



**REGULAR WORK SESSION & BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING**

**TUESDAY MAY 26, 2015 @ 7:00 PM**

**CHERRYVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**411 E. CHURCH STREET CHERRYVILLE, N.C. 28021**

The Honorable Mayor H.L. Beam called the work session/budget meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilmember's Malcolm Parker, David Kiser and Jill Puett. Councilmember Dalton was unable to attend. Also, present City Manager Ben Blackburn, City Clerk Paige Green, Police Chief Chad Hawkins, Fire Chief Jeff Cash, Finance Director Dixie Wall, Public Works Director Brandon Abernathy and EDC Director Richard Randall.

Special guest, Bjorn Hanson and David Keilsen.

Michael Powell was present for media coverage.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION OR ACTION:**

**CONSIDERATION OF ELECTRICAL UPGRADE AT ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SAM LOCKRIDGE:**

Mayor Beam asked if Mr. Sam Lockridge would be attending and if there were any changes. Mr. Abernathy shared that nothing has changed since the last meeting to his knowledge. Mayor Beam shared that we would come back to this item if Mr. Lockridge comes in.

Mr. Blackburn asked the Mayor and Council to amend the agenda to add consideration of Main Street By-Laws. No vote will be required tonight but everyone will get a copy of the by-laws for review and then action can be taken at the June 8 meeting. Mr. Blackburn asked that this be placed as agenda item #10. Councilmember Parker made a motion to amend the agenda to add item #10 to consideration of the Main Street By-Laws. Councilmember Kiser seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Blackburn also shared that he had talked with Mr. Alan Fraley of the Cherryville ABC Board after the agenda packages had went out. Mr. Fraley stated that he would like to postpone his presentation to June 8 at the regular City Council Meeting. Mr. Fraley was checking to see if he could present a check from the Cherryville ABC Board to staff or if he needed to present it to Mayor Beam and the Councilmembers. Councilmember Parker stated that Mr. Fraley should come a regular meeting for the presentation. Mr. Blackburn shared that there were some conflicts with the dates in June and that is why Mr. Fraley was checking on presenting it to staff. Mayor Beam stated that the presentation does not have to take place at a regular meeting. The board can present the check to staff. Mr. Blackburn just asked Mr. Fraley if possible could the check be in before June 30.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPOINT PLANNING BOARD AND BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEMBERS, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:**

City Manager Ben Blackburn shared with Mayor Beam and the Council that the planning board as well as the board of adjustments would need members reappointed or replaced. Mr. Ed Yount is Chairman of the Planning Board, and Mr. Sam Beam is Vice Chairman. Both of these board member's terms will expire June 30. Mr. Yount shared with Mr. Blackburn that he did not wish to be reappointed to the board at this time. Mr. Sam Beam is willing to continue serving. This item will appear on the June 8 agenda. Mr. Blackburn asked Mayor Beam and the Council to consider a citizen that they feel may be interested in serving. Councilmember Parker shared that he does have a potential citizen that is interested. Mr. Rocky Bennett has expressed to Councilmember Parker that he is interested in being a board member.

**CONSIDERATION OF CITY PROPERTY ON TOT DELLINGER RD. RE: WATER PLANT HOUSE, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:**

City Manager Ben Blackburn gave an update on the property owned by the City of Cherryville located on Tot Dellinger Rd. Mr. Blackburn explained that the house has been vacant and is in desperate need of many repairs. The city received an estimate on what it may cost to make the necessary repairs and the cost would be around \$32,489.00. Mr. Blackburn shared that the city could make the repairs or could consider putting the property on the market. The house is less than 1300 square feet. Mr. Blackburn stated that Mr. Abernathy also had a realtor to do a visual inspection of the property. Mr. Blackburn shared that the realtor stated that if the city did decide to put the property on the market for \$40,000 to \$45,000 dollar price range as it. Mr. Blackburn requested that if the Council wished to sell the property than the city needs to list with a local realtor. Mayor Beam wanted to know what we do change for rent, in the past the rent has been \$575.00 a month. Mayor Beam wanted to know if the property could be divided before it is listed. Mr. Blackburn stated that he had a conversation with Mr. Willie King of the Gaston County Planning & Zoning and he recommended a twenty thousand square foot lot be

associated with this property. This would make the property more desirable as well as square the property up. This item will be on the agenda June 8 for consideration.

Mr. Blackburn asked Mayor Beam and the Council to amend the agenda again to move item #7 to item # 4, discussion of NC Hwy. 279 improvements update. Councilmember Puett made a motion to amend the agenda. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**DISCUSSION OF NC HWY. 279 IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:**

Mr. Blackburn introduced guests Bjorn Hansen and David Keilsen who were at the meeting to give an update on the Hwy. 279 project. After explaining what the best plan for Cherryville would be, the Council decided that the City of Cherryville would like Mr. Hansen to draw up a resolution in support of the 4 phases to help improve Hwy. 279. Mr. Hansen will have the resolution together and present it at the July 13 regular meeting.

**CONSIDERATION OF FY 2015 – 2016 AUDIT CONTRACT, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:**

Mayor Beam and the Councilmembers had a copy of the audit contract for 2014-2015 for Collis & Associates for their review. The Audit Committee met and they recommend that the City of Cherryville enter into this contract. This will be on the agenda for the June 8 meeting.

**CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC HEARING RE: CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR 115 BATES AVE., CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:**

Mr. Blackburn reminded Mayor Beam and the Council that a Public Hearing for the requested Conditional Use Permit for property located at 115 Bates Ave. will be held June 8. Adjoining property owners have received notice of this public hearing through first class mail.

**CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC HEARING RE: REZONING OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1602 E. CHURCH ST. FROM B-3 TO R-9, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:**

Mr. Blackburn reminded Mayor Beam and the Council that a Public Hearing for the requested rezoning of the property located at 1602 E. Church Street will be held June 8. Adjoining property owners have received notice of this public hearing through first class mail.

**CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS, FINANCE DIRECTOR DIXIE WALL:**

Finance Director Dixie Wall handed out copies of budget amendments for consideration for approval before fiscal year end. This is housekeeping for the finance department. Mrs. Wall went over each amendment and explained that there could be a few more by June 8. They are as follows:



## 2014-2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations due to donations for the Cherryville Main Street Program.

### REVENUES

30.3480.0944	CMSP Donations	\$ 16,500.00
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### EXPENDITURES

30.8100.7320	CMSP Donations	\$ 16,500.00
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Section 2. This ordinance is effective upon its adoption this June 8, 2015.

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City Clerk

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Mayor



## 2014-2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations due to grant appropriations in the current fiscal year.

**REVENUES**

10.3480.0300	General – Grants	\$ 1,500.00
10.3480.0100	Police – Grants	\$ 15,658.00

**EXPENDITURES**

10.4400.7600	EDC- Grant ('15 Cherry Blossom – Electricities)	\$ 1,500.00
10.5100.7600	Police – Grant (NCDPS – Radio Grant)	\$ 11,250.00
10.5100.3710	Police - Grant (NC League – Body Armor)	\$ 2,500.00
10.5100.3710	Police – Grant (NC DOJ – Body Armor)	\$ 1,908.00

Section 2. This ordinance is effective upon its adoption this June 8, 2015.

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City Clerk

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Mayor



**2014-2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations due to police replacing engine in #214 in the current fiscal year.

**REVENUES**

10.3990.0000	Fund Balance Appro.	\$ 7,298.00
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**EXPENDITURES**





**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations due to insurance reimbursements on various incidences that have occurred in the current fiscal year.

**REVENUES**

10.3400.0000	General - Insurance Reim	\$ 41,353.00
30.3400.0000	Electric - Insurance Reim	\$ 1,091.00

**EXPENDITURES**

10.6200.7400	Recreation- Capital Outlay Equip	\$ 11,255.00
10.6200.1700	Recreation- Auto Maintenance Repair	\$ 5,476.00
10.6200.7300	Recreation- Capital Outlay Equip	\$ 4,995.00
10.6200.7400	Recreation- Capital Outlay Equip	\$ 3,686.00
10.4200.5400	Admin – Insurance	\$ 11,030.00
10.5300.3300	Fire Dept – Dept Supplies & Materials	\$ 370.00
10.5100.1700	Police - Auto Maintenance Repair	\$ 2,368.00
10.5100.1700	Police -Auto Maintenance Repair	\$ 2,173.00
30.8100.3300	Electric – Dept Supplies & Materials	\$ 1,091.00

Section 2. This ordinance is effective upon its adoption this June 8, 2015.

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City Clerk

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Mayor



**2014-2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations to cover expenditures not allowed by the CMAQ grant.

**REVENUES**

10.3980.0000	Fund Balance - Appro	(Powell Bill)	\$ 85000.00
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**EXPENDITURES**

10.5610.4600	Street & Sidewalk Maintenance		\$ 85000.00
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Section 2. This ordinance is effective upon its adoption this June 8, 2015.

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City Clerk

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Mayor



**2014-2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations to cover repairs on the sanitation truck.

**REVENUES**

10.3370.0000	Franchise Tax		\$ 15300.00
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**EXPENDITURES**

10.5800.1700	Auto Maintenance & Repair		\$ 15300.00
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Section 2. This ordinance is effective upon its adoption this June 8, 2015.

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City Clerk

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Mayor



## **2014-2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations to cover payout and position coverage until another fire department employee was hired due to an employee retiring.

### **REVENUES**

10.3370.0000	Franchise Tax	\$ 7000.00
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### **EXPENDITURES**

10.5300.0200	Salaries	\$ 4000.00
10.5300.0410	Fill In Pay	\$ 3000.00

Section 2. This ordinance is effective upon its adoption this June 8, 2015

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City Clerk

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Mayor



## **2014-2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations due to legal fees paid to Stott, Hollowell, Palmer, & Windham LLP. in the current fiscal year.

**REVENUES**

10.3350.0010	General – Recovery of Funds	\$ 8,999.00
30.3350.0010	Electric – Recovery of Funds	\$ 9,543.00
31.3350.0010	Water/Sewer – Recovery of Funds	\$ 7,520.00

**EXPENDITURES**

10.4200.0910	Admin – Legal Fees	\$ 8,999.00
30.8100.0910	Electric – Legal Fees	\$ 9,543.00
31.7200.0910	Water/Sewer – Legal Fees	\$ 7,520.00

Section 2. This ordinance is effective upon its adoption this June 8, 2015.

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City Clerk

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Mayor



**2014-2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations to cover pressure washing the sidewalks requested by Cherryville Small Town Program.

**REVENUES**

10.3370.0000	Franchise Tax	\$ 2000.00
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**EXPENDITURES**

10.5600.4600 Streets, Sidewalks Maintenance \$ 2000.00

Section 2. This ordinance is effective upon its adoption this June 8, 2015.

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City Clerk

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Mayor



**2014-2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville:

Section 1. The 2014-2015 Budget Ordinance of the City of Cherryville adopted on June 9, 2014 is amended by increasing the following appropriations to cover utilities and salaries for an employee to train before another employee retires 6/1/2015.

**REVENUES**

31.2990.0000 Fund Balance - Appro \$ 40625.00

**EXPENDITURES**

30.8120.0200 Salaries \$ 13525.00

30.8120.1300 Utilities \$ 27100.00

Section 2. This ordinance is effective upon its adoption this June 8, 2015.

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City Clerk

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Mayor

**CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC HEARING RE: THE ADOPTION OF THE FY 2015 – 2016 BUDGET ORDINANCE, CITY MANAGER BEN BLACKBURN:**

Mr. Blackburn reminded Mayor Beam and the Council that a Public Hearing for consideration of adopting the FY 2015 – 2016 budget is scheduled for June 8.

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE MAIN STREET PROGRAM MASTER WORK PLAN:**

Mayor Beam and the Council were given a copy of the by-laws for the Main Street Program. Team leaders of the Main Street Program compiled the work plan and have drafted it as the Master Work Plan for this program. The by-laws have been reviewed by the Main Street Program Steering Committee and agreed upon that it be presented to the Council for approval. Mr. Blackburn asked Mayor Beam and Council to read over the plan and consider it for adoption. City Attorney Huffstetler has reviewed the plan and agrees that Council should adopt it because money will coming through this committee and for financial reasons it should be approved. Mr. Huffstetler shared that if anyone has any questions that he is available to answer them anytime. Mr. Blackburn asked the Mayor and Council to consider this master plan on June 8.

Councilmember Kiser made a motion to amend the agenda and move item #12 to item # 11. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**REVIEW OF FY 2015 – 2016 OPERATION BUDGET FOR CITY OF CHERRYVILLE:**

Mr. Blackburn addressed Mayor Beam and the Councilmembers explaining that before them is a proposed budget for FY 2015-2016. Mr. Blackburn explained that a lot of time has gone into preparing this proposal and along with city staff and himself, everyone feels like this budget will best serve the citizens as well as the employees. Each department head appeared before the Mayor and Council to discuss the needs of their department in April. Mayor Beam and the Council had the opportunity to ask any questions they may have about each department. Then the finance director and the city manager sat down and looked at each line item making some adjustments. Below is a list of items that are highlighted in the proposed budget.

**The proposed 2015-16 Fiscal Year Operating Budget for the City of Cherryville is presented by City Staff to the City Council and citizens of Cherryville for Public Comments and consideration for adoption.**

The budget total presented for all funds (General, Water and Sewer, and Electric) is \$12,336,665

General Fund: \$4,111,582 (2014/15 \$3,828,233 - \$283,349)

Water/Sewer Fund: \$1,991,400 (2014/15 \$1,998,825 - (\$ 7,425))

Electric Fund: \$6,233,683 (2014/15 \$6,268,085 - (\$34,402))

Total: \$12,336,665

This is an increase of \$241,522 over last year's budget of \$12,095,143 or 2.0%. Reasons for the increase are:

#### **REVENUES**

- 1) \$185,000 - Increase in GF fund balance (Sanitation Truck Purchase)
- 2) \$ 90,000 - Increase in State Shared Revenue Taxes (Sales Tax, Utility Franchise Tax, Beer and Wine, etc.)
- 3) \$ 101,874 - Decrease 2% in Electric Rates

#### **EXPENDITURES**

- 1) \$ 185,000 - GF Sanitation Truck Purchase
- 2) \$ 58,000 - GF Roof on Community Bldg
- 3) \$ 28,550 - GF New Garage Containers
- 4) \$ 107,000 - EF New Bucket/Service Truck
- 5) \$ 28,000 - EF New Service Truck for Meter Reader

The city's tax rate of \$ .46 per \$100 valuation is projected to remain at \$ .46 for the 2015-16 Fiscal Year.

Other than the proposed 2% decrease in electric rates, there are no other fee increases proposed, such as water and sewer and city property taxes.

It is projected with this proposed budget the city should find itself with a more solid financial foundation. We have in this budget, 2 new police cars, a Sanitation Truck, new service truck for meter tech and new bucket/service truck for electric which we budgeted full price for all purchases and don't need to finance these purchases. Also, there is a 2% increase for salaries on employees. Budgeted expenditures are in place to ensure the delivery of adequate services to our most valued commodities, our residential and business community.

It is estimated the proposed budget fund balances at the end of the 2015-16 Fiscal Year (June 30, 2016) may be:

- 1) General Fund      10.99% Undesignated (Without Powell Bill)  
                                 14.96% Undesignated w/Powell Bill
  
- 2) Electric Fund      23.45%
  
- 3) Water/Sewer Fund 40.37%

Mr. Blackburn shared that Councilmember Dalton was not able to attend the meeting however he wanted Mr. Blackburn to let everyone know that he is in support of this proposed budget. Councilmember Dalton expressed that he was in support of pulling the money out of fund balance to purchase the garbage truck as well as the police vehicles and not finance these items.

The cemetery maintenance contract was opened for bids. There were four bids to come in and the highest was \$23,800.00 and the lowest was \$17,995.00. The proposed budget reflects the lower bid. Mr. Blackburn explained that it is up to the Council as to what bid they want to choose.

Councilmember Kiser shared that he would like to discuss two items concerning the cemetery. Councilmember Kiser said, "I am the city council liaison for the cemetery committee and I am also a citizen in town. I have a dad buried over here in the cemetery and everybody else has kin people over there. Everyone in town views the cemetery because of its location in town and I think we need to keep moving the cemetery in the right direction with whoever takes care of it. We know it has to stay that way if we are going to keep our citizens happy. I know we have had several bids, and these are just my personal comments ok. I have not heard, but I would like to hear from others when I get through if they have received any negative comments lately about Mr. Walls or Grass Masters. About how he is maintaining the cemetery, I know his bid is \$4,200 more than the lowest bid. I also know that there have been times when the city has not taken the lowest bid. I just have not heard any concerns about his work. My concern going forward with the lowest bid is, I have concerns about how he is going to actually maintain the cemetery with just one person. Him and one maybe two others, one trailer and other time restraints. He has other customers now, how is he going to do all this, how is he going to get our schedules. Ben says they need to cut the grass every Monday and Tuesday for 34 weeks. I guess my real concern would be assurance that he can do the job. Maybe Ben can set up a meeting and include Brandon to talk it over and we can get some input from Ben before we actually vote. I am not saying that we should not do that by any means, because I am for saving the taxpayers all the money we can. I just have real concerns if he can do the job. He or anybody else. My last comment is whichever way it goes, I am certainly going to support the budget. With the budget as indicated for the cemetery, or if we don't and we raise it, I am still going to support it."

Mayor Beam asked if the city controls the cutting. Mr. Blackburn shared that yes we do, there is a contract that the contractor signs and he must follow the rules within the contract. Mr. Blackburn shared that the cemetery has to be mowed by Thursday and the City does inspect the cutting before the contractor is paid for that week. Mayor Beam asked who inspected it. Mr. Abernathy responded by saying the Street Superintendent.

Councilmember Kiser said, "Once Ben and Brandon have had a chance to talk to the lowest bidder and they are happy then he has no concerns."

Councilmember Parker stated, "I agree with David on maybe calling him in since he is new at this and just tell him he was the low bidder and there are concerns with him getting it done on a timely base and follow up with him."

Mr. Blackburn shared that he would set up a meeting with the contractor prior to the June 8 meeting and then he can get back with the Council with any comments.

Councilmember Puett asked, "Does he actually know what is required, do they have a minimum of what they have to do as far as trimming?"

Mr. Abernathy responded by saying, "A scope of work is actually given to each bidder so they have the scope of work and contract is there so they know exactly what they have got to bid on."

Councilmember Puett, "What do they do as far as trimming, what is within that scope?"

Mr. Abernathy, "The cemetery is divided into two sections. They trim one section one week and the other section the following week."

Councilmember Puett, "Weed eat?"

Mr. Blackburn, "Weed eat around the markers."

Councilmember Puett, "Even the flat markers as well?"

Mr. Abernathy, "Yes Ma'am."

Councilmember Puett, "Well they are failing."

City Clerk and Cemetery Chairman Paige Green stated, "Weed eating not edging because they could damage the marker."

Councilmember Parker asked if they had to have insurance.

Mr. Abernathy, "Yes and they have to provide us with proof."

Councilmember Parker, "I think to be fair with him we should call him in and let him know he was the lowest bidder and make sure he is aware of what he is up against."

Mayor Beam asked how long the current contractor had had the contract.

Mr. Abernathy, "He is finishing up his third year."

Mayor Beam, "What's your basic opinion of the work, so you think it's adequate above what's expected normal or below."

Councilmember Parker, "On a scale of one to ten how would you rate him?"

Mr. Blackburn, "On a scale of one to ten, I would go. I have had very little complaints. I guess the largest complaint was when the wiregrass was growing over the flat markers last year I believe it was. He went out and corrected the area that was being addressed although he missed going out and getting the other flat markers that the wiregrass was over taking. But once we contacted him he addressed them and he has been very quick to address whatever concerns. We have had some issues that I don't think he is responsible for and those were missing vases. With these metal recycling companies out here you lose a lot of vases to theft. I can't readily recall but one instance where there was an accusation made against the grass cutter on one of the more marble type monuments or composite type material vase and on other complaint that I personally took were grass was blown up against one of the upright monuments. Well that's kind of the nature of the beast when you are out there mowing so."

Mayor Beam, "If it was cut when it was wet, it can stick to it."

Mr. Blackburn, "Yes sir, So I personally and I think Mrs. Green would concur from the office there we've received very few complaints. Especially in comparison to the number of complaints that I think the City received from previous vendor that provided that service."

Mrs. Green, "I do know that he takes it very seriously. If I get a complaint I can call him and he immediately goes right out looks at it and calls me back. He does what he can."

Mayor Beam, "I have had a few complaints, but of course they are all going to go to person that is contracted and just like Ben said that he may not have anything what so ever. I have had people call and say that they have put flowers on their mother's grave and I walk over to the garbage cans and they are laying on top, or laying beside it and I just put them out. They say when the guys mow they grab those flowers and just throw them in the garbage. That's not necessarily the case but, I am saying he is going to get blamed probably for a lot of stuff that wasn't his fault. I got the same thing Ben said about the metal vases were stolen and I know it was them because after they mowed it was gone."

Mrs. Green, "You hear a lot about tire tracks on markers to but he is not the only one out there with equipment that has tires. Vaults being brought in that are too heavy for men to carry so they have these machines that have wheels on them to assist with that."

Mayor Beam, "I got that call just within the last month about no grass on one of the graves. Is that his fault, well no, that's the City's."

Mrs. Green, "Just let me know about those calls and we will do our best to take care of them."

Councilmember Puett, "What does he do about the ones where the crabgrass is growing over the flat markers? That's an edging situation isn't it. I know I edge around my parents and I was over there this weekend and I think it was Sunday and its growing back again. I will have to go back and edge around it."

Councilmember Kiser just wanted to clarify one other thing on the cemetery. The proposed budget is showing a capital outlay in the amount of \$15,000. This is for the potential purchase of a columbarium. Mrs. Green passed out pictures of a columbarium so everyone would know what we were talking about. The cemetery committee has pricing on columbaria for the cemetery and this money is being requested for the initial cost of the first columbarium. This is a growing trend and the City of Cherryville would like to be able to offer this to any citizen that may wish to be cremated. According to the local funeral homes, cremation will be the choice by the year 2020 and we want to be ready. The City wants to purchase a columbarium similar to the one in the image below.



**CONSIDERATION TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION RE: G.S. 143-318.11 (5):**

Councilmember Puett made a motion to enter into closed session. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Closed Session began at 9:45 pm.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mayor Beam asked about the cherries at City Hall and wanted to know if there was a problem with them because they are never on. Mr. Blackburn explained that there is an electrical issue with the cherries.

Mayor Beam asked that city staff also include maintenance on the brick wall that runs between Sonya Hoyle's property and the City Hall parking lot. He shared that Ms. Hoyle did replace the brick wall and we need to keep our side maintained and looking good.

Mayor Beam asked if citizens had been notified in anyway about calling city hall for limbs on the curb that need to be picked up. This information can be printed on the utility bills.

Councilmember Kiser asked if we had received the money from the State for the sidewalks. We have not. Mayor Beam will reach out to Senator Kathy Harrington for help with this.

Councilmember Kiser asked if the paving will begin soon.

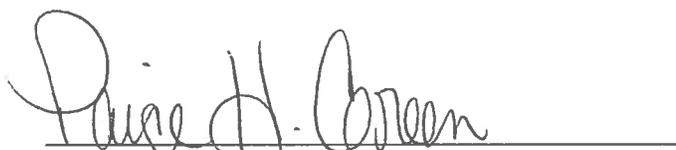
**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Kiser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 pm.

Adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of June 2015.



Mayor, H.L. Beam III

  
City Clerk, Paige H. Green

(SEAL)

