Jingle in the Park. There were between 5,000 – 6,000 people who attended Jingle in the Park each night on Friday and Saturday. Congratulations to Parks and Recreation, the Police Department and all those involved. He also shared the Arts Council holds a jazz festival on the 3rd Friday of every month and it is a great event. He also congratulated the Arts Council on a successful event.

Councilmember Stevens stated he would like to thank everyone for coming out and being a part of us. He stated what his father has always tried to impress on him, try to influence people, your constituents. He stated if you influence one person you have done your job as a human being. The ones beside you, your neighbors, your co-workers,

those are your brothers and your sisters, please understand that, whether they be black or white. Councilmember Stevens stated he and the Mayor may not always agree, but he is a great guy, he is my brother and we will work together to try to make the City better. Please remember as we go into this new season, let's work together, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilmember Foster wished everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

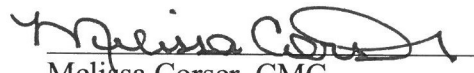
Councilmember Ham stated it is so refreshing and invigorating to be downtown this time of the year. It is a wonderful sight to see people on the street, inside businesses, the lights are ablaze and there is just a great attitude. For someone who grew up, years ago in this city and saw a similar situation, it is personally gratifying to recall what it was then and see what it is now. He stated he is excited about where Goldsboro is headed. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor Pro Tem Aycock stated it was nice to see so many of Council attending the promotional ceremony on Base. It is gratifying to know we have people who are willing to work hard and do what they need to do for the citizens of Goldsboro. He stated he would also like to thank Council for putting their confidence in him for Mayor Pro Tem. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and most prosperous New Year.

Mayor Allen stated he would like to thank the Salvation Army for providing 400 angel trees; there was a good article in the paper about what the Salvation Army is doing. He stated there are a lot good people doing a lot of good things. He shared he attended Mr. James Williams Come Hang with Us talent show at the Herman Park Center. Mr. Williams had Orlando who has the drum line. He stated Herman Park Center was packed, this was their second talent show and it was awesome to see these kids and parents. He stated he was really impressed and we should do what we can to support this program. He reminded everyone to contain their trash, please do not let it blow around the streets and help keep our city clean. Mayor Allen encouraged everyone to remember those who are less fortunate, there will be a lot of kids out of school who may not get a meal they would normally get. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:08p.m.



Chuck Allen
Mayor

Melissa Corser, CMC
City Clerk