



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2015 @ 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. Present at the meeting, Councilmember's David Kiser, Jill Puett, Brian Dalton and Malcolm Parker. Also in attendance, City Manager Ben Blackburn, City Clerk Paige H. Green, City Attorney Palmer Huffstetler Jr., Finance Director Dixie Wall, Police Chief Chad Hawkins, Public Works Director Brandon Abernathy, and Fire Chief Jeff Cash. Michael Powell was present for media coverage.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Rev. Tom Hartis of The First Nazarene Church gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance followed it.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Several Saturdays ago, Council Member Jill Puett and I were honored to attend a breakfast hosted by the Cherryville Ministerial Association. This event was mostly a thank you for your support type of event, expressing their appreciation of the City's support of this year's community revival. Council Member Parker as well as myself expressed our appreciation on behalf of the city staff and city council for the success of this year's revival and pledged the city's support for next year's revival as well.

Mayor Beam read a letter from the North Carolina State Firemen's Association thanking Chief Jeff Cash and his wife Cynthia for doing a great job hosting a recent conference. Attached is a copy of the letter Mayor Beam read.



November 2, 2015

The Honorable Mayor H. L. Beam
City of Cherryville
116 South Mountain Street
Cherryville, NC 28021

Dear Mayor Beam:

October 21st through the 24th North Carolina hosted the National Volunteer Fire Council conference consisting of at least two representatives from 48 different states, support groups, and their spouses. The National Volunteer Fire Council is an international group that provides programs and advocates legislatively for volunteer fire and rescue departments around the world. The conference provided an opportunity for delegates, staff, and support groups to discuss issues related to the fire service worldwide, and to visit and enjoy the attractions and venues of our State.

Chief Jeff Cash and his wife Cynthia provided excellent planning, coordination, and support in a professional and service related manner for the conference. Many attendees commented that it was one of the best conferences they had ever attended, and the support offered was beyond anything they had ever experienced while traveling. It was great to recognize that when provided the opportunity to host such a visible conference, Chief Cash and his wife Cynthia took the time and care, stepped forward, and made North Carolina proud. Much of the success of the conference, and its positive reflection on North Carolina goes to Jeff and Cynthia. My thanks, and the thanks of North Carolina's fire service, to you and the City of Cherryville for your valuable contributions to the success of this conference.

On a larger note, I want to personally thank you and the City of Cherryville for allowing Chief Cash to serve as North Carolina's representative to the National Volunteer Fire Council. It is a labor of love for Jeff, but for North Carolina's volunteer fire service, it is a commitment of representation. Over 70% of North Carolina's fire service is still volunteer, and the programs NVFC provides supports them in wellness and health, legislatively, and from a training aspect. Jeff's involvement has been crucial. Because of his work North Carolina has the highest number of participants across the country in the NVFC. Because of this, more and more North Carolina volunteers receive the benefits and protection the NVFC programs provide. I recognize that Jeff's commitment and time are also a commitment from the City of Cherryville who allows him to participate and contribute. Please accept my appreciation for the willingness of the City of Cherryville to allow Jeff to provide the support and representation he does.

North Carolina is blessed to have people like Chief Cash who take the time to participate and make the world safer, but it is also blessed to have cities like Cherryville whose leadership views the bigger picture that we can all accomplish more together.

Sincerely,

Tim Bradley
Executive Director

cc: City Manager Ben Blackburn
City of Cherryville
116 South Mountain Street
Cherryville, NC 28021

North Carolina State Firemen's Association | 323 W. Jones Street.. Suite 401 | Raleigh, NC 27603
www.ncsfa.com | Tel. (919) 821-2132 | Toll Free (800) 253-4733 | Fax (919) 921-9382

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Mayor Beam also read the following letter congratulating City Clerk Paige H. Green on her recent Clerk Certification from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.



International Institute of Municipal Clerks

Professionalism in Local Government

11/03/2015

Henry Lee Beam III

Mayor

Sent to email: hbeam@cityofcherryville.com

Dear Henry Lee Beam III,

Paige Green, CMC of City of Cherryville, has earned the designation of Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC), which is awarded by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), Inc.

IIMC grants the CMC designation only to those municipal clerks who complete demanding education requirements; and who have a record of significant contributions to their local government, their community and state.

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks, founded in 1947, has 10,300 members throughout the United States, Canada and 15 other countries, and the mission of this global non-profit corporation is to enhance the education opportunities and professional development of its diverse membership.

In light of the speed and drastic nature of change these days, lifelong learning is not only desirable, it is necessary for all in local government to keep pace with growing demands and changing needs of the citizens we serve. Your City can take immense pride in Paige's educational accomplishments and achievement of this milestone.

On behalf of the IIMC Board of Directors, I am honored to endorse the conferring of CMC to Paige Green, CMC of City of Cherryville. We share your pride in this achievement and we applaud your support of the role Paige plays in your city.

Sincerely,

Monica Martinez Simmons, MMC
IIMC President

Sent by: Ashley DiBlasi
Certification Manager

In other staff related news: As of Nov. 1, officers of our police dept. have begun participating in the "No Shave November" cancer awareness campaign. The idea is the money saved from the cost of shaving during this time period will be donated to causes and foundations committed to finding a cure for cancer. We commend our officers for their support of this program.

On October 22, I was honored to attend the Cherryville Main Street Program meeting. At this meeting, I was presented a check for \$7,500 by Cherryville Community Development Corporation Chairman Palmer Huffstetler, Sr.

This money will be used for the Main Street Program to pay for the National Historic District Application.

This past Wednesday I attended and spoke at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the dedication of the Kenwood/Rotary Park hosted by the Cherryville Chamber of Commerce. A huge crowd was on hand, representing the Boy Scouts, Rotary Club, area businesses and citizens that played a significant part in the upgrades, new construction, and rehabilitation of the entire park. I urge all citizens to make an effort to go by and view the enhancements that have been made. It is a park all Cherryville citizens can be proud of.

The entire City staff and City Council as well as myself, want to wish Leesa Workman, of accounts payable/receivable a speedy and healthy recovery from her recent illness.

This past Sunday, at First United Methodist Church Mayor Pro-Tem Brian Dalton attended an 80th birthday celebration of former C.H.S. Basketball Coach Bill Hinson. At this occasion Mayor Pro-Tem Dalton presented and read a proclamation on behalf of the entire City Council and all Cherryville citizens honoring Coach Hinson on this milestone. Thanks go out to Councilman Dalton on representing our city at this event.

Finally, congratulations to Council Members Malcolm Parker and Brian Dalton on their recent victories for re-election to this council. They have been a vital part to our council and their victories speak numbers as a sign of how they are valued by our citizens. Thanks go out not only to them but to Council Members Jill Puett and David Kiser also for supporting your Mayor through his first two years in office and I look forward to continue serving with this council as we strive to move our City in a positive direction in the coming years.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Beam and the Council received copies of the minutes for the City Council meeting held October 12, 2015 and the City Council Work Session meeting held October 26, 2015. Councilmember Kiser made a motion to approve both sets of minutes as written. Councilmember Puett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

AGENDA APPROVAL/REVISION:

Councilmember Dalton made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Councilmember's Kiser and parker 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.

CONSIDERATION OF DISPOSITION OF TOT DELLINGER RD. /WATER PLANT RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, BEN BLACKBURN:

City Manager Blackburn shared with Mayor Beam and the Council that staff needed direction on the residential property located at the water plant. Councilmember Kiser made a motion to list the property with a realtor. Councilmember Dalton seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Mr. Blackburn shared that Gaston County has the tax value listed at \$47,000.

Police Chief Chad Hawkins approached the podium to remind everyone that the city has a firing range behind the water plant. Chief Hawkins just suggested that would need to disclose of the firing range to any interested buyers. The current neighbors are aware of the range and are contacted when there will be activity there.

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION TO RE-SURFACE SULLIVAN DRIVE, BEN BLACKBURN:

City Manager Blackburn shared a petition with Mayor Beam and the Council from the residence of Cherrywood Apartments. The residents would like to see Sullivan Drive paved. It has many potholes and is in need of repaving. Public Works Director Brandon Abernathy shared that Sullivan Drive is on the third list of areas to be resurfaced. Currently we are on the second list. Council directed Mr. Abernathy to fill the potholes and keep Sullivan Drive on the list.

CONSIDERATION OF PARKS DIRECTOR, BEN BLACKBURN:

City Manager Blackburn shared that the creation of a Parks Director position was discussed at the work session. Mr. Blackburn asked Mayor Beam and Council for direction on the position. Councilmember Dalton made a motion to move forward with the position and he is hoping the position will be filled by February. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION OF WORK SESSION DATE AND TIME, BEN BLACKBURN:

Councilmember Parker made a motion to change the work session meeting to the last Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 pm at the Cherryville Fire Department. Councilmember Puett

seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. The next work session will be held on Tuesday November 24, 2015 at 6:00 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilmember Puett stated that she was contact by a citizen about fire ants at the cemetery. She also shared where some streetlights are out so they can be repaired.

City Manager Blackburn shared that the new Christmas decorations are in and will be up soon.

Mayor Beam commented on how well the skate park looks. Mayor Beam Stated that the park has turned around completely. Mayor Beam asked if the parks have a curfew. Mayor Beam wanted to know about the Kenwood/Rotary Park. Chief Hawkins replied saying that he did not think hours were posted at that park.

Mayor Beam asked about the pothole on N Mountain Street. Brandon Abernathy has called DOT about this already and he will reach out to them again.

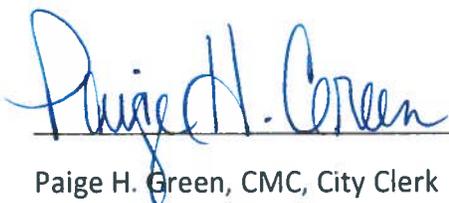
Mayor Beam wanted to know if we had received any information about the railroad crossings being repaired.

Mr. Blackburn also shared that Pink Street between First Street and Church Street will be closed Saturday November 14, 2015. The street will be closed to accommodate the sixty teams of cheerleaders that will be here for a cheer competition.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Kiser seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Adopted this 14 day of December 2015.



Paige H. Green, CMC, City Clerk



H. L. Beam, Mayor

