



**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MONDAY JANUARY 11, 2016 @ 7:00 PM**

**CHERRYVILLE COMMUNITY BUILDING**

**106 S. JACOB STREET CHERRYVILLE, N.C. 28021**

The Honorable Mayor H.L. Beam called the meeting to order. Councilmember's David Kiser, Jill Puett, Malcolm Parker and Brian Dalton were present. Also present was City Manager Ben Blackburn, City Clerk Paige H. Green, Police Chief Chad Hawkins, Fire Chief Jeff Cash, EDC Director Richard Randall and Water Plant Superintendent Patty Hall. No media coverage.

**INVOCATION BY: REV. BILL TAYLOR, BESS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH & BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:**

Rev. Bill Taylor gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Beam shared that he and City Manager Blackburn attended a strategic planning meeting at the Cherryville Fire Department on December 19, 2015.

Mayor Beam also shared that he had been in touch with Ms. Kim George of the Gaston Arts Council. Ms. George shared that the Gaston County Symphonic Orchestra along with the Gaston County Strings will be at Starnes Auditorium on April 8, 2016. The event will begin at 7:00 pm and the admission is free.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Councilmember Puett made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2015 meeting. Councilmember Kiser seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**AGENDA APPROVAL/REVISION:**

Councilmember Dalton made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**PRESENTATION OF THE CHERRYVILLE MAIN STREET PROGRAM MID-YEAR REPORT,  
CHAIRMAN ANDY WEST:**

Mr. Andrew West, Chairman of the Main Street Program, approached the podium to give a mid-year report. Mr. West reported the following:

Mid-Year Update to City Council

11 Jan 2016

---

- Mayor Beam, City Council Members, City Staff Professionals; & Citizens, this is the CMSP mid-year update for FY 2016; the last update was at the July Council meeting.
- I am happy to report to you tonight on the state of the Cherryville Main Street Program
- After 18 months of operation and with over 4,300 hours of volunteer labor and 64 tasks completed and 19 more tasks in progress, I can report that the CMS program remains robust and that we are making a positive difference in our community.
- During FY 2015, our program had remarkable success when competing for the first time with 20 small towns in NC. We were one of three small towns to win the NC Main Street *Award of Excellence*. Our award was in the category of "Organization" and recognized our Master Work Plan. Mayor Beam was on hand to receive the award from the NC Secretary of Commerce. In July, Cherryville completed all its requirements and moved up from a STMS to a full Main Street Program.
- Last month, we received word from the NC Department of Commerce that once again, the Cherryville Main Street Program has won the NC Main Street Award of Excellence in the category of "Organization." This time for our comprehensive, 12 part public relations program. Of the 65 NC Main Street communities competing for these awards, we are one of only 11 selected. This is a tremendous achievement for our City and Citizens. Official announcements and press releases will be made on 18 March at the NCMS Conference in Goldsboro. We are hopeful that the Mayor or a City Council Member will be on hand to receive the award. Clearly, the State of NC recognizes the efforts and results that the Cherryville Main Street program is achieving.
- As with our first year of operation, the first six months of FY 2016 have been months of activity and positive results and we completed 15 tasks. For example,
  - In July, the Coca Cola mural was restored on the old Roy & Troy building
  - Also in July, new red banners with our new tag line: *Cherryville, Where Life Blossoms* were installed on our downtown lampposts
  - 5 empty storefront windows were staged with seasonal displays;
  - 2 storefronts were remodeled by owners using the Façade Grant Program
  - 4 new planters were installed at the city center with lighted evergreen trees
  - We added dozens of cherry trees around town; working with Public Works

- Main Street volunteers also participated in the Who-Ville Festival and the Christmas parade.
- Most significantly, we engaged a historical consultant to assist us in our application to designate the downtown business district as a National Historic District. This is a long process that requires extensive research and documentation. Once approved, downtown business owners with contributing, historical buildings will qualify to apply for Federal and State tax credits; thereby reducing the costs for up fitting or remodeling their businesses by 40%. This will not only encourage existing businesses to invest in their property, but will also attract new businesses to our downtown.
- For the second half of the year, we have many projects underway. Among these are:
  - Complete a fund raising campaign for new Mini-park furniture; 3 mos., \$6,000
  - Install new outdoor furniture (tables, benches, and trash receptacles) in the Mini-Park
  - Procure a second set of banners promoting Downtown Cherryville
  - Attend the NC Main Street Conference in Goldsboro in March
  - This Spring, we will engage an A&E firm to develop a Streetscape Master Plan for downtown Cherryville. This is by far the most significant initiative the Main Street Program will undertake during our first two years. The Master Plan will involve multiple stakeholder groups and include developing the requirements and architectural renderings for the future downtown business district. It will address traffic patterns, infrastructure replacement, sidewalks, streets, greenspace, landscaping, lighting and other elements. Once completed, this plan will drive much of the City's Capital Budget over the next 10-20 years.
- Lastly, I want to quickly review our financial position with you. We were appropriated \$50K for FY2016, Additionally, this year we have raised \$10K from organizations and donors and plan to raise an additional \$13K. To date we have expended approximately \$20K and have the remaining \$53K earmarked for ongoing projects. We plan to expend all remaining funds during this FY.
- Subject to your questions, this concludes the CMSP Semi-Annual Update.

**PRESENTATION OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MID-YEAR REPORT, CHAIRMAN PETE CRAFT:**

Mayor Beam shared that Pete Craft was out of town and asked if the Council would like to table this agenda item until February. Councilmember Kiser made a motion to table the Chamber's mid-year report until February. Councilmember Puett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD - CITIZENS THAT WISH TO SPEAK MAY DO SO BY COMING TO THE PODIUM AND STATING YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS BEFORE YOU SPEAK. COMMENTS WILL BE HELD TO 5 MINUTES PER PERSON:**

NONE

**PRESENTATION OF THE CHERRYVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT END OF YEAR REPORT, CHIEF CHAD HAWKINS:**

Chief Hawkins approached the podium and gave a year-end report for 2015. Within that report Chief Hawkins listed a call log summary, call types, employees and their training hours, call volumes, special events that the police department host or work and specialized training during 2015.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF LOCAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN, WATER SUPERINTENDENT PATTY HALL:**

Water Plant Superintendent Patty Hall asked Mayor Beam and the Councilmembers to consider a resolution approving a Local Water Supply Plan. Below is the resolution:



**RESOLUTION FOR APPROVING LOCAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina General Statute 143-355 (1) requires that each unit of local government that provides public water services or plans to provide such services shall, either individually or together with each other such units of local government, prepare and submit a Local Water Supply Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, as required by the statute and in the interests of sound local planning, a Local Water Supply Plan for the City of Cherryville, has been developed and submitted to the City of Cherryville for approval; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cherryville finds that the Local Water Supply Plan is in accordance with the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 143-355 (1) and that it will provide appropriate guidance for the future management of water supplies for the City of Cherryville as well as useful information to the Department of Environmental Quality for the development of a state water supply plan as required by statute;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Cherryville City Council of the City of Cherryville that the Local Water Supply Plan entitled, **LOCAL WATER SUPPLY PLAN FOR THE CITY OF**

**CHERRYVILLE'S WATER SYSTEM** dated January 11, 2016, is hereby approved and shall be submitted to the Department of Environment Quality, Division of Water Resources; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** THAT THE City of Cherryville City Council intends that this plan shall be revised to reflect changes in relevant data and projections at least once every five years or as otherwise requested by the Department, in accordance with the statute and sound planning practice.

This the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

(SEAL)

Paige H. Green, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk

Councilmember Kiser made a motion to approve the resolution for the Local Water Plan. Councilmember Dalton seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**CONSIDERATION OF SALE OF WATER PLANT HOUSE, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:**

City Manager Blackburn shared that he received an offer on the water plant house. Mr. Blackburn also shared that in the agenda packages there is a copy of a resolution authorizing an upset bid process. General Statue 160A-269 permits the city to sell property by upset bid, after receipt of an offer for the property. Gaston County has this property valued at \$52,000.

Councilmember Parker stated the following, "Mayor I would like to abstain from this vote. I've had several citizens come to me and talk to me about this and I'd rather not get into the middle of the citizens that's talked to me about it."

Councilmember Puett made a motion for Councilmember Parker to abstain from voting. Councilmember Kiser seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

City Attorney Huffstetler explained the upset bid process to Mayor Beam and the City Council. The upset bid process can be found in General Statue 160-A-269. It is as follows:

**§ 160A-269. Negotiated offer, advertisement, and upset bids.**

A city may receive, solicit, or negotiate an offer to purchase property and advertise it for upset bids. When an offer is made and the council proposes to accept it, the council shall require the offer or to deposit five percent (5%) of his bid with the city clerk, and shall publish a notice of the offer. The notice shall contain a general description of the property, the amount and terms of the offer, and a notice that within 10 days any person may raise the bid by not less than ten percent (10%) of the first one thousand

dollars (\$1,000) and five percent (5%) of the remainder. When a bid is raised, the bidder shall deposit with the city clerk five percent (5%) of the increased bid, and the clerk shall re-advertise the offer at the increased bid. This procedure shall be repeated until no further qualifying upset bids are received, at which time the council may accept the offer and sell the property to the highest bidder. The council may at any time reject any and all offers.

Councilmember Puett made a motion to adopt the resolution authorizing the upset bid process. Councilmember Dalton seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

NONE

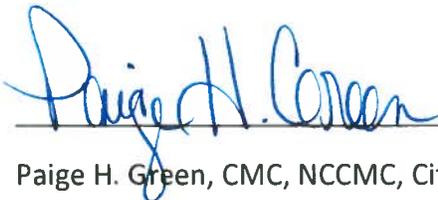
**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Kiser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Dalton seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Adopted the 8 day of February 2016.

  
\_\_\_\_\_

H.L. Beam III, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Paige H. Green, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk

(SEAL)

