CITY OF CHERRYVILLE

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY JANUARY 13, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

CHERRYVILLE COMMUNITY BUILDING

The Honorable Henry Lee Beam III called the City Council meeting to order at 7:00 in the Council Chambers. Present were Councilmember's Malcolm Parker, Brian Dalton, Jill Puett and David Kiser. Also present was City Manager Ben Blackburn, City Clerk Paige Green, City Attorney Palmer Huffstetler Jr., Finance Director Dixie Wall, Public Works Director Brandon Abernathy, Police Chief Chad Hawkins, Fire Chief Jeff Cash, Planning & Zoning Director Richard Elam, and EDC Director Richard Randall. Michael Powell was present for the Cherryville Eagle.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: The Honorable Mayor Beam welcomed everyone and shared the following updates: Mayor Beam and City Manager Ben Blackburn toured the City's different departments so that Mayor Beam could get an inside look at day to day operations. Mayor Beam was very pleased and looks forward to working with the employees.

Mayor Beam shared that the lease agreement between the City of Cherryville and Gaston County for the rescue squad building was in place and the City should see a revenue increase of $3,000. The County is making the payment retro-active back to October.

Mayor Beam shared that the former Hewlett building will be opening back up with a sewing business. The name of the business will be Finest Hour Linens.

Mayor Beam reported that the demolishing of the rest of the Carlton Mill will be removed and the area cleaned up.

Mayor Beam shared that the Waste Water Treatment Plant will be hosting the State's Professional Waste Water operator's committee quarterly meeting on January 23, 2014. Operators from all over the state of NC will be here for the event.

Mayor Beam reported that the CMAQ sidewalk project is coming to an end.

Mayor Beam reported that on Thursday January 16 @ 7:00 pm the Cherryville Historical Museum will be hosted a work shop on how to preserve your heirlooms.

Mayor Beam reported that keeping with the promise of transparency, he would ask Mr. Ben Blackburn City manager to give the latest update on sentencing.

Mr. Blackburn responded by saying that the City of Cherryville has received word that on January 30, 2014 three will be sentenced. Those individuals are Wes Golden, Mark Hoyle and

Frankie Dellinger. The City has not been notified of a sentencing date for Bonny Alexander or Jennifer Hoyle but we do anticipate it will be in February.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD DECEMBER 9, 2014

WORK SESSION MEETING HELD JANUARY 6, 2014

Councilmember Kiser made a motion to approve both sets of minutes. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

AGENDA APPROVAL/REVISIONS:

City Manager Ben Blackburn addressed Mayor Beam and the Councilmembers and asked that the agenda be amended to add a final yearend report from the fire department as well as consideration of moving forward with a grant for the police department.

Councilmember Kiser made a motion to amend the agenda and it was seconded by Councilmember Dalton. The vote was unanimous.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

There were no citizens to be heard.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE AND BOARD APPOINTMENTS, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:

City Manager Ben Blackburn addressed Mayor Beam and the Councilmembers with the proposed list from the work session meeting of City Committee Appointments. The list was as follows:

CITY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

2014

(PROPOSED)

Appointment	**Current Appointee**
Mayor Pro-Tem	Council Brian Dalton
ABC Board Liaison	Council Malcolm Parker

Appearance Committee	Council Jill Parker-Puett
Audit Committee	Mayor H L Beam, III Council Brian Dalton Robert D. Austell
Centralina Council of Government	Mayor H L Beam, III Council Brian Dalton (Alt)
Cemetery Committee Liaison	Council David Kiser
Chamber of Commerce Liaison	Council David Kiser
Depot Museum Liaison	Council Jill Parker-Puett
ElectriCities Board	Mayor H L Beam, III Council Brian Dalton (Alt)
ElectriCities Rate Committee	Council Brian Dalton Council Jill Parker-Puett (Alt)
Fire Department Relief Fund Board	Council David Kiser Council Malcolm Parker
Gaston-Cleveland - Lincoln Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)	Mayor H L Beam, III Council Jill Parker-Puett (Alt)
Recreation Advisory Committee Liaison	Council Brian Dalton
YMCA Liaison	Council Brian Dalton

Councilmember Kiser made a motion to add Small Town Main Street to this list and appoint Councilmember Puett. Councilmember Dalton seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Councilmember Parker made a motion to approve the list with the Small Town Main Street added. Councilmember Dalton seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION OF INSTALLATION OF HANDICAP RAMPS ON S. DIXIE STREET, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:

City manager Ben Blackburn addressed Mayor Beam and the Councilmember and shared the need for handicap ramps on S. Dixie Street. Currently there is only one ramp and several more would be very useful. City staff is recommending that we add three new ramps for $4,185.00. The funds will come from the Powell Bill funds. Beam Grading will do the work. Councilmember Kiser made a motion to approve the three (3) new ramps. Councilmember Puett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION OF INSTALLATION OF A SIDEWALK ON E. CHURCH STREET (FROM N. PINK STREET TO HOYLE STREET), CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:

City Manager Ben Blackburn addressed Mayor Beam and the Council and asked for them to approve a new sidewalk on E. Church Street between N. Pink and Hoyle Street. This would be a five foot sidewalk that would stretch the length of the baseball field as well as the football field. It will make the area much safer when events are being held at Rudisill Stadium. City Staff provided Mayor Beam and Council with a list of bids for the project.

Councilmember Dalton asked if we are sure a five foot sidewalk will fit. Brandon Abernathy responded by saying yes we do have room. The six crepe myrtle trees will have to be removed in order to put the sidewalk in. Councilmember Dalton shared that he has talked to athletic director Alan Mauldin and the trees are a problem for them because they grow into the baseball nets. Councilmember Dalton shared that this will make events safer and the school very much supports it as well.

Councilmember Parker asked the Council to consider Beam Grading for the job even though their bid is higher than the lowest bid.

Mayor Beam shared that the City received a bid from Beam Co. for $15,270.00 and a bid from Beam Grading for $17,360.00.

Councilmember Parker shared that Murray Beam does a lot for Cherryville and he will be doing the handicap ramps on Dixie Street and he does more for Cherryville than people realize.

Councilmember Dalton shared that Beam Grading has proven themselves time and time again. They get in, do the job and do it well.

Mayor Beam wanted to know what the difference in the pricing was. The difference was $2,090.00. Mayor Beam wanted to know if Beam Co. had done anything for the City in the past. City Manager Mr. Blackburn said that he was not aware of anything.

Brandon Abernathy responded by saying the Beam Co. had poured some sidewalks at the Dixie youth softball fields but nothing to this extent for the City of Cherryville.

Mayor Beam wanted to know who pours the concrete. Jimmy Burke pours the concrete. Mayor Beam wanted to know if we have a time constraint on this project. Brandon explained

that he does have the contract and it will be up to Council on how long the time frame will be to complete the project.

Councilmember Dalton shared that the cold whether plays a part on the project also.

Councilmember Parker feels like with the amount of people that will be using this sidewalk and the appearance of it, with it being on Hwy. 150 he shared that the City needed to consider somebody that has done some of this work before.

Councilmember Dalton made a motion to award the bid to Beam Grading. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Mayor Beam shared that we did have another bid from Tarpon Construction for $32,465.00.

CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:

City Manager Ben Blackburn explained that several years ago the holiday policy was changed from three days at Christmas to two with the city employee's getting a day for their birthday to take the place of the third day. Mr. Blackburn explained that the majority of other city and towns follow the State's holiday schedule and would like to see the city adopt it as well giving the employees three days at Christmas but no longer their birthday off.

Councilmember Dalton questioned a part in the personnel policy that states the following: Only regular full-time employees, with thirty (30) or more days of service, who are in pay status on the scheduled work day before and the scheduled workday after the holiday shall be eligible for holiday pay. Councilmember Dalton stated that he had never heard of this anywhere and would like to see that removed. Councilmember Dalton does not feel like an employee should be penalized if they are hired full time from getting holiday pay. Councilmember Dalton made a motion to remove section (B) from the personnel policy and adopt the State's holiday schedule. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FOLLOWING:

A. CHANGE FROM R-9 (SINGLE & TWO FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO GMC (GENERAL MANUFACTURING & COMMERCIAL) FOR A VACANT PARCEL ON HICKS STREET (GASTON COUNTY PID# 129120), PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR RICHARD ELAM
B. CONSIDERATION OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR OUTDOOR STORAGE OF BOATS & RECREATIONAL VEHICLES ON A VACANT PARCEL ON HICKS STREET (GASTON COUNTY PID# 129120), PLANNING & ZONING DIRECTOR RICHARD ELAM
C. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO SECTION 5.1 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE A NEW SECTION, 5.1.2 (C) THAT RELATES TO LAWN CARE SERVICES.

Richard Elam addressed Mayor Beam and the Councilmember's asking them to set a public hearing for the February 10, 2014 city council meeting.

Mayor Beam asked Mr. Elam to explain what the changes were. Mr. Elam explained that Mr. Louie Fowler wanted to use a vacant parcel on Hicks street to store RV's and boats and it needed to be rezoned. Mr. Elam also shared that the zoning ordinance needed to be amended to include a new section pertaining to lawn care services.

Councilmember Dalton made a motion to set a public hearing for February 10, 2014 for all three, A, B, and C above. Councilmember's Kiser and Puett both seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE BUDGET FOR DONATIONS TO THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS, FINANCE DIRECTOR DIXIE WALL:

Finance Director Dixie Wall addressed Mayor Beam and Councilmember with three budget amendments. Two for the police department and one for the fire department. The police department received a donation from the McCurry family for $300.00 for a Christmas party honoring the police officers. They also received a donation from Pet Heaven Cemetery and Crematory Inc., for $500.00 to purchase crime prevention materials.

The fire department received a donation of $500.00 from Sandy Cunningham Insurance Agency and Carolina Federal Credit Union to repair a sign at the fire department.

Councilmember Parker made a motion to approve all three budget amendments. Councilmember Kiser seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

END OF YEAR REPORT FOR THE CHERRYVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT, CHIEF JEFF CASH:

Chief Cash handed out his end of year report. This report was a summary of 2013 with a breakdown of calls. Chief Cash reported the following:

TOTAL CALLS	1262
AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME	3 MINUTES AND 38 SECONDS
PROPERTY LOSS (APPROX.)	$121,300
BUSIEST MONTH	AUGUST, 135 CALLS
BUSIEST DAY	FRIDAY, 205 CALLS
EMS CALLS	689 CALLS
BUSIEST SHIFT	A SHIFT, 477 CALLS

INSPECTIONS	206
BUILDING PLANS APPROVED	14
FIRE EDUCATION PROGRAMS	298 ADULTS/1060 CHILDREN

SERVICE CALLS: UNLOCK CARS, SMOKE DETECTOR BATTERIES, UNAUTHORIZED BURNING, AND TO ASSIST OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

GOOD INTENT CALLS: CANCELLED EN ROUTE TO CALL, AUTHORIZED CONTROL BURNING, SMOKE SCARE, AND ODOR OF SMOKE.

CONSIDERATION TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FOR THE CHERRYVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT, CHIEF CHAD HAWKINS:

Police Chief Hawkins addressed Mayor Beam and the Council and asked them to consider his department applying for a grant to assist with radios. The grant would be for $15,000.00 and the City would have a 25% match. Chief Hawkins was only asking for permission to move forward with the application process.

Councilmember Dalton made a motion for the police department to move forward with the grant application and it was seconded by Councilmember Kiser. The vote was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS:

No other business at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Beam asked for a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting. Councilmember Kiser made a motion and it was seconded by Councilmember Puett. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourn at 7:50 pm.

Adopted this 10th day of February, 2014

Henry Lee Beam III

Henry Lee Beam III, Mayor

Paige H. Green

Paige H. Green, City Clerk

(SEAL)