

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE REIDSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
HELD TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL**

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor John M. “Jay” Donecker
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: NONE

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 -
Administration
Tom Wiggins, Assistant City Manager
– Community Services
Kevin Eason, Public Works Director
Robert Hassell, Police Chief
Chuck Evitt, Police Lieutenant

Mayor Donecker called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION.

The Mayor called upon Dr. Joseph Bryant, Pastor of First Baptist Church, 401 Hubbard Street, Reidsville, to provide the invocation. After Dr. Bryant gave the invocation, Mayor Donecker congratulated him on his 22nd year anniversary in the ministry here.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Council members led in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance led by Greg Vaughn, a Star Scout with Boy Scout Troop 230 working on his Life merit badge for community service.

PROCLAMATIONS:

RECOGNITION OF ADAMS FAMILY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO RELAY FOR LIFE.

Mayor Donecker called the Adams family, including Scott, Lisa Adams Duncan and Carol, forward.

Mayor Donecker then read aloud a proclamation recognizing the family for their contribution each year of flowers for the local Relay for Life celebration. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) Carol Adams thanked the Council, noting the proclamation was appreciated very much.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK MAY 15-21, 2016.

Mayor Donecker then read aloud the proclamation for National Public Works Week. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) The proclamation was presented to the City's Public Works Director Kevin Eason. The Mayor noted that many think of Public Works after a snowfall, but that they keep us going all the time. He recognized Public Works and safety as two important functions of government. Eason thanked the Council for the recognition and then shook hands with each of the Council members and City Manager Preston Mitchell.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL POLICE WEEK MAY 15-21, 2016 AND PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED ON MAY 15, 2016.

The Mayor then presented a proclamation recognizing National Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day to Police Chief Robert Hassell and Lt. Chuck Evitt. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) Chief Hassell thanked City Council, the City Manager, staff and department heads as well as the community for their strong support for the Police Department and its officers. He noted that all 50 proudly serve the community. Both Chief Hassell and Lt. Evitt shook hands with Council members and the City Manager.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.

Mayor Donecker asked for Council approval of the Consent Agenda.

Councilman Gorham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Hairston and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to approve the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 12, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.

With the approval of the Consent Agenda in a 7-0 vote, the Council approved the April 12, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – APPROVAL OF THE AUDIT CONTRACT FOR FY2016-17 WITH RSM US LLP (FORMERLY MCGLADREY, LLP).

With the approval of the Consent Agenda in a 7-0 vote, the Council approved the 2015-16 Audit Contract with RSM US LLP, formerly McGladrey, LLP, for an annual fee of \$37,000, as recommended by Assistant City Manager of Administration/Finance Director Chris Phillips. (A COPY OF THE AUDIT CONTRACT AND AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER ARE HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

- End of Consent Agenda -

STATUS UPDATE ON FREEWAY DRIVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT BY JASON JULIAN.

Jason Julian, Reidsville District Engineer with the NC Department of Transportation, came forward to update Council on the Freeway Drive construction project. Mayor Donecker congratulated Julian on his recent promotion. Since his last update in the fall, Julian noted he is hearing comments that it is now easier to tell that things are happening up and down Freeway Drive with construction going on from one end to the other. (A COPY OF THE WRITTEN REPORT AND COLOR MAP ARE HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

He noted the following recent updates: the North Scales Street ramp was opened up Monday and today, they closed the off ramp off Freeway to North Scales. He said the company has a 45-day deadline to get the ramp opened back up. The temporary signals will not be put back up there, he said, adding that there is now free flow motion there. The poles and wiring will be taken down so that people won't think they will be put back up, Julian said.

Referencing the color-coded map in their agenda packets, Julian noted that at South Scales Street all the way almost to US 158/Richardson Drive, the traffic has been split to the outside so that the contractor can put in pipe and concrete and prepare the area for the grass median. All four lanes should be opened back up by the end of June, he said, with everything done except for the final layer of asphalt. From US 158 to the rest of the project, by the end of July they should have traffic split onto the outside two lanes, he said. By the middle of August, Wentworth Street to NC 14 should be in the final pattern through there with two lanes in each direction. The North Scales Street area should also be completed by mid-August, Julian said. The middle section, just north of Richardson to about Wentworth Street, should be the last piece since it has the heaviest density of businesses. That is the company's final milestone, he said.

Julian asked if Council members had any questions?

Mayor Donecker had two points. He asked if there was any way that the connection from Freeway Drive to South Park Drive could include a three-foot-wide shoulder. Since sidewalks are planned on that side of Freeway, he talked of how it could help walkers go down Freeway, get to the middle school and then take the greenway over to Jaycee Park. As Julian asked for clarification whether the Mayor was asking for the sidewalk, which begins at Lawndale, to continue down South Park or just the shoulder, the Mayor said he was just talking about the shoulder off of Freeway. Julian said he thought the plans called for the asphalt to end at the driveway to the shopping center, but he could look into it. Manager Mitchell said as long as NCDOT addressed it through the new construction, the City could look into continuing the sidewalk to the middle school area. Discussion continued about how this could be done, including the use of sidewalks in areas where there was not enough room for a three-foot shoulder. Manager Mitchell noted that Mr. Julian has already met with staff about future connections along the route, etc.

The Mayor then asked Julian about an issue Councilman Festerman brought up at the last meeting regarding consideration of some type of circle/roundabout at the Richardson/Main intersection. Councilman Festerman, complimented Julian on the work on Freeway Drive, then asked him about the lighting on the roadway, including asking who would be paying for it. Mr. Julian said there have been discussions with staff about various issues, and he wasn't sure if the City had a final recommendation on that yet. He said at one time, they had talked about putting lighting in the median, but barricades would have to be put up as well, making it unsightly and cost prohibitive. It was noted that the City would be paying for the lighting, but NCDOT is paying for the sidewalks.

Julian said he would check on a roundabout in the Richardson/Main area, adding that he thought a study has been done on that in the past. The RPO may be discussing that as well, he said. Donna Setliff, our City's representative, has let the Regional Planning Organization/Technical Coordinating Committee know that the Council supports a roundabout at that location. The County's representative on the RPO's Technical Advisory Committee has also been informed that the City supports the idea, the Manager said.

The Mayor told Julian he appreciated his time and effort.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 BUDGET.

In making his staff report on the proposed budget, City Manager Preston Mitchell said he usually does a Powerpoint presentation, but today he would just give a few highlights and talked of scheduling a budget work session.

Manager Mitchell informed Council he has submitted for their consideration as City Manager and Budget Officer, the City's 2016-17 Fiscal Year Budget, which begins July 1 and ends on June 30, 2017. He said it represents the combined efforts of City staff to set a financial course of action to serve our supporting public while implementing the directions and desires of the Council. The budget has been prepared according to the North Carolina Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act required by State Statute 150-7. As required, all funds within the budget are balanced along with all anticipated revenue and expenditure estimates being identified for the upcoming fiscal year.

The proposed budget, Manager Mitchell explained, is composed of six permanent funds: General, Parks & Recreation, Downtown Tax District, Combined Enterprise, Police Separation Trust and Garage Funds. The proposed City-wide budget is \$27,996,950 compared to FY 15-16's amount of \$26,741,500. This increase is due, he said, largely by recognition of revenues within the General Fund that were not budgeted during FY 15-16 due to the City Council's direction to maintain a flat budget during the interim City Manager phase as well as a utility rate increase within the Combined Enterprise Fund.

Manager Mitchell pointed out that the City is self-insured with health and dental insurance being offered to employees, retirees and dependents. This budget includes a 7%

cost increase that our broker and staff were able to negotiate for the upcoming fiscal year, he said. He commended staff for helping to get the rate as low as it was. This budget also includes the final year of a three-year implementation of a market pay plan, representing four years since this particular group has been studied, he continued. No performance pay or cost of living adjustments have been included in this budget, the City Manager explained. Performance evaluations will continue with or without salary increases associated with them. Career development and promotion increases are scheduled to continue. He said this was largely a result of increased operating costs ranging from health insurance and workers comp, capital outlay needs and service cost increases. He said all of this was done while remembering the Council's priority noted at the Annual Budget Retreat to be as conservative as possible while the Commonwealth Plant situation unfolds.

Manager Mitchell then discussed capital outlay, explaining that approximately \$2.16 million in improvements were requested while \$581,200 is recommended in the General Fund. Of that \$581,200, \$136,000 is appropriated fund balance discussed at the mid-fiscal year General Fund capital funding work session, he added. In the Parks & Recreation Fund, very little capital outlay was able to be allocated except for the new Senior Center, called "The Depot".

In the Combined Enterprise Fund, Manager Mitchell said total requests were for \$2,427,500 while the recommended outlay is about \$500,000. He noted that the rate increase will bring in approximately \$700,000, but about \$200,000 will be needed to cover operations. In the Garage Fund, recommended capital outlay is \$62,100 of the \$112,100 in requests, he said.

Manager Mitchell then looked at revenues, noting that in the General Fund, the tax rate is proposed to remain the same at \$0.74/\$100 of valuation. In the Parks & Recreation Fund, the cost of utility operations for the new Senior Center through the General Fund transfer, which will include reimbursement from ADTS for its share of the utilities at the new center. The other applied to the General Fund transfer in regards to the City's share of the YMCA pool operations, he added.

In the Combined Enterprise Fund, the 10% utility rate increase will be used to reinvest in our system so that we won't run into the same type of situation as Flint, Michigan, the Manager said. The other funds remain relatively the same, he added.

In regards to Expenditures, Manager Mitchell said that capital outlay and personnel expenses are detailed in the B-section of the budget. He said that can be discussed at the work session.

The City Manager noted that the City's Debt Service Summary can be found in Section B, Appendix C-Debt Schedule. The Senior Center project is expected to be added to the debt service list in FY2017-18 at approximately \$5.5 million or less. He added that staff hopes the increased sales tax revenue will be available to help assist with payment of this debt.

Manager Mitchell concluded by noting that the proposed budget involved a lot of teamwork by the Management Team, employees, Council, etc. He cited the importance of the annual budget retreat, which paid off with the Council's involvement. We were able to meet these costs in an efficient and effective manner, according to the Manager. While there are indications of potential positive economic projects and prospects, City staff will continue to work to maximize revenue and curtail expenses. He thanked Council for its support.

The City Manager said this was definitely an enjoyable process from his perspective, which included meetings with Management Team and small group meetings. He commended Assistant City Manager of Administration/Finance Director Chris Phillips and Public Works Director Kevin Eason's assistance. He also thanked City Clerk Angela Stadler and Deputy City Clerk Cindy Farris for their work in physically assembling the budget books. He said he looked forward to working with Council and staff on new endeavors for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

Councilman Festerman said, this budget has no COLA or merit increases in it? Manager Mitchell said the monies to implement the pay plan are included but not COLA or merit increases. He noted that this is the third year of the pay plan, and he felt if he had to choose between the two, he felt it was more important to include the third year implementation rather than the merit increases.

Council and staff then looked at their calendars, scheduling a budget work session for 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18. Councilman Festerman, who would be out of town, would attend by teleconference.

CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 12 TO RECOGNIZE NON-BUDGETED REVENUES AND TO APPROPRIATE RELATED EXPENDITURES.

In making the staff report, Assistant City Manager of Administration/Finance Director Chris Phillips presented Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 12, which is a cleanup amendment of various items at the end of the budget year as outlined in his accompanying memo. (A COPY OF THE MEMO IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) He said it is often placed on the Consent Agenda, but due to the large amount of money included, staff felt it needed to be presented to Council. The BOA recognizes revenues of \$194,700 and related expenditures, he said. There is no use of Fund Balance, he noted. The reason it is so large is the skat bus grant of \$120,000, which runs through the City finances but we will be reimbursed 90% by the federal government, he said. The City matches 10% of the grant. The first year we participated, we only paid our matching amount, and the finances ran through ADTS, which administers the program and buses. When they came to us for the second year, which was after we had adopted our budget, it had been changed where the entire amount comes to us except for the match, he explained. He said it will be the same amount next year, but that money has already been included in the proposed budget.

Phillips noted that some of these line items are for small amounts, but some departments depend on them. He cited as examples the SHIPP grant, the VITA grant, etc. Again, he stressed this is a cleanup to pick up both sides, revenues and expenditures.

Councilman Gorham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Balsley and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to approve the Budget Ordinance Amendment.

The Budget Ordinance Amendment as approved follows:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 12

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 various revenues and to appropriate related 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 10-3413-1000, Federal Seizure Funds, be increased by \$15,100.00; that revenue account number 10-3413-2000, State Substance Tax, be increased by \$17,150.00; that revenue account number 10-3431-9002, Crime Commission Grant, be increased by \$15,000.00; that revenue account number 10-3431-8002, Bullet Proof Vest Grants, be increased by \$5,800.00; that revenue account number 10-3441-0001, SKAT Bus Grant, be increased by \$120,000.00; that revenue account number 10-3434-2000, Recycling, be increased by \$1,050.00; that revenue account number 11-3613-6600, Duck Blind Contributions, be increased by \$950.00; that revenue account number 10-3834-7100, Penn House, be increased by \$1,650.00; that revenue account number 10-3834-8525, Market Square, be increased by \$3,000.00; that revenue account number 11-3612-0000, Senior Center Grants, be increased by \$5,200.00; that revenue account number 11-3612-0000, Senior Center Grants, be increased by \$3,650.00; that revenue account number 11-3431-8003, SHIIP Funds, be increased by \$6,150.00.

Section 2. That expense account number 10-4311-5500, Detective Capital Equipment, be increased by \$15,100.00; that expense account number 10-4310-2606, Forfeiture Fund Supplies, be increased by \$17,150.00; that expense account number 10-4314-5500, COP Capital Equipment, be increased by \$15,000.00; that expense account number 10-4311-2120, Detective Uniforms, be increased by \$4,050.00; that expense account number 10-4312-2120, Patrol Uniforms, be

increased by \$300.00; that expense account number 10-4314-2100, COP Uniforms, be increased by \$1,450.00; that expense account number 10-4930-7600, SKAT Bus, be increased by \$120,000.00; that expense account number 10-4340-2605, Fire Supplies, be increased by \$1,050.00; that expense account number 11-6130-3530, Duck Blinds, be increased by \$950.00; that expense account number 10-6140-3510, Penn House Maintenance, be increased by \$1,650.00; that expense account number 10-10-4940-3500, Marketing, be increased by \$3,000.00; that expense account number 11-6124-2699, Senior Center IT Supplies, be increased by \$5,200.00; that expense account number 11-6124-2699, Senior Center IT Supplies, be increased by \$3,650.00; that expense account number 11-6124-3800, Senior Center SHIP Expense, be increased by \$6,150.00.

This the 10th day of May, 2016.

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

ATTEST:

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

UPDATE ON LAKE REIDSVILLE TRAIL SYSTEM.

In making the staff report, Assistant City Manager of Community Services Tom Wiggins introduced Jenny Edwards of the Dan River Basin Association (DRBA), which has been working with the City on this project. (A COPY OF WIGGINS' WRITTEN MEMO AND ACCOMPANYING MAPS ARE HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

Wiggins informed Council that he had good news to update them all on. First, he noted that Reidsville is a paid municipal member of the DRBA along with all other municipalities in Rockingham County as well as the County. The agreement is that Reidsville Area Foundation will put in a match as long as all the municipalities participate, he explained. A budget has been created that helps pay Jenny, who is our "boots on the ground" and an advocate for Reidsville, Wiggins said, and is very knowledgeable about a wide range of issues, including water quality and the trails system, and has a lot of contacts with state officials. He discussed the City's strong relationship with DRBA, which has been assisting in the development of a mountain biking/hiking trail at Lake Reidsville

The Assistant City Manager referenced the latest map, which had been left for Council members' on the dais. (A COPY OF THE MAP IS HEREIN INCLUDED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) He briefly discussed Phase 1 and the current work being done on Phase 2, which goes around the maintenance area at Lake Reidsville. He said this work was scheduled to be completed by the end of June; however, he said there

is a water drainage issue they are having to work with out there so it may be later in the summer. This phase is three quarters of a mile, he added.

Phase 3, which is a quarter of a mile, traverses along the lake's edge, he said. All together the three phases is about 2 miles, but if you add these orange sections or connectors, the trail is 2.5 miles long, Wiggins said. These connectors are existing roads, etc., he added.

Wiggins said they are excited about Phase 3 because they have been in some discussions with State officials about the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, which goes along the Haw River. The State wants to see a commitment whereby at least a quarter of a mile is along the lake's edge and that it goes along the south side of the lake, he continued. Everything seen on the map has been funded with the only costs by the City is for in-kind services. He noted that this trail is all natural, not paved, so it is not as labor intensive. He complimented the services of the late Billy Butler, who had worked in the City's Engineering Department, for his initial survey work that is being utilized now.

The Assistant City Manager said now we would like to fund an additional 1.5 miles of trail eastward and south of this green trail (on the map) around towards our Water Treatment Plant. We are applying for a grant from the State, but he said it is questionable about whether in some areas we have enough City-owned property for the trail. In some areas, we may have to build a dock or boardwalk feature, etc., to make enough room for the trail, he added. This is all conceptual at this point, he stressed.

Wiggins then directed them to the map showing the Mountains-to-Sea Trail map. He described the route and noted that this dates back at least a decade. Some areas are more complete than others because those areas have been more aggressive. From a marketing/tourism standpoint, if we can get this to go around our lake, it would be a tremendous opportunity for us, he told Council. He referenced the final map in the agenda packets, noting that State Trail officials have indicated that if areas do not continue to make progress, they would be willing to shift the trail down to Guilford County. He said we need to keep up our momentum and briefly discussed the 2013 County Pathways Plan, which includes the local trail development. So the exciting news is that the State will consider moving the red route line so that it encompasses our lake, which would be a great opportunity for us, he reiterated, but he cautioned that it is still conceptual with a lot of things that need to happen.

Councilman Festerman asked if the land involved is City property. Currently it is, but Manager Mitchell noted that options are for the City to purchase additional property or create a feature like a boardwalk out into the water, which is an attractive feature. He said he doesn't think it is insurmountable sections where we don't have shoreline. Wiggins clarified that we do have enough land to do the quarter-mile of trail.

Jenny Edwards, Program Manager with DRBA, then came forward. She noted that she worked for the City to plan for, initiate and resource outdoor recreational assets.

She first discussed the recreational trail grant program, administered through the North Carolina State Parks, which uses federal transportation funding set aside for alternative transportation. On the City's behalf, DRBA submitted a proposal for \$85,000 to RTP to put in 1.5-2 miles around the lake, she explained. The Reidsville Area Foundation funded the first quarter mile, she said, which that first quarter mile puts a "pin" in the Mountains-to-Sea Trail map, meaning the minimum amount of trail needed to qualify has been done by the City. An additional benefit is that the City's trail becomes a priority for state funding, she said, receiving a higher score as a state trail than as a regular trail. She also noted the benefits that Lake Reidsville offers the Mountains-to-Sea Trail users, including the camp store, disc golf, boat rentals, etc. She said Lake Reidsville is a treasure that really needs to be on the state trail.

Edwards then discussed the May 2nd Open House that was held at Lake Reidsville in order to get ideas for the trails from residents and business owners. Both the Mayor and Councilwoman Walker attended. They also brought in mountain bike riders from Winston-Salem, etc. to get their input, she said, and she said they were very enthusiastic about this trail and offered to help. She said they received some very good comments at the open house, including ways to connect the trail to the downtown area.

Discussion turned briefly to the history of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail and how old the concept is. The Mayor and Councilwoman Walker both said they had heard about it for years, perhaps 20 years or more.

Mayor Donecker, noting that the City has obtained its Certified Retirement Community designation, said we also want to jump to the next generation and offer something for them. He said he felt this was a step in the right direction.

The Mayor thanked Wiggins and Edwards for the update.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Youth Concerns Expressed.

Rev. Clarence Johnson of 701 Ridgeway Court, Reidsville, came forward. He has been retired as pastor of Elm Grove Baptist Church since last August. He expressed concerns about the City's youth, including questioning with schools letting out, does the City have any programs to offer young people a job? He also questioned whether the City Council might consider having young people shadow the Council members to help show them what the City government does.

Mayor Donecker and Councilman Hairston both pointed out that the Human Relations Commission has been looking to include youth members on its Commission. Manager Mitchell noted that the board is reaching out to the high school to find possible members.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

Manager Mitchell presented his staff report, citing the items listed on his written report, including the City's quarterly financial overview and the YMCA's quarterly pool report. (A COPY OF THE WRITTEN REPORT IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE

A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) He also noted that the budget work session has been scheduled and pointed out the upcoming events this month.

The other item on his written report was the Blue Light Visibility Program by the Reidsville Police Department. Manager Mitchell asked Police Chief Robert Hassell to come forward and discuss the program. Chief Hassell discussed the program, which uses the existing blue lights on the police vehicles in non-flashing mode to help the department 1) be proactive against crime and 2) increase visibility in the community. While no concerns have been expressed by citizens about the program, some of his officers have expressed concerns about the issues that come with increased visibility. The Police Chief in Richmond, Virginia had the same concerns two years ago when he implemented the program, but the program has been successful there, Chief Hassell said.

Manager Mitchell also spoke briefly on the Community Improvement Team, which has been set up in local neighborhoods, such as the Lindsey Street area, and has been very successful. Much of this work is data driven, it was noted. Councilwoman Walker thanked the Chief for being so forward thinking.

Discussion ensued briefly about the legality of blue lights on vehicles. It is against the law, but enforcement depends on the size of the lights and whether the vehicles could be perceived as police vehicles.

Manager Mitchell said he wanted to make sure Council was aware of it before the program started, and Chief Hassell said his department would be doing an extensive media blitz. He also stressed that there will be a big difference between when the lights are flashing at a traffic stop versus the two blue lights being on at the end of the bar. The Mayor noted we can look for more on the public access channel to see what they look like.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown – The Mayor Pro Tem said he had attended a Ministerial Alliance meeting several weeks ago and shared information about the artwork in downtown Reidsville. He said they were very receptive and had good questions. He also noted he attended the ribbon cutting with Councilwoman Walker and Councilman Balsley at Reidsville Pediatrics on May 5; youth baseball games at Lowes Park and the gymnasium. He announced that this Saturday, Zion Baptist Church would have the First Annual Clarence Tucker Golf Tournament at Plantation Golf Course. He congratulated Fire Chief David Bracken on his upcoming 15th pastoral anniversary May 20-21. He said he wanted to publicly congratulate Bracken not only for what he has done here in Reidsville but at his church in Spencer.

Councilman Hairston – The Councilman said he had attended the Human Relations Commission meeting and the Wentworth Street Community Watch meeting.

Councilman Gorham – The Councilman said he attended the following although he reduced his list this time for Councilman Festerman: April 16, the local Democratic

Convention; April 16, met with Councilman Hairston and other city leaders to discuss ways to help local youth and our veterans and on April 19, Eden City Council meeting in support of Ms. Alisa Galloway who was seeking extending the time for the homeless shelter there from 3-4 months to 12 months. He said that on April 21, PaPa's Daycare officially opened with the birth around 1:10 a.m. of his newest granddaughter, Kaidence Shanel Gorham, who weighed in at seven pounds, one ounce. He said on May 3, he attended the McLaurin Community Watch meeting; May 4, at the new Senior Center site where Wells Fargo presented a check for \$20,000 to that effort. He received congratulations on his new grandchild.

Councilwoman Walker – The Councilwoman said she had attended the following: a fundraiser at Annie Penn Hospital on April 14; First Baptist Church on Hubbard Street's to recognize Dr. Bryant on his 22nd pastoral anniversary on April 17; the Reidsville Downtown Corporation meeting on April 22; the ABC Board meeting on April 28; a ribbon cutting on April 29; Community Baptist Church's 75th anniversary on May 1 along with Councilman Festerman; the Trail meeting with DRBA on May 2 along with Mayor Donecker; Wells Fargo's check presentation on May 4 at the Senior Center which is greatly appreciated; the National Day of Prayer on May 5th with Councilman Festerman and later that day, a ribbon cutting at Reidsville Pediatrics; and on May 7, a fundraiser for the Rockingham County Pregnancy Care Center.

Councilman Balsley – The Councilman said he would like to have the Council to consider a motion opposing House Bill 2, not as a political stand on his part, but he would like for people to know that Reidsville is open to all people, no matter who they are, no matter their sexual orientation, color or religion, and that we are accepting of all people and don't discriminate against anybody. That openness is what he is aiming for, he said. He said our taking a stand won't change anything, but it tells people where we are as a town and as a people.

The Mayor said he would put this on the agenda for June if the Council is agreeable, which they appeared to be. He asked that the City Attorney draw up a Resolution in opposition to HB 2 for Council to consider.

Councilman Balsley then called upon Diane Sawyer of the Reidsville Chamber of Commerce to discuss upcoming events. She said she has been asked by the Human Relations Commission to come and speak to them about the Career Fair, which they would like to be involved with. She said they have also asked the Chamber to help bring awareness to the HRC and what it does. All of the organizations that put on the MLK Breakfast are very interested in youth, etc., she noted. She then discussed their efforts to help Unifi with its upcoming job fair scheduled June 28th at the Chamber office. She noted the downtown cruise-in this Friday night, the Clam Jam next Saturday at Market Square (volunteers are needed) and the May 31st seminar on identify theft. On June 2nd is the next Chamber coffee at Triad Adult Pediatric and June 3rd is Reidsville Chamber of Commerce Night at the Grasshoppers Game. Tickets are \$10 with a t-shirt if you get them soon. She said the Student Art Show also went well this past weekend.

Councilman Festerman – With tongue in cheek, the Councilman said he attended the May 10th City Council meeting and that concludes his report.

Mayor Donecker – The Mayor announced he was re-appointing Rose Palmer of 1864 Amos Street, Reidsville, to the New Reidsville Housing Authority from the two applications received.

He also noted that he attended the Apex Festival this past weekend and talked about the City’s brand new skateboard park. He talked about the City looking into getting one.

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

Councilwoman Walker made the motion, seconded by Councilman Gorham and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to go into closed session to discuss economic development pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4).

Upon return to open session, Councilman Gorham made the motion, seconded by Councilman Balsley and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to adjourn at approximately 8:25 p.m.

John M. “Jay” Donecker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC
City Clerk