

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE REIDSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
HELD TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M.
FIRST-FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, 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
Chris Phillips, Assistant City Manager
– Administration
Kevin Eason, Public Works Director
Robert Hassell, Police Chief

Mayor Donecker called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION.

Noting a change to the agenda, the Mayor called upon Rev. Alexander Williams to provide the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Council led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING AUGUST 4TH AS HUNTINGTON’S AND
JUVENILE HUNTINGTON’S DISEASE AWARENESS DAY.**

Mayor Donecker read aloud the proclamation, which he presented to Ms. Mary Robertson. (A COPY OF THE PROCLAMATION IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) Ms. Robertson talked about her husband, Paul, who was diagnosed at age 39 and passed away from the disease at age 52. If one parent has the disease, the child has a 50/50 chance of inheriting the disease, which can be traced back in the Robertson family for more than 100 years, she said. After her husband passed away, she said she went and found out as much as she could about the disease, adding that she knows families in Rockingham County with the disease who feel they are all alone She showed a picture of a brain with the disease and one without, stressing that someone with the disease loses six brain cells every second. Her husband went from working in the Pentagon to being unable to tie his shoes, and she was his caregiver. Mrs. Robertson presented the Mayor with a Teddy Bear and a T-shirt. She also noted that a

documentary was done on the disease and Reidsville was the first city shown in the documentary.

Mrs. Robertson received a round of applause and shook hands with the Council members.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.

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

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 - APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 14, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.

With the approval of the Consent Agenda in a 7-0 vote, the Council approved the June 14, 2016 regular meeting minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 - APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEALED BID FOR THE SALE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY.

With the approval of the Consent Agenda in a 7-0 vote, the Council approved the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEALED BID FOR THE SALE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Reidsville desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council that:

1. The following described property is hereby declared to be surplus to the needs of the City:
 - (1) 1986 Used Galion Motor Grader – Unit #47 - Public Works.
2. The City Manager is authorized to receive on behalf of the City Council sealed bids for the purchase of the described property.
3. The City Manager is hereby authorized to sell the surplus property at the best price offered based upon market value or to dispose of it.
4. Sealed bids may be submitted to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 230 W. Morehead Street.
5. The City Clerk shall cause a notice of this resolution to be published in accordance with G.S. 160A-268.

6. Bids will not be accepted unless, upon time of filing, they are accompanied by a deposit of cash, cashiers check, equal to 5% of the minimum bid.
7. The City Manager reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Adopted this 12th day of July, 2016.

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

ATTEST:

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

- End of Consent Agenda -

PUBLIC HEARINGS:
APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF REIDSVILLE
APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
FUNDING FOR THE SEWER PROJECT BENEFITTING UNIFI
MANUFACTURING, INC.

City Manager Preston Mitchell introduced Bill Cowan with Martin-McGill to give the report.

Mr. Cowan said he is pleased to let the public know about a project the City is eligible for, adding that the City has been pre-approved in a pre-application with the North Carolina Department of Commerce for this project. He explained that today's public hearing is about the City's intent to apply for a CDBG-Economic Development grant to serve the expansion of the Unifi plant. He reminded Council that at the previous public hearing about 3-4 months ago, he told them about the amount of CDBG monies that the State allocates every year. It totals around \$46 million, \$15 million of which is earmarked for economic development projects tied to job creation. The Unifi plant expansion project will bring 87 additional jobs for this community, he said. As a result of this the NC Department of Commerce will provide funding to the City that directly benefits that plant, which in this case, is the extension of a new sewer line to serve Unifi.

The scope of this project, he said, will be to replace an existing 12-inch service line that serves the plant with 2,300 linear feet of 18-inch sewer line. The line will be an all gravity line and will be parallel to the existing 12-inch line. The line will be constructed from the Unifi facility along an unnamed tributary to the sewer line within the right of way of Freeway Drive, Mr. Cowan continued. The estimated cost of the entire project is \$861,000, he said. As he had mentioned earlier, the plant expansion will create 87

additional new jobs. The need for the improvement was documented in a Wastewater Master Plan several years ago, which stated this particular sewer line is hydraulically restricted. In addition, this existing line is over 40 years old and has exceeded its useful life, he added.

Mr. Cowan then asked if there were any questions from the Council or public? Councilman Festerman said he may have a question for the City Manager or Public Works Director Kevin Eason, but he would hold off on that until later. However, it was decided he would go ahead and ask his question. Councilman Festerman said he understood this was replacing an existing line, correct? The answer was in the affirmative. The Councilman said that line has been the subject of a lot of complaints for many years due to the odor. He asked if this will make that situation better, he hoped? Mr. Cowan said that question was better answered by the Public Works Director Kevin Eason.

As Eason came forward, Manager Mitchell said they could not assure with 100% certainty that this will fix the odor problem, but he said that with a 40-year-old line, it is more likely such problems will occur. Noting that the odor has been a source of complaints especially by restaurants on Freeway Drive, he asked Eason if this would help the problem. Public Works Director Eason said it should. He explained that in years past, with Unifi discharging, what was happening was all of the odor was being pushed out through the upper end through the manhole vents and through any of the other lines connected to the 12-inch line. With the new line just described by Bill Cowan, this line should always flow free and, therefore, it won't be forcing any kind of odor through the line. He said they would also be replacing the manholes, making them tighter. He noted that with some of the replacements done on Freeway, the odors out there have already gone down. With the line and manholes tighter, the probability of having odor get out of the line should be greatly diminished, Eason said.

With no additional questions from Council, Mayor Donecker opened the public hearing at 6:12 p.m. by asking if there were any questions from the public. With none offered, the public hearing was closed at 6:13 p.m.

The Mayor told Cowan to come back anytime if he brings 87 new jobs.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Council members went on to the next item, but it was called to Council's attention that they needed to pass the Resolution for the CDBG grant application, leading to the following motion and action.)

Councilwoman Walker then made the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to approve the Resolution.

The Resolution as approved follows:

**RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF REIDSVILLE APPLICATION FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING FOR THE
SEWER PROJECT BENEFITTING UNIFI MANUFACTURING, INC.**

WHEREAS, the Reidsville City Council has previously indicated its desire to assist in economic development efforts within the City of Reidsville; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council has held two public hearings concerning the proposed application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit Unifi Manufacturing, Inc.; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to pursue a formal application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit Unifi Manufacturing; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council certifies it will meet all federal regulatory and statutory requirements of the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Reidsville City Council that the City is authorized to submit a formal application to the North Carolina Department of Commerce for approval of a Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development to benefit Unifi Manufacturing, Inc.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Jay Donecker, Mayor of the City of Reidsville, and Preston Mitchell, City Manager, and successors so titled, are hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the NC Department of Commerce may request in connection to the application or with the project proposed; to make assurances as contained in the application; and to execute such other documents as may be required in the application.

Adopted this the 12th day of July, 2016 in Reidsville, North Carolina.

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

ATTEST:

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

**APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROJECT TO BE
UNDERTAKEN FOR CONSTRUCTION OF CURB AND GUTTER ALONG THE
SOUTH SIDE OF COUNTRY CLUB ROAD TERMINATING AT PARKWAY
BOULEVARD.**

City Manager Mitchell introduced City Engineer Steve Moran, who came forward to give the report. He explained that staff was approached by Jim Lurz with the Pennrose Park Country Club requesting curb and gutter on the other side of Country Club Road ending

at Parkway Drive. Moran explained that documentation stated Country Club Drive, but this section of roadway is actually Country Club Road, not Drive. He said it is 61 feet for that one side and the only owner is the Country Club, which signed at 100%. Therefore, it is a valid petition with 61 feet at \$18.00 per foot, therefore, the cost for the Country Club will be \$1,098, he explained.

Mayor Donecker opened the public hearing at 6:14 p.m. With no one speaking, the public hearing was closed at 6:15 p.m.

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

The Resolution as approved follows:

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THAT
THE PROJECT BE UNDERTAKEN
(C&G2016-01)**

WHEREAS, on the 18th day of May, 2016, the property owner on the south side of Country Club Road terminating at Parkway Boulevard filed a petition 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 the south side of Country Club Road terminating at Parkway Boulevard 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 12th day of July, 2016.

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

ATTEST:

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

- End of Public Hearings -

CONSIDERATION OF SESSION LAW 2016-3, HOUSE BILL 2, AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR SINGLE-SEX MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY BATHROOM AND CHANGING FACILITIES IN SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC AGENCIES AND TO CREATE STATEWIDE CONSISTENCY IN REGULATION OF EMPLOYMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS.

Mayor Donecker asks for a report from the Human Relations Commission. Richard Frohock, Vice Chairman of the HRC, came forward. He said State lawmakers have overpowered local elected officials and outlawed local protections that people fought hard to win. He said HB2 represents an attack on democracy that impacts all of North Carolina. "HB2 impacts you," he said. Some parts of this discriminatory law include 1) overturning local policies that protect lesbian, gay and transgender people; 2) bans a city or county from requiring its vendors to provide employees with a living wage and decent benefits; 3) pre-empts local anti-discrimination policy and enforcement tools that protect everyone regardless of race, national origin, age, disability, gender or religion; and 4) (*Stated by Mr. Frohock as #5*) prohibits a worker who is the target of racial, age or other discrimination from going to any State court for relief. Mr. Frohock said that is in essence what the five-page law does.

The Human Relations Commission Co-Chair then noted the negative impacts to the State based on a study by the North Carolina Tax Center. The Center reports that the potential loss of federal funds is \$2.4 billion in lost wages amounting to 53,000 jobs. He also discussed the loss of brand equity as well as the plans of such companies as PayPal, etc. to disinvest in North Carolina. He said we will never be able to calculate how much North Carolina loses when it is crossed off the list during corporate site selection processes.

Mayor Donecker asked what is the report of the Human Relations Commission on what the Council should do?

With all of the negatives here, Frohock said that the Human Relations Commission, an advisory board to the Council, unanimously asks that the Council listen to the growing concerns of opposition to HB2 and reject this harmful law, which opens the doors to discrimination against North Carolina citizens, by passing a referendum supporting the full repeal of the law.

Mayor Donecker called for a motion.

Councilman Balsley then made a motion that our Council goes on record as opposing House Bill 2. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Walker.

Councilman Festerman said he would like to offer a substitute motion. The Mayor said a motion is on the table so they should work through this motion. Councilman Festerman said it was his understanding that the Council would deal with the substitute motion first, but since the City Attorney is not here, he would yield to the Mayor's knowledge. The Mayor said if this motion fails, they will deal with Councilman Festerman's motion. Councilman Festerman said, just for clarification, would the City Manager like to comment on his concerns? The City Manager asked the Mayor if he'd like him to share what he had? The Mayor said he had not heard a motion to table, which normally would be to stifle discussion, so he said let's go through this motion, second, discussion and vote. If a majority of Council feels this is an inappropriate motion, they will vote it down, the Mayor said, and then they can offer a second motion.

The Mayor asks if there is any discussion? Councilman Balsley said they had talked about this previously and to his knowledge, everyone was well versed on it. Mayor Donecker said he agreed with those sentiments. He commended the Human Relations Commission for bringing the issue before Council in a letter in May as well as the local NAACP encouraging Council to make a stand as a local governmental body in regards to a State Legislature taking control of local issues. He said they were saying that Council should be able to act on it if it wanted to, not that it should but that it could, if it felt it was in the City's best interests. He said that's why he felt it was good they have a motion so they can go on record as a Council about their opinion on the matter. He asked for any other comments from Council?

Councilman Festerman, noting he would be voting against the motion, said he felt Council was setting a dangerous precedent. He said he has talked to many, many people, and they feel we should be talking about jobs and that this action will not be affecting the actions of the State and further divide our town on this issue. Ultimately the Legislature and the Courts will be dealing with this, he said, adding that he felt the best way for it to be resolved was in the Court system. He said he has friends on both sides of this issue, and he couldn't say how the majority feels. He then noted that he wasn't sure the majority of our citizens would agree with the stance the City has taken.

The Mayor said he understands what Councilman Festerman was saying, but he said he didn't think standing up for a group of people is mutually exclusive of bringing jobs here. He noted that he had read that 68 corporations have suggested we should be opposed to this. He agreed with the Councilman that there are people on both sides of the issue, but he cited the Book of Matthew in the Bible, stating that if we stand by while others are tormented, we are the tormenters as well. He said there is an ethical question here that he has personally wrestled with, and we'll see how this vote comes out. Councilman Festerman said he respects the Mayor's opinion but has a different opinion.

The motion then passed in a 6-1 vote with Councilman Festerman voting in opposition.

DISCUSSION OF 8% ASSESSMENT FEE FOR WATER, SEWER AND STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

Manager Mitchell noted that this was in follow up to question from Councilman Festerman at an earlier meeting.

In making the staff report, Assistant City Manager Chris Phillips referenced his memo behind Tab 4. (A COPY OF PHILLIPS' MEMO IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) He explained that General Statutes determine the assessment process and allow cities to charge interest up to 8%. He also noted that we allow them to pay over time. The City Council can decide to go lower than 8%, he noted.

In the past, we have used the 8% rate, he said, adding that number appears to be the common practice. At some times, 8% is an attractive rate, but right now, it is not. He said that if someone wants to pay over time, which they don't have to do, they can get a lower interest rate from a bank. He said since the issue had come up at a previous meeting, he wanted Council to know that the 8% was not statutorily set but was the maximum, and the number we have used for several years. Phillips recommended Council leave the interest rate at 8%.

Manager Mitchell noted that Phillips' report had been done at the request of Council members, but he added that no vote is needed. Mayor Donecker said the memo summed it up nicely, and he agreed that the City is not a bank.

Therefore, no action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Mayor Donecker asked those coming to speak during Public Comments to give their name and address. He said they would have two minutes to speak.

During the public comments session, several people came forward to discuss the HB2 legislation and the City's earlier motion.

HB2 Discussion.

- **Don Powell, 636 King Street, Reidsville** – He thanked Councilman Festerman for his vote on the preceding issue. He commented that public comment was allowed on the CDBG funding for the sewer line and the curb and gutter on Country Club, but public comment was stifled on an issue very near and dear to the people of this State, that of HB2. He said Council was given false information, citing that one of the items listed by Mr. Frohock was that one couldn't sue, but that has been changed and that option is back in force. He noted that if the over 600 jurisdictions decided to change the minimum wage, we would have a catastrophe and it was not the law that Charlotte should take up this issue or that

the Reidsville Council should take it up under the State Constitution. He said the real issue here is the safety of our women and children and that he doubted anyone with a little girl would watch as a man went into the bathroom behind her. He said it is not discrimination and there is no scientific way to tell a transgender person from any other person. Transgenders quite frankly aren't the issue, he asserted, but that the law was written so broadly that he could get up in the morning feeling like a woman and go in the women's bathroom or the locker room at the high school. He said the Council has sent the message that it doesn't care about the citizens, their families and their children. He said he was appalled and congratulated the Mayor on getting this passed without any public comment. Noting they were voted in by the citizens of Reidsville, he said he hoped they would also vote them out. He cited other passages in the Bible where homosexuality and cross dressing, etc. are called abominations. He asked if it was more important to get public comment on a grant rather than this issue? He concluded by saying that North Carolina was #5 in business friendly states in this country.

- **Doug Isley, 1790 Flat Road, Reidsville** – He told the Council that it just went against the law of the State of North Carolina because House Bill 2 is a law. What does that say about the City, he asked. He read aloud something that said your identity is not your feelings but your biology and the reason we've had separate bathrooms is biological/sexual differences and not based on feelings. HB2 says that people use bathrooms based on their biological sex. He noted that these companies mentioned still do business in places like Saudi Arabia and Iraq where homosexuals are beheaded. He said we are not beheading anyone in North Carolina, but that we want to protect the rights of the females and the children in this state. He said he agreed with everything Mr. Powell said, and it was a bad move on the Council's part. He said it made them look really bad because they put this before public comment. He said it would have a negative impact because of what the Council has done, creating divisiveness in the City and the County.

The Mayor discussed the timing of the public comments session and the matter of public hearings. He noted that not every item on the agenda is a public hearing. He noted that Councilman Balsley had requested at the May meeting that the issue be put on the agenda, and he, the Mayor, announced it would be discussed in July, which is why some people came and spoke in June on the issue. He said he didn't want anyone to think this was intentionally stifling comment, but that is the way the procedures are run with our agenda. Nothing has been changed in this item any different than any other item, he said, adding that we are more than transparent in our function. He noted his duty as Mayor is to help set the agenda and enforce the agenda as it is prepared.

- **Tommy Puryear, 143 Lake Front Drive, Reidsville** – Pastor of Penn Memorial Baptist Church on Freeway Drive, Rev. Puryear said he was at the County Commissioners' meeting when Donecker spoke on their agenda prior to their voting on the issue, and he felt it would have been right to allow people to speak today. He said he is very passionate about this issue as a pastor and shepherd to

his flock, trying to help protect the people he serves and to be a leader who will speak for the people. He then read from Psalm 2.

- **Diane Parnell, 220 Woodlyn Drive, Reidsville** – She told Council that she was shocked and hurt and couldn't believe what just happened, that Council was against a commonsense bill that protects women and children. She asked what will happen when they get a call from Reidsville High School saying there are two men in the girls' locker room watching them disrobe and you can't do anything about it. She credited the commonsense of legislators like Phil Berger and Bert Jones for HB2. She, too, stated that PayPal does business in countries where hands are cut off and people are killed because they are homosexual. She asked what was the problem before HB2 and before Charlotte implemented its ordinance. There was no problem, she said, it is a created problem, a political thing and the Council has fallen right into it. She said they need to step forward and protect the people. Ms. Parnell said the City just got 87 new jobs which is wonderful, but she said she wouldn't want to expand her business in a place with this type of attitude. She said she can see it becoming a financial thing for the City. She said the Council could do better, Reidsville can do better. Having been here since 1971, she said she was a successful business owner here for 21 years and was proud to be from Reidsville, but tonight, she said she is sad and embarrassed. Will she campaign against Council members in the future, she said she didn't know because you are good men, but she said her heart is broken, and she just can't believe it.
- **Charles Fagg, 103 Birchwood Drive, Reidsville** – He thanked Councilman Festerman for his vote. Like Ms. Parnell, he said he has known many of the Council members for years and called them friends, but he's ashamed to live in Reidsville right now.

The other thing he wanted to talk about tonight is under street improvements, saying the slurry seal put down on the streets is "not worth two cents." He noted that he had called Councilman Festerman and the Mayor about it, but while Festerman had been out there three times, he had not heard back from the Mayor. The Mayor said he had been on vacation, but Mr. Fagg said he could have picked up the phone and called him. Mr. Fagg said even City employees who have seen it agree that it is a "sorry mess." He said on thoroughfares it might work, but not in small neighborhoods like his, which only has seven houses on it. He said if it looks better in six months, he'll come back and apologize, but he doesn't think he will have to. He noted that he had spoken to the City Manager about it as well, and while he didn't know what could be done now, Mr. Fagg asked the City to think about it. City Manager Mitchell noted that this is a product that improves over time. He said he and the Public Works Director have discussed it, and solicited feedback from Mr. Fagg, that perhaps the slurry seal might not be best suited for smaller subdivisions. He said the Public Works Director could come and discuss the process if Council wanted them to. Mayor Donecker asked that information on the process be shared with Mr. Fagg, including the issue of

dollars. Mr. Fagg said he can understand the economics, but also indicated he didn't want to have to look at that mess for the next seven years. He also talked of the City's boom truck picking up brush and tearing up the street along with other vehicles.

- **Ron Price, 218 Cedar Run, Reidsville** – Reading from a prepared statement, he said in the 44 years since the 1972 amendment to the Civil Rights Act, there has been no question what gender meant in the definition of sex discrimination, he asserted. Now the White House, in a radical interpretation of gender, has unilaterally mandated that the toilets, showers, locker rooms in all public schools and facilities be gender neutral. Labels will be taken off the restrooms saying Men or Women and now will only say Restrooms, he said. This mandate demands that boys, girls, men and women share bathrooms, showers and locker rooms concurrently. He talked of the City of Charlotte's decision to enforce this there, which went against existing State laws which should have been enforced by the State's Attorney General but he refused to honor his oath, Mr. Price said. If this illegal federal mandate prevails, there will eventually be no local dissention allowed. If municipalities do not comply, they face being sued or federal funding being withheld, he continued. He asked the Council to support the Legislature in support of NC Session Law 2016-3, the Security & Privacy Act
- **Bill James, 417 Piedmont Street, Reidsville** – He said he concurred that this was a very high handed way of handling this issue, and the order of business did not allow for public comment prior to the vote being taken. He said he disagreed with some of the characterizations of HB2 brought by HRC Vice Chairman, stating that this is not a discriminatory law. He said HB2 does not touch lesbians or gay men, adding that why would a gay man want to go into a woman's locker room. It is the behavior of transgender people that is affected by this legislation, he said, but he asked why we are so focused on sex and sexual identity. He suggested that in our efforts to be more open and welcoming tolerant, that we consider some other self-conceptions, such as appetite suppression pills for the anorexic, items to give access to rooftops to those people who think they can fly and boats and fish food to those who think they are fish, etc. He said it should be broadened beyond sex and provide the whole package to those supermen, anorexics, fish, puppies, etc.
- **Tom Schoolfield, 1310 Winterberry Drive, Reidsville** – A longtime resident and taxpayer of Reidsville, he said he wanted to thank Councilman Festerman for his vote tonight. He said he had two points of view to share. He said this was the first time he had attended a meeting this year because he can't find the agenda on the City website. He said he didn't know why the agenda wasn't published in a timely manner so that the citizens can know what will be discussed. Secondly, he said Council was elected by the citizens so why are comments held at the end of the meeting. Why would you not want to hear what your citizens have to say? He asked. He said the only thing he would say in regards to the bathroom privacy act was something he learned as a child ... "your freedom ends where my nose

begins” Whether someone is gay or a cross dresser, etc., does not affect him, he noted, but this affects him, his daughter and his granddaughter. Ways were discussed to make the agenda easier to find on the website and to get the agenda out to citizens.

The last speaker spoke on the public comments time limit.

- **Dee Stanfield, 504 McCoy Road, Reidsville** – She asked when public comments went from three minutes to two minutes? She said she must have missed when that was in the minutes or approved. The Mayor said they are just following procedure. She said it has always been three minutes. He said they haven’t been able to find any documentation about it.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT.

In making the City Manager’s Report, Manager Mitchell reviewed his written report. (A COPY OF THE WRITTEN MANAGER’S REPORT IS HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.) He reported that end of year intra-departmental transfers are listed behind the Miscellaneous section, cited several compliments that have been received about post-storm cleanup and upcoming City events.

BOARD & COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:

Ballots were distributed to Council members for board and commission appointments.

COUNCIL MEMBERS’ REPORTS.

Mayor Pro Tem Brown – The Mayor Pro Tem noted that he attended the following: the June 26th mortgage burning ceremony at First Christian Church, where the church thanked the Mayor for the letter he sent for the celebration; rode the skat bus, which is averaging over 100 riders a day and is the most utilized skat bus in the county; July 4th Independence Day celebration, hearing positive comments about Parks & Rec, the Police Department, Public Works and all departments involved. He also noted that the Last Dons’ Motorcycle Club will be having a school supplies giveaway at Courtland Park on August 6th at 10:30 a.m.

Councilwoman Walker – Councilwoman Walker said she attended the June 15th Elder Abuse discussion at the Penn House and the Police Academy Graduation. She asked Chief Robert Hassell to come forward and discuss the upcoming academy in the fall and how many graduated recently, which he did, noting that there were 19 graduates in the last class. He said they give a very in-depth overview of the department, etc. The Councilwoman said she also attended the following: June 21st Community Watch meeting on Barnes Street; the June 23rd ABC Board meeting, the Merchant 1 Manufacturing ribbon cutting and the Appearance Commission meeting; then she went to the beach and the July 8th Downtown Car Show.

Councilman Hairston – The Councilman commended the Fire Department for their professional behavior, etc. when he had a small fire at his home recently. He also

commended the fine work of the Public Works Department following the recent storm. Then he commended Police Hassell and the Police Department for their proactive work, especially in light of the officer-related shootings, etc. that have been going on recently. He also complimented the police bars being lit so that citizens are seeing the police in the neighborhoods and the Straight Talk events. He noted that he also attended the mortgage burning at First Christian, the Human Relations Commission meeting, the Citizens Academy Graduation and the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission meeting.

Councilman Gorham – The Councilman said he had attended the following: the June 16th Straight Talk by the Police Department; June 17th meeting with District A citizens; June 21st Salvation Army Community Watch meeting and NAACP meeting at Elm Grove Baptist; June 23rd Cambridge Community Watch meeting; June 28th Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission meeting; July 2nd 45th Class Reunion at Reidsville High School; and July 5th McLaurin Park Community Watch. He commended the Public Works and Police Department and everyone else for the work after the storm.

Councilman Balsley – The Councilman called upon Rev. Ralph Watkins, who gave an update on the Super Teen Midnight Basketball Program. He said this year's is one of the best they've had in a long, long time, with a lot of time and monies contributed. He also noted that they are working on an Adult Basketball League for the first time in many years. He also thanked Council, noting that some people do approve what they are doing. He said we as a people need to get past differing opinions. He briefly discussed discrimination, adding you don't know what it is until someone tells you that you can't eat here or go to the restroom. He said he doesn't look at the past, but looks to the future.

Councilman Balsley then asked Diane Sawyers of the Reidsville Chamber of Commerce to report on the Chamber's upcoming activities. She also commended the Police Department, Fire Department and Public Works Department for their efforts during the storm. She said to make sure they send their guys to the ice cream social this Thursday, from 5-7:30 p.m. She talked of upcoming ribbon cuttings, including the Economic Development offices in the County at 9 a.m. on July 22 and Marco's Pizza at 12 noon on July 29; the Chamber Coffee at Golden Corral at 8 a.m. on Aug. 4; and the Aug. 17th Chamber Golf Tournament at the Plantation, including the networking lunch. School supplies will continue to be collected for Moss Street School until August 19th at various Chamber events. The Business Showcase is the third Wednesday & Thursday in October. She thanked Chief Hassell for the active shooter workshop. She also discussed the warm reception they received at Town Hall Day.

Councilman Gorham also noted that the City has been designated the Chamber's Business of the Month in July.

Councilman Festerman – The Councilman noted he was saddened by the recent events in Dallas, adding that his thoughts and prayers are with the local officers and their families as well as those around the country. He said that the morning after the Dallas shooting a lady in tears showed up at the Reidsville PD to bring doughnuts.

Mayor Donecker – The Mayor thanked Lt. Evitt on the number of public meetings at Market Square and elsewhere. He thanked Capt. Oakley for his segment on WFMY-2 about community policing, adding that two people instrumental in starting that here in Reidsville were Chief Festerman and Councilman Hairston many years ago. He built on the compliments to employees after the three storm cells went through, including their presence at traffic lights that weren't working, etc. He said the quick response was a sign of good management. At the request of ADTS, he said he was appointing Cindy Baynes, Senior Center Coordinator, to the Transportation Advisory Board, which will help make sure we have the best communication possible on this very important board with transportation such as the skat buses, not just for seniors but for other citizens.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOARD & COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS.

City Clerk then announced the following unanimous appointments to the Reidsville Human Relations Commission: Taylor D. Smith of 899 Harrison Crossroad Loop, for an outside-City position on the board and Alexander Williams of 912 Walters Street, for an inside-City position. (A COPY OF THE BALLOTS ARE HEREIN INCORPORATED AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.)

MOTION TO ADJOURN.

Councilman Festerman made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Walker and unanimously approved by Council in a 7-0 vote, to adjourn at approximately 7:19 p.m.

John M. "Jay" Donecker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angela G. Stadler, CMC/NCCMC, City Clerk