

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE REIDSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Harry L. Brown
Councilman Tom Balsley
Councilman James K. Festerman
Councilman Donald L. Gorham
Councilman William Hairston
Councilwoman Sherri G. Walker

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Mayor John M. “Jay” Donecker

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Preston W. Mitchell, City Manager
Angela G. Stadler, CMC, City Clerk
William F. McLeod Jr., City Attorney
Chris Phillips, Assistant City Manager
of Administration
Tom Wiggins, Assistant City Manager
of Community Services
Kevin Eason, Public Works Director

Mayor Pro Tem Brown called the meeting to order. He noted that the Mayor was out of the country and asked for prayers for his safe return. The Mayor Pro Tem also offered the condolences of the entire Reidsville City Council to City Attorney Bill McLeod Jr. on the passing of his mother.

He noted that on the agenda, under Public Hearings, the hearing designated (C) will be held before public hearing (B).

INVOCATION.

The Mayor Pro Tem called upon the Reverend Ralph Watkins, President of the Reidsville and Vicinity Ministerial Alliance, to provide the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Council members led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATIONS:

RECOGNITION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN FEBRUARY.

After inviting all Council members to come down front with him to participate in the Proclamations part of the meeting, Mayor Pro Tem Brown read aloud the proclamation

recognizing February as Black History Month. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) He presented the proclamation to Rev. Ralph Watkins of the Ministerial Alliance. Rev. Watkins accepted it on behalf of the Ministerial Alliance and the African-American Community. He said they do not take it lightly, noting they are here to serve this community. He said they want to be a big part of what is going on with Reidsville, serving with love and understanding and offered the group's help, which garnered a round of applause from the audience.

RECOGNITION OF THE CITY'S WASTEWATER & WATER TREATMENT PLANTS' STAFF FOR ACHIEVING 100% OPERATIONAL COMPLIANCE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2015.

Council members then recognized staff at the City's two utility plants.

WWTP.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown called on Public Works Director Kevin Eason to come forward and asked him to introduce his staff from the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Introduced were Laboratory Supervisor Mitzy Fain, Maintenance Superintendent Ricky Fain and Plant Superintendent Mike Burleson. Councilman Hairston, noting it was a high honor, read the proclamation on the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant receiving 100% operational compliance for 2015. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) A plaque was also presented to the staff. Council members shook hands with those staff members present.

WTP.

Public Works Director Eason then introduced Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Scott Jewell, who introduced operator Cheryl Walker, Ricky Fain and chief operator Greg Purcell. Councilwoman Sherri Walker then read aloud the proclamation recognizing the City's WTP on receiving 100% operational compliance for 2015. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) A plaque was also presented to staff. Superintendent Jewell noted how important it is to have clean drinking water and noted the situation in Flint, Michigan. He said everyone is involved, including other City departments, and outside entities such as Merrick Labs. He also noted that without Public Works Director Eason, this wouldn't happen. Council members shook hands and congratulated staff.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.

Councilman Balsley made the motion, seconded by Councilman Hairston and unanimously approved by Council in a 6-0 vote, to approve the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 - APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 6, 2016 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AND THE JANUARY 12, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.

With the approval of the Consent Agenda in a 6-0 vote, the Council approved the January 6, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes and the January 12, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 - APPROVAL OF BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 5 APPROPRIATING FUND BALANCE FOR CAPITAL AND OTHER ONE-TIME PURCHASES AND BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 6 RECOGNIZING A STATE GRANT FOR DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION AND APPROPRIATING RELATED EXPENDITURES AS PRESENTED DURING THE JANUARY 6, 2016 SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION.

With the approval of the Consent Agenda in a 6-0 vote, the Council approved Budget Ordinance No. 5 as follows:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 5

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville adopted a budget ordinance on June 9, 2015 which established revenues and authorized expenditures for fiscal year 2015-2016; and

WHEREAS, since the time of the adoption of said ordinance, it has become necessary to make certain changes in the City's budget to appropriate fund balance to be used for capital and other one-time purchases (as presented on the January 6, 2016 City Council Work Session);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville that the budget ordinance as adopted on June 9, 2015 is hereby amended as follows;

Section 1. That revenue account number 10-3991-0000, Appropriated General Fund Balance, be increased by \$501,724.00; that revenue account number 11-3991-0000, Appropriated Parks and Recreation Fund Balance, be increased by \$13,800.00.

Section 2. That expense account number 10-4310-5500, RPD Capital Equipment, be increased by \$201,824.00; that expense account number 10-4210-5800, IT Capital Equipment, be increased by \$25,000.00; that expense account number 10-4210-5800, IT Capital Equipment, be increased by \$7,500.00; that expense account number 10-4260-5800, Public Buildings – Capital Improvements, be increased by \$5,000.00; that expense account number 10-4260-5800, Public Buildings – Capital Improvements, be increased by \$37,000.00; that expense account number 10-4260-5800, Public Buildings – Capital Improvements, be increased by \$5,000.00; that expense account number 10-4260-5800, Public Buildings – Capital Improvements, be increased by \$5,600.00; that expense account number 11-6130-5800, Lake Reidsville Capital Improvements, be increased by \$5,000.00; that expense account number 10-6140-3510, Penn House Maintenance, be increased by \$5,000.00; that expense account number 10-6140-3510, Penn House Maintenance, be increased by \$4,000.00; that expense account number 10-4510-5500, Street Capital Equipment, be increased by \$5,000.00; that expense account number 10-4510-5500, Street Capital Equipment, be increased by \$32,000.00; that expense account number 10-4510-5500, Street Capital Equipment, be increased by \$98,000.00; that expense account number 10-4510-

5500, Street Capital Equipment, be increased by \$15,000.00; that expense account number 10-4740-5500, Cemetery Capital Equipment, be increased by \$8,800.00; that expense account number 11-6121-5500, Parks and Rec Facilities Capital Equipment, be increased by \$8,800.00; that expense account number 10-4510-5500, Street Capital Equipment, be increased by \$25,000.00; that expense account number 10-4930-6990, Chamber of Commerce, be increased by \$22,000.00.

This the 9th day of February, 2016.

/s/ _____
John M. "Jay" Donecker
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC
City Clerk

Also, with the approval of Consent Agenda Item No. 2 in a 6-0 vote, the Council approved Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 6 as follows:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 6

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville adopted a budget ordinance on June 9, 2015 which established revenues and authorized expenditures for fiscal year 2015-2016; and

WHEREAS, since the time of the adoption of said ordinance, it has become necessary to make certain changes in the City's budget to recognize a State grant for downtown revitalization and to appropriate the related expenditures (as presented at the January 6, 2016 City Council Work Session);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville that the budget ordinance as adopted on June 9, 2015 is hereby amended as follows;

Section 1. That revenue account number 10-3441-0001, Enhancement Project Grant, be increased by \$96,107.00.

Section 2. That expense account number 10-4260-5806, Parking Lot Improvements, be increased by \$96,107.00.

This the 9th day of February, 2016.

/s/ _____
John M. "Jay" Donecker
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC
City Clerk

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 - APPROVAL OF BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 7, WHICH APPROPRIATES FUNDS FOR WIRELESS CONTRACTED SERVICES.

With the approval of the Consent Agenda in a 6-0 vote, the Council approved Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 7 based on Community Development Manager Donna Setliff's memo. (A COPY OF THE MEMO IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

The Budget Ordinance Amendment as approved follows:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 7

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville adopted a budget ordinance on June 9, 2015 which established revenues and authorized expenditures for fiscal year 2015-2016; and

WHEREAS, since the time of the adoption of said ordinance, it has become necessary to make certain changes in the City's budget to recognize receipt of wireless fee revenues and to appropriate the related wireless contracted services expenditures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville that the budget ordinance as adopted on June 9, 2015 is hereby amended as follows;

Section 1. That revenue account number 10-3346-0000, Wireless Fees, be increased by \$850.00.

Section 2. That expense account number 10-4910-4300, Wireless Contracted Services, be increased by \$850.00.

This the 9th day of February, 2016.

/s/ _____
John M. "Jay" Donecker
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC
City Clerk

- End of Consent Agenda -

PUBLIC HEARINGS:
CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROJECT BE
UNDERTAKEN FOR CURB AND GUTTER FOR BRIARWOOD STREET
BETWEEN LEMAR DRIVE AND FRAZIER LANE. (C&G2015-01)

In making the staff report, City Engineer Steve Moran explained that Mr. Ryan Harden and Mr. Arnold Walker had requested curb and gutter on their sides of Briarwood Street, which is between Lemar Drive and Frazier Lane. Engineering prepared petitions, which went from block to block, he said. Of the 12 properties involved, seven property owners signed, which equals 58.3%. In terms of frontages, of the 1500 feet involved, owners signed for 791 feet, which equaled 52.8%. He reminded Council members that 51% is a valid petition. Adding that the petition included the Council's recently approved \$18 per foot rate, he submitted the petition for their approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown opened the public hearing at 6:19 p.m. He asked if there was anyone who wished to speak in favor of this project?

Mr. Arnold Walker of 705 Briarwood Street, Reidsville, came forward. He said he echoed what the City Engineer had said and that he has been working for a number of years to get curb and gutter on their street because they have a very serious water problem. When it rains heavy, they have been fighting the runoff for 36 years, he stated, adding that Mayor Donecker could echo that because he had been a neighbor for 10 years. Noting they had talked to the Mayor, City Manager and City Engineer, he said they basically had done what they were supposed to do and got the required number of signatures, reaching the required percentage. He said everyone had the opportunity to sign it although not all did. He reiterated that they had done everything they were supposed to do, and by law, met the requirements.

Mr. Ryan Harden of 706 Briarwood Street said he didn't realize the water issues the street had when he moved there three years ago. He noted that his next-door neighbor Cynthia Wagoner had gotten curb and gutter where it wraps off Lemar Drive. He said water hits that curb and guttering, then gathers and flows right into his yard and floods the side of his house. He said he had tried to get to reroute the piping done to fix the problem himself. He said he went to the City Manager and City Engineer to get a petition. He said he was trying to save his house and his investment. He noted that he has to shovel mud and unclog drains every time it storms.

With no one else speaking in favor, the Mayor Pro Tem asked if there was anyone who wished to speak against the project?

Mr. Larry Bailey of 707 Briarwood Street said he has many issues with this proposal, likening it to blackmail. He said his neighbor Cynthia Wagoner's vote should not have been counted because all of her property had been previously curb and guttered on a grant so she got it for free. The 39 feet that was not included amounts to \$700 in costs. He said he, along with the Greens, own the majority of the street frontage among all the people. He noted that if he don't go along with this, a lien would go against his house, which also goes against his credit, which he said isn't right. The interest rate at 8% is

high, he said, especially considering he got 4% recently when buying a house. He asked where does the interest go? Finance Director Chris Phillips said the interest is a revenue for that fund, the cost for us carrying the balance that you owe. Mr. Bailey said the interest would keep building until he sells the property, and he said that is not right.

Mr. Bailey asked what is the timeframe this project will take? Engineer Moran said the surveying and designing will begin, starting later this year but he said they didn't have a timeframe. Mr. Bailey, asking about any personal property that might be destroyed, said he has a brick mailbox at the end of his driveway, who will pay for that? City Manager Preston Mitchell said the City will make any needed repairs if things are damaged. Mr. Bailey said he wants it replaced, not repaired.

Mr. Bailey said there are several vacant lots on the north side. He asked if those people were notified. City Clerk Angela Stadler said that all of the property owners on the petition were sent a notice, adding that she thought that included those with vacant lots.

Mr. Bailey said this is just not the right way to do it. While he might be able to do it, others might not. He said he understood Ms. Wagoner had gotten a grant when Lemar was done. He asked about a grant for this project. Manager Mitchell said we can explore any kinds of grants that are available, adding that a grant application would have to be made. He said there have been a lot of changes on the State level regarding grants so he didn't know if anything would be available.

Councilman Festerman told Mr. Bailey he understood his frustrations, but historically, the Council has honored valid petitions that meet the 51%. He said they are not being singled out, but that he is being treated like everyone else who has come before us. Mr. Bailey said he believed he and the Greens were subsidizing the project for everyone else. The Councilman said he does share Mr. Bailey's pain but noted that the 51% was reached.

Ms. Lori Green of 710 Frazier Lane came forward. She agreed that when it rains, it is like a river, but she noted that they have the biggest frontage. Those without hardly any footage, probably don't care, she stated. She said it will cost them \$4,000 for this. She said she knows it is going to happen but that she felt it should be split equally among all the neighbors because they all benefit from it. This is the third time she has seen such a petition, and she noted that she did not sign it. Again, she said the biggest issue for them is the cost, and she knows she can make payments, but she doesn't need another payment, having one daughter in college and another getting ready to go to college.

Discussion then turned to cars flying up and down the road, including people spinning out in her yard. Curb and gutter will only widen that road, and those cars will only go faster, she asserted. She said people do not stop at the stop sign there. She said nobody cares about that. Something is going to have to be done about the traffic, adding it is a danger. Backing out of her driveway is a crap shoot, she asserted. She also talked about the need for a grant. Mr. Bailey discussed how people drive through his yard as well, along with others.

Councilman Festerman said the cost is not based on the size of her lot but the lineal footage. Mrs. Green said they are still paying more for something they don't want. She said the 8% interest rate is not fair. She questioned who paid for the curb and gutter going out to Walmart.

Cynthia Wagoner of 704 Briarwood Street came forward to provide some history. Sometime between 2003-2006, the City was petitioned to put curb and gutter along her street. Six years went by, and she never received a bill. She said she was told a grant had paid for it, then a bill showed up. She said she told Mr. Bailey that their curb and gutter was paid by a grant by happenstance, not by design. She noted that she had asked for the curb and gutter back then because she had drunk drivers coming through her yard, which caused her to spend thousands of dollars each year to repair the damages and the swimming pool of water that flows on both sides of her lot. Ms. Wagoner said her curb and guttering did not start his (Mr. Harden's) problem, it has always been there. There is a massive water problem, and it needs to be done. She said she also understood what the other neighbors were saying. She said she just wanted to clear up some of the discussion.

The public hearing was closed at 6:42 p.m.

Noting that the petition met the 51% requirement, Councilman Balsley made the motion that the curb and gutter be done and assessed accordingly, and that the Resolution Directing that the Project Be Undertaken be approved. The motion was seconded by Councilman Festerman.

Mr. Bailey asked again about the possibility of seeking a grant. During the discussion phase, Councilman Festerman said he'd like for staff to look at the 8% interest rate, which does seem high. City Attorney Bill McLeod said that 8% is the legal rate of interest. City Manager Mitchell said he would consult with the City Attorney about it.

Councilwoman Walker said that the City Council and staff will do anything they can if there is any money available. The Manager said we are always looking for grants whenever possible. She noted that they do have five years to pay.

The motion then passed in a 6-0 vote.

The Resolution as approved follows:

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THAT
THE PROJECT BE UNDERTAKEN
(C&G2015-01)**

WHEREAS, on the 17th day of December, 2015, the property owners on the northeast and southwest sides of Briarwood Street from Lemar Drive to Frazier Lane filed petitions for improving said street by curb and gutter; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has certified to this City Council that said petition is sufficient in all respects, the same having been duly signed by a majority in number of the owners, whose property represents a majority of all the lineal feet of frontage of the lands abutting upon the street or portion of street hereinabove described; and

WHEREAS, a preliminary assessment resolution has been adopted by the City Council, and a public hearing thereon duly held;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Reidsville, North Carolina:

1. That Briarwood Street lying between Lemar Drive and Frazier Lane be improved by curb and gutter under and by virtue of Chapter 160A, Article 10, of the General Statutes of North Carolina and the procedure therein established, and that said project is hereby directed to be undertaken.
2. That the assessment rate per foot shall be \$18.00.
3. That the assessment herein provided for shall be payable in cash or if any property owner shall so elect and give notice of that fact to the City Council in accordance with Chapter 160A, Sections 232 and 233, of the General Statutes of North Carolina, he shall have the option and privilege of paying the assessment in five (5) equal annual installments, said installments to bear interest at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum.

This the 9th day of February, 2016.

/s/ _____
John M. "Jay" Donecker
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC, City Clerk

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION NAMING A STREET WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF REIDSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA AS WATERFORD WAY.

In making the staff report, Community Development Manager Donna Setliff explained that due the widening of Freeway Drive, several service streets will need to be named. One service street in need of naming runs north from Ashcroft Drive for approximately 1,300 feet. Staff, per the City's Street Naming and Addressing Ordinance, is recommending Waterford Way for this street, she said. Property owners along the street were mailed a letter explaining the name suggestion. One property owner has suggested the alternative name, Wilkins Street; however, there is a Wilkins Road within Rockingham County, she noted. Staff strongly recommends not naming repeating the road name because of emergency services, particularly EMS, she added. She again noted

she was recommending Waterford Way, and a Resolution is included in Council members' packets.

Councilman Balsley asked if she was saying it can't be named Wilkins Street or Drive? Setliff said it is not advisable to name a street the same name because if you are servicing out of our County 911 center it is difficult, especially for EMS which services the County as a whole. Councilwoman Walker questioned about adding an additional name, like Edward or Ed Wilkins. Acknowledging that is different, Setliff said they discourage naming streets anything that sounds similar and might confuse someone who is under stress and calling into the 911 Center. She did note that this is a service street.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown opened the public hearing at 6:49 p.m. He asked if there was anyone to speak in favor of this Resolution? He asked if there was anyone who wished to speak against?

Mr. Larry Somers of 321 Somers Loop, Reidsville, came forward. A former Council member, Mr. Somers said it was nice to be back. He commended staff with coming up with the name Waterford Way, which is in keeping with the neighborhood. He suggested the name, "E.V. Wilkins Way". He said Ashcroft community was a dream of Dr. Ed Wilkins, how he got the financing and got the acreage annexed into the City of Reidsville and worked with Council to get water and sewer to that neighborhood. Mr. Somers has managed the Ashcroft properties for 26 years, including the first seven years working with Dr. Wilkins, who was the managing partner and passed away in 1997, and the last 20 some years, Johns Martin has been the managing partner. Mr. Somers said that, even more so than being an integral part of the Ashcroft community, Dr. Wilkins helped determine how Council members were elected. As the top vote getter in a Council election some 30 years ago, Dr. Wilkins believed he would be named Mayor, but there were others on the Council who wanted the position of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem so Dr. Wilkins was left out. He did not run for Council again, but after that, Council formed a Commission to study how the Mayor and Council members were elected. It was called the Wilkins Commission, which recommended that the Mayor be elected separately. It was taken further with the Council and two members elected at-large with the other seats being taken from districts. Noting it was a great idea, Mr. Somers said it helped this Council and the community and without the Ed Wilkins' experience, that might never have come to be. Talking of his historical significance, he said no one else better deserved a street named after him than Ed Wilkins.

The public hearing was closed at 6:54 p.m.

Councilman Festerman made the motion to table the naming of the right of way off Ashcroft Drive to Waterford Way and direct staff to research a name honoring the late Ed Wilkins and bring it back to Council at a future meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gorham.

City Manager Mitchell asked Council what would be the phrasing of the name? Councilman Festerman said he could not give a name at this time, but asked for staff to

talk with 911, etc. and find an acceptable name. Councilwoman Walker asked that staff get Mrs. Wilkins' input on the suggested name.

The motion passed in a 6-0 vote.

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION NAMING A STREET WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF REIDSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA AS NORTHRIDGE COURT.

In making the staff report, Community Development Manager Donna Setliff noted that the Freeway Drive construction had led to a third service road that runs east-west from Tar Heel Towing to Sparks & Son Service Station that needs naming. This road runs parallel to Freeway Drive, and staff had sent a letter to the three property owners involved that the road be named Northridge Court, she said. Setliff said she had received a call from a property owner about an alternate name but had not heard anything back. She again said she was recommending Northridge Court and that a Resolution is included in the packets.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown opened the public hearing at 6:57 p.m. asking if there was anyone who wished to speak in favor or in opposition?

Mr. Ronnie Harris, owner/operator of Tar Heel Towing at 2434 Freeway Drive, who resides at 1622 Brooks Road, Reidsville, came forward. He said he did receive a letter and did call about providing an alternative name. He said the City owns some property behind Sparks store and uses it for something like brush consumption, etc. He said no one had tried to do anything with the development out there other than Mr. Jones who owned the building he now owns and Mr. James Cox. Mr. Cox, who owned a business on Barnes Street for years, was the first person to ever try and develop anything along that section of Freeway Drive like the convenience store, which he later sold to Jerry Sparks. He noted that the three property owners involved are himself, Jerry Sparks and Mr. Cox' daughter, Barbara Cox, who owns about 11 acres between them. He said he'd like the street to be named after someone who had done something for the City and who was a businessman here in the City. Again, because part of the property had been part of the City dump and never developed by anyone else, he felt it should be named after Mr. Cox.

The public hearing was closed at 7:02 p.m.

Councilman Festerman, noting he had the privilege of knowing Mr. Cox who was a pioneer of development along Freeway Drive, made the motion to table the naming of right of way off of Freeway Drive as Northridge Court and direct staff to research a name honoring the late Cox and bring it back to Council at a future meeting. He said he wanted to give the same consideration as was done earlier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hairston and approved in a 6-0 vote.

City Manager Mitchell pointed out that staff tries to recommend a named that is generic or non-controversial as possible. He said tonight speaks of citizen engagement, but it is

our practice to bring generic names to Council. Mayor Pro Tem Brown said that was a good practice.

- End of Public Hearings -

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE MCCOY ROAD BRIDGE OVER LAKE REIDSVILLE BE RENAMED AFTER FIRST SERGEANT J.S. HACKETT AND PATROLMAN J.A. PARKER.

In making the staff report, City Manager Mitchell noted the City had been contacted by the North Carolina Highway Patrol about this, adding it is a common measure across the State to honor fallen law enforcement officers. Since the bridge goes over Lake Reidsville, which is in the City limits, the bridge is in the City limits as well, he explained. He noted that there are representatives here from the Highway Patrol that speak on the men and the process if Council would like.

Trooper Brian Rakestraw, of 111 Wilson Way, Reidsville, came forward, stating this would be fitting to honor these men who were killed in 1974. The Patrol has a high regard for those who paved the way for us. He talked of family members who still live in Rockingham County, including First Sergeant Hackett's wife, age 99. He noted that witnesses say the men were flying over the bridge, waving at two small kids below, when they struck a power line. Again, he said he and his fellow troopers, along with their families, believe it would be a fitting tribute for these men who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown asked if anyone else, including family members, would like to speak.

Mrs. Drew Hackett Smith, a lifelong resident of Reidsville, daughter of First Sergeant Hackett, came forward. She noted that her father had been a Highway Patrolman from 1962 until his death in 1974. She described her dad as an amazing man and an amazing father. She said this would be a wonderful honor bestowed upon her family, and she thanked them.

Councilwoman Walker made the motion, seconded by Councilman Gorham and unanimously approved by Council in a 6-0 vote, to approve the Resolution and forward to the North Carolina Board of Transportation.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown asked the entire Council to come forward, along with members of the family and Highway Patrol. He said he had asked former Reidsville Police Chief and Councilman Festerman to read the proclamation. Councilman Festerman said his only regret is that it has taken so long for this to be done, and if it had been presented, he felt like it would have been approved a long time ago. He said he was the first officer on the scene, followed secondly by Trooper Cheek, who lived in Stoneville and had talked with her dad not too long before. He said it was a sad, sad day, adding that all law enforcement officers share a special bond, and that day really brought them all together. The Councilman said they certainly have his thoughts and prayers.

Councilman Festerman then read aloud the Resolution which follows: *(Clerk's Note: Following the meeting, the Highway Patrol notified the City that the incorrect date of the crash was given to staff. What follows is the resolution with the corrected date.)*

**A RESOLUTION TO RENAME THE MCCOY ROAD BRIDGE
FOR FIRST SERGEANT J.S. HACKETT AND PATROLMAN J.A. PARKER**

WHEREAS, the McCoy Road Bridge spans the waters of the municipally-owned Lake Reidsville; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1974, First Sergeant J.S. Hackett and Patrolman J.A. Parker were flying in a helicopter in the performance of their duties; and

WHEREAS, on that fateful day, the helicopter in which they were flying as they surveyed the road crashed in the area of McCoy Road in Reidsville; and

WHEREAS, First Sergeant Hackett and Patrolman Parker lost their lives in the crash, giving the ultimate sacrifice while in service to the residents of Rockingham County and the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, this sacrifice should not go unrecognized as the contributions of these two Troopers deserve to be publicly recognized; and

WHEREAS, the renaming of this bridge near the crash site is a fitting tribute to these men who served with diligence and honor and are gone but not forgotten by their families, many of whom still reside in Rockingham County, and the citizens of this City, County and State;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Reidsville does hereby request that the North Carolina Board of Transportation rename the McCoy Road Bridge in honor and memory of First Sergeant J.S. Hackett and Patrolman J.A. Parker and that appropriate signage be placed at the site.

This the 9th day of February, 2016.

/s/ _____
John M. "Jay" Donecker, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ _____
Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC
City Clerk

Councilman Balsley also talked of how First Sergeant Hackett was very active within the community, including at their church, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, where he was Chairman of the Vestry. Councilman Balsley said Mr. Hackett was one of the first people to welcome him back to Reidsville in 1970. He said he remembered what a kind man he was, and he is glad they are able to do this. Councilman Festerman said in addition to being his friend, he was also his neighbor and reiterated that they were waving to kids on the bridge.

A copy of the proclamation was presented to Drew Hackett Smith, daughter of First Sergeant Hackett.

CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY STAFF TO DEMOLISH STRUCTURES AT 302 GORDON STREET.

In making the staff report, Community Development Manager Donna Setliff said staff was asking permission to demolish the structures (primary residence and garage residence) at 302 Gordon Street. An inspection was done by the Codes Inspector after complaints were received, she explained, and violations of the City's Minimum Housing Code were found, including rotten floors in the dwellings. A title search, she said, found Cathryn B. Turner Lawson to be the owner. She noted that they have had other properties owned by Ms. Lawson, but have never been able to locate her. Staff has contacted her son, but he said he has nothing to do with the property. The owner did not attend the hearing, and the Housing Code Enforcement Order to demolish the structures was mailed, published in the *Reidsville Review* and posted on the property, Setliff said. The order to demolish, which expired on September 23, 2015, was done because the estimated cost of repairs at \$12,800 for the primary residence exceeded 50% of the value of the building at \$2,100, she noted. The same was true for the garage residence with the cost of repairs at \$40,000 exceeding 50% of the value of the structure listed at \$1,628. Property taxes of \$5,383.29 since 2006 have not been paid, she added.

Councilman Gorham made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walker and unanimously approved by Council in a 6-0 vote, to approve the ordinance.

The Ordinance as approved follows:

**ORDINANCE TO DEMOLISH 302 GORDON STREET
REIDSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:

WHEREAS, on the 4th day of June, 2015 at 10:30 a.m., the Codes Inspector of Reidsville, North Carolina conducted a hearing on violations of Chapter 4, Article II, Housing Code, Reidsville Code of Ordinances, Section 4-26, for the property at located at 302 Gordon Street (Primary and Secondary structures), Reidsville, North Carolina Tax Map No. 8904-10-45-9558.

WHEREAS, the Complaint and Notice of Hearing was mailed to the owner by certified mail on May 8, 2015 to her last known address, said owner being Cathryn B. Turner Lawson. The Complaint and Notice of Hearing was returned to the City unclaimed. The property owner was properly served in that the Complaint and Notice of Hearing was published in the Reidsville Review newspaper on May 13, 2015, and posted on the subject property on May 8, 2015.

WHEREAS, said owner failed to appear at said hearing, no evidence was presented, and a copy of the Code Enforcement Order was mailed to the owner via Certified Mail on June 23, 2015, being returned to the City unclaimed. The Code Enforcement Order was published in the Reidsville Review newspaper on June 28, 2015, and the subject property was posted with the Code Enforcement Order on June 23, 2015.

WHEREAS, the Order allowed said owner to demolish and remove the above structures on or before September 23, 2015 and whereas there has been no compliance with said Order in that said structure has not been demolished or removed, and remains dilapidated and unfit for human habitation, and constitutes a public health, safety, and fire hazard;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the Reidsville Code of Ordinances, Section 4-29(c), the Code Enforcement Inspector of Reidsville, North Carolina is hereby ordered to cause the above structure located at 302 Gordon Street (Primary and Secondary structure), Reidsville, North Carolina, to be demolished and removed, pending demolition and removal to post said structure as provided by N.C.G. S. 160A-443 and Section 4-29 (b) of the Reidsville Code of Ordinances.

This is the 9th day of February, 2016.

/s/

John "Jay" M. Donecker, Mayor, Reidsville, North Carolina

ATTESTED BY:

/s/

Angela G. Stadler, City Clerk

CONSIDERATION OF A BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 8 TO COVER EXPENDITURES FOR APPROVED DEMOLITIONS.

In making the staff report, Community Development Manager Setliff noted that demolitions have been a "pay as you go" item in the past. In addition to the \$20,000 in the line item, staff was allowed to carry over \$23,566 from the previous year's budget while approximately \$14,000 was appropriated for the 118 Southwest Market Street

demolition. She reviewed her memo which broke down the expenditures. (A COPY OF SETLIFF'S MEMO DATED JANUARY 25, 2016 IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) Setliff explained that she is requesting \$21,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to cover those costs listed in her memo.

Councilman Hairston made the motion, seconded by Councilman Gorham and unanimously approved by Council in a 6-0 vote, to approve \$21,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to address the above items.

The Budget Ordinance Amendment as approved follows:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 8

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville adopted a budget ordinance on June 9, 2015 which established revenues and authorized expenditures for fiscal year 2015-2016; and

WHEREAS, since the time of the adoption of said ordinance, it has become necessary to make certain changes in the City's budget to appropriate funds for demolitions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Reidsville that the budget ordinance as adopted on June 9, 2015 is hereby amended as follows;

Section 1. That revenue account number 10-3991-0000, General Fund Appropriated Fund Balance, be increased by \$21,000.00.

Section 2. That expense account number 10-4350-4400, Demolition Costs, be increased by \$21,000.00.

This the 9th day of February, 2016.

/s/ _____
John M. "Jay" Donecker
Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC
City Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Candidate for Rockingham County Commissioner.

Reece Pyrtle, Eden's current Police Chief and a Republican candidate for Rockingham County Commissioners, came forward and spoke about himself and why he was running for the County's governing board.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

City Manager Mitchell reviewed his written Manager's Report. (A COPY OF THE MANAGER'S REPORT IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS.

Councilman Gorham – The Councilman talked of attending the Martin Luther King Holiday events, including providing the greetings from the City at the opening ceremony at Trinity United Holy Church and at the MLK breakfast due to a death in Mayor Pro Tem Brown's family. He also attended the Ministerial Alliance service at First Baptist Church, including the unity march prior to that. On January 31, he was part of the unveiling of the marker at St. Paul Methodist Church and on February 4, the Downtown Senior Citizens Meeting.

Councilman Festerman – The Councilman had no report, but he complimented the City Manager and staff for putting together a well-organized Council retreat. He also complimented Mayor Pro Tem Brown on how he conducted the meeting tonight, which was echoed by Councilman Gorham.

Councilman Hairston – The Councilman noted that he also attended the MLK celebrations and found them to be very enjoyable.

Councilman Balsley – The Councilman turned over his time to Chamber President Diane Sawyer. Sawyer noted that 160 people have signed up for the Chamber's 55th Awards Banquet on Wednesday. She stated that there is a ribbon cutting at Halikierra Home Care at 1235 South Scales Street at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 18. There will be a Chamber Coffee at Reidsville Orthodontics on March 3 and the Staff Appreciation Luncheon will be Wednesday, April 27, at the Pennrose Park Country Club.

Councilwoman Walker – The Councilwoman noted that she attended on January 18, MLK breakfast and brought the proclamation from the City at First Baptist Church; on January 20, the Citizens for Economic Development lecture; January 26, the ABC Board meeting that morning and the Downtown Corporation meeting at noon; and on January 28, the Reidsville Appearance Commission meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown – The Mayor Pro Tem thanked Public Works for an outstanding job on the ice and snow removal, acknowledging it was kind of tricky the way it came down, and appreciated the updates from Public Works for when they got phone calls. Some of the problem was that people were parking on the sides of the street, which caused problems for Public Works vehicles getting through.

Appointment of Moses Staton.

The Mayor Pro Tem announced on behalf of Mayor Donecker, that the Mayor has appointed Moses Staton to another term on the New Reidsville Housing Authority. This is a Mayoral appointment.

MOVE TO THE FIRST-FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM FOR A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PERSONNEL PURSUANT TO G.S. 143-318.11(A)(4) AND (6).

Councilwoman Walker made the motion, seconded by Councilman Gorham and unanimously approved by Council in a 6-0 vote, to go into closed session.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.

Upon return to open session, Councilman Festerman made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walker and unanimously approved by Council in a 6-0 vote, to adjourn.

John M. "Jay" Donecker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC, City Clerk