

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hickory was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., with the following members present:

Tony Wood	Hank Guess	Anthony Freeman
Charlotte C. Williams	Aldermen	David P. Zagaroli
Danny Seaver		Jill Patton

A quorum was present.

Also, present were City Manager Warren Wood, Deputy City Manager Rodney Miller, Assistant City Manager Rick Beasley, Assistant City Manager Yaidee Fox, City Attorney Timothy Swanson, Deputy City Clerk Crystal B. Mundy, and City Clerk Debbie D. Miller

- I. Mayor Guess called the meeting to order. All Council members were present.
- II. Invocation by Reverend Christy Lohr-Sapp, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Special Presentations
 - A. Annual Audit - Presentation by Kari Dunlap, Martin Starnes & Associates.

Mayor Guess asked Kari Dunlap, Martin Starnes & Associates to the podium to present the annual audit.

Kari Dunlap, Martin Starnes & Associates gave a PowerPoint presentation. She thanked Council for allowing her to share the results. They very much appreciated the ability to continue as their auditors. They liked having clients that were close by them. They really appreciated the relationship. She explained the audit process. The audit began with planning and risk assessment. That was when they sent the inquiries to the Council. If there were any issues, anything they wanted to discuss, anything that would require them to investigate a little further. That kicked everything off and then they also read all of the Council minutes throughout the year, so they were up to date with what all was going on and that evolved throughout the year, and it continued in case any risks need to be updated throughout the audit. Then they have their fieldwork procedures. They typically come on site at least twice a year. In the spring, they do any internal control testing, any compliance testing and then they come back in the fall to complete what was left of that, and they also do their balance sheet analysis at that point. Once all the fieldwork was wrapped up, they have the audit committee meeting which involved Hickory staff as well as Council members. That was where they discussed any issues that were found. It was just an added layer of independence between the City, the staff, and the Council. Once that was complete, they issue the report to the Local Government Commission (LGC) and then present it to City Council.

Ms. Dunlap shared a few audit highlights. There was an unmodified opinion on the financial statements and compliance. That meant there was no reason to think any of the numbers were materially misstated. That was the goal of the audit. It was a clean opinion. Very cooperative staff. They have lots of requests, even when they were not on site, they sent lots of emails, and phone calls and they really appreciated Deputy City Manager Rodney Miller and Finance Officer Melissa Miller, and all of the staff that worked to get all the various requests they have throughout the year. It makes their lives a little bit easier. The unassigned general fund balance increased \$8.9 million and available general fund balance increased \$8.3. Those were some great numbers to share. The City could continue for four months with their current savings account based on these numbers. The available fund balance was the calculation that the LGC used to compare the City to similar municipalities in their population group. She noted the available fund balance percent had total expenditures and transfers out at 39% last year and it went up to almost 50% this year. The LGC minimum was 25% and then an average of similar units was 46%. Hickory was a little above the average there. She referred to the PowerPoint slide and showed the total fund balance over the past three years. Total fund balance also included the capital reserve fund as well as the general fund. That increased \$11.6 million over the prior year. The unassigned fund balance was sitting in the general fund and that increased to a little over \$24 million. That was an \$8.9 million increase this year. The Council goal was more conservative than the LGC's goal and it was a minimum of 25% of the adopted budget and the goal was met and it was over 30% this year.

City Manager Warren Wood advised that \$8 million dollars, a lot of that was one time money. It was the last installment of ARPA funds as well as some MPO money they received for some of the bonds. That would wash itself out during the course of the year for next year. That \$8 million did increase fund balance but that was some of the back story on that.

Ms. Dunlap noted there were some encumbered funds in all those other things that were planned expenditures coming forward. This also showed a general fund summary of their revenues and expenditures compared to the prior year. The revenue increased \$13.9 million, and expenditures increased \$6.3 million. These numbers also included any transfers out and transfers in as well as there was a little over \$3 million, GASB 87 was

leases last year and government accounting standards GASB 96 was for subscriptions. Any of the subscriptions that were recorded this year as part of the implementation was also included in this revenue number.

Ms. Dunlap referred to the PowerPoint and advised the next three slides showed the top three revenues over how they compared to last year. The top revenue source was ad valorem taxes and it increased \$1.8 million or about 5% over the prior year. There was tax-based growth as well as property tax. This also included penalties and delinquent tax payments. The past two years have been record years of permitting. Those were included in this number. The other taxes included local option sales tax, franchise tax, and occupancy tax. That increased \$1.8 million or 8% over last year as well. Restricted Intergovernmental, where those grant dollars come into play, she noted this had the largest increase of \$2.4 million over the prior year and it was almost \$5 million this year.

Ms. Dunlap referred to the PowerPoint and advised the next three slides showed the top expenditures for the City. Public safety was the top expenditure, and it had a very small decrease over the prior year, about \$338,000 or 1%, that was largely due to in the prior year, there was a fire truck that was purchased, but there had also been some fire vacancies. That was the reason for that decrease. The general government expenditure of the prior year had an increase of \$7.7 million, about 64%. Landscape services had been housed in general government now, it used to be in the Cultural and Rec so that was part of this increase. There were lots of park maintenance projects, property purchase, APO projects, Dominion building, sidewalk, and there was also an PO rollover in this number.

Ms. Dunlap advised transportation had another small decrease over last year, about \$285,000 or 4%. This was also due to some prior year capital outlay purchases such as the dump truck, crew cab, that were not needed necessary this year. That was why that one decreased as well.

Ms. Dunlap referred to the PowerPoint and displayed a slide which showed the water and sewer current assets, liabilities, and quick ratio. This was another measure that the LGC looked at to make sure that the City was operating in a healthy way. The quick ratio, if that was less than one, there would be a concern there. She pointed out it went down slightly due to new debt this year, but it was still over four. There were no issues with that.

Alderman Seaver asked if that would be due to depreciation.

Ms. Dunlap commented yes, depreciation was part of the operating income for water and sewer fund. The specific factor for that one, an LGC indicator was if the operating net income was greater than zero and their total cash was greater than 16% and the City was above those as well.

Ms. Dunlap discussed the other two enterprise funds, airport, and solid waste. She referred to the PowerPoint and displayed a snapshot of how those looked this year. The airport, the unrestricted net position, increased \$1.5 million over the prior year. Solid waste was also self-sufficient this year and it increased \$673,000 in the unrestricted net position over prior year. Those were healthy numbers there.

Ms. Dunlap advised the LGC also wants them to instill certain performance indicators. There was stable property tax valuation and collection percentage. No issues with that. There was a slight delay in the audit submission. It needs to be submitted by November 30th, but there were lots of things going on with the new software that they were all well aware of. There were three audit findings this year; material weakness for significant audit adjustments made after fieldwork, account reconciliations, and then a material non-compliance with one of the grants that was tested as a major program. They were working closely with finance. There was a corrective action plan that they were working on, and each member of Council would have to submit their response to the LGC and what they were doing to work towards that. They felt confident in the plan moving forward. She asked for questions.

Alderman Wood commented the three findings that they found, from a professional perspective, in her opinion, given the complexity and all the projects that they have going on, was that at all a surprise. Especially the software conversion that they were doing. The bond projects and everything else, what was her opinion on that.

Ms. Dunlap responded it was not a surprise. They have worked through these things. She thought she had been auditing the City for at least the past five years or so. The software was absolutely the biggest hurdle, and they were working through that. They were working on implementing the new Tyler software. There was a lot of training involved in that. There was a lot of time that was going into that versus the normal day to day. It was absolutely understandable that those things would happen.

Mayor Guess asked for any further questions. He complimented Ms. Dunlap and Martin Starnes. The City was very fortunate to have them doing their work and doing the

accounting and all of this and the audit process. If he was not mistaken, they were the 2023 number one Best Firm to Work for by Accounting Today, and also the 2023 Best Business Well-Crafted award for the City of Hickory. They got a lot of accolades and they appreciated everything that they do and the reputation that they have at Martin Starnes and all the people that work there. They were very thankful for that. Not only that, but for the work that Deputy City Manager Rodney Miller and his crew do here. He understood that they have a really good working relationship and that was always a plus as well. He wanted to thank all of them that were involved in that process. He knew a lot of times the finance people, and the people that worked behind the scenes, did not get a lot of compliments and stuff like that, because the work they do was not seen every day, but it was extremely important obviously, as all of their departments were, but he wanted to take the opportunity on behalf of the Council to recognize the two of them and thank them for the work that they do and how well they worked together.

Ms. Dunlap thanked Mayor Guess.

City Manager Warren Wood advised they would have one more year of the current software that keeps getting referenced. The new software would go live July 1st. The numbers were coming out of the current year system for next year, for the audit for this year. He echoed what Mayor Guess said, he appreciated Finance Officer Melissa Miller and her staff. There had been a lot of work. It was like having two full-time jobs working to implement this new software and doing the audit. He appreciated the work that they had done. He advised they would need a motion to accept the annual audit and a vote for the LGC.

Mayor Guess moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton, to accept the audit as it had been presented.

Mayor Guess commented it was probably available to the public as well. He asked if it was on the website.

City Manager Warren Wood advised it would be on the website.

Mayor Guess it would be on the website momentarily.

Ms. Dunlap advised the audit had to be submitted to the Local Government Commission (LGC) and once it was approved, it took them a while to approve that, but as soon as it was approved, then yes, it would be fully. They have a draft that they were welcome to look at right now. They wait for that official approval before anything gets posted.

Mayor Guess wanted to make sure that members of the public knew that they had all seen it and had all been involved in it and everything. He wanted to make sure that any members of the public, or the media realized that it was available for review, and it would be up soon.

City Attorney Timothy Swanson advised Mayor Guess they still had a motion.

Mayor Guess advised there was a motion and a second. He asked for any further discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Council members thanked Ms. Dunlap.

- B. Ingrid Keller, Executive Director of the United Arts Council of Catawba County Introduction of the Presentation of an Economic Impact Study to be Presented by Board Immediate Past President Alan Jackson.

Mayor Guess asked Ingrid Keller, Executive Director of the United Arts Council of Catawba County and also the immediate Past President of the Rotary Club for which he was very thankful because he was the current President and she helped him tremendously or he could say he bugged her tremendously. He did not know which, but he thanked her for being present.

Ms. Ingrid Keller thanked Mayor Guess/President Guess. They appreciated the opportunity to share with them the incredibly exciting story of how arts and cultural organizations were serving them and the citizens of the City of Hickory. She advised with her was current Board President, Alex Frick, and then to present the information to them was Alan Jackson, of the Jackson Group, and also their immediate past Board President.

Mr. Alan Jackson thanked Council for letting them have a few minutes to talk to them about this important study that they just took part in. This was a study that they took part in during the year 2022. It was actually something they did back in 2016 as well. He thought he even came and presented the results back then a few years ago as well. What was great about this study that they took part in, was in this arts and economic prosperity study, that took a look at communities across the Nation to try to help understand the impact on the economy that arts and cultural organizations have across the Nation. It not only gave them

their results to see how they did as a community, how their arts and cultural organizations were fueling their economy here, but also let them compare themselves to other communities of similar size to see what their impact was and how different it may be than other places across the country. He wanted to hit some of the highlights for them on the study. He noted Council had the full, a lot more detailed copy, in front of them. He advised they would hit the highlights for them on the PowerPoint.

Mr. Jackson advised there were 373 different study regions of this study conducted across the Nation. Out of those there were about 63 of them that were in the same population range that Catawba County was in, that 100,000 to 250,000 range. When he gave them some comparisons, he would be comparing against that group of 63 comparable population communities. There were 373 total across the United States that conducted the survey. Within Catawba County they had 31 different arts and cultural organizations that participated in this study, that provided data, provided input and reports to the study. And then of the events that they had going on and chances for audience participation throughout the year, they had 794 different event attendees complete a survey questionnaire that was then sent to this organization for them to tabulate and give them back the information they were looking for. He mentioned there were 63 comparable study regions in that 100,000 to 250,000 range population that they really wanted to compare against as well. The big number for them, what they wanted to understand was what the economic impact of these arts and cultural organizations were that they have within Catawba County. For the year 2022 the economic impact was \$53,590,000. That was 80% higher than what they found in similar study regions across the nation. Those 63 regions were compared against their average was 80% higher of what they saw on that economic impact, and it was 9% higher than what they even showed back in 2016. Not only was it an improvement for them within the community themselves, but compared to other populations across the United States that were comparable size, they were very, very high numbers in the economic impact. What does the economic impact really mean? It was a combination of three things that they calculate. It was the money that the arts and culture organizations were spending and were bringing into this community. How many jobs does it support? What was the resident household income that was being generated from those arts and cultural organizations? And then what kind of revenue goes back to local, State and Federal governments from all that activity, both spending by the organizations themselves and spending by the audiences and attendees coming to those organizations for events throughout the year. It was a combination of those three that created that \$53 million. Within that \$53.5 million of spending, it was coming from two buckets, one was from the organizations itself, like arts and culture organizations, what they were spending, which meant it was also going back into their economy through salaries, through contract work, through paying for artists, paying for vendors, whatever it may be, that was \$12 million of that \$53 million spent by the organization to sell. That was actually a little bit lower than the average of what other communities their size were spending. In other words, for other communities their size, the organizations within their community were spending a little bit less. However, the audiences that were coming to their events and spending money in their community, that was where they were 247% higher than other similar study regions, \$41.5 million of that \$53 million in spending was being generated by audiences coming to these events and activities throughout the year, whether they were local or coming in from out of the area, \$41 million was what the generated income was and the impact on their economy from the audiences themselves. That was where their big impact was compared to other communities. They could almost argue that their arts and culture organizations were generating a lot more outcome while spending less money themselves as an organization themselves. He noted the jobs that were supported by the arts and culture organizations, that \$53 million, supported 1,000 jobs, which was 74% higher than similar study regions. The personal income to residence was almost \$23 million. That was also about 25% higher than other similar study regions. The government revenue that was generated was \$6.1 million, which was 20% higher than those other similar regions. Overall, this was a statement from the actual arts and economic impact study that was conducted. Their report said that survey demonstrates that when we support the arts, we were investing in Catawba County's economic and community well-being. The numbers really, really bore that out.

Mr. Jackson advised they also gave them a couple of calculators, which showed that for every \$100,000 that was spent in direct spending by a nonprofit arts and culture organization, (he referred to the PowerPoint) they see the impact it has within the economy, 3.59 jobs, \$72,000 in resident income. Then about \$15,000 in revenue for the government. All told that \$100,000 immediately was funneling back into these different economic factors that help drive their economy so strong. They did the same thing with \$100,000 from audiences. This was people just coming in spending money to come to events in their area, whether it was lodging if they were coming in from out of town, restaurants for food while they were in town, it was shopping that they may do when they were here. These numbers did not actually include the actual ticket price of whatever event they were attending that goes to the organization. This was what they were generating into the economy outside of that ticket price. For every \$100,000 that they get from audiences spending in Catawba County, it also had a ripple effect out to income and local, State, and Federal government revenue as well. Overall, their attendees that came into an event in

2022 on average spent \$56.20 per person per event. That was higher, the National average was \$36 he believed, per person per event. They have people who like to spend a lot more money when they come to events in Catawba County, even if they were already local and they were already here, they were still spending a higher average. When they looked at their audiences, it was about 60/40, 60% were considered local audiences, 40% non-local. For any event they went to, that they did the study at throughout the year, they felt like was a pretty good representative sample of all the cultural organizations and the activities going on, about 40% of that population that they saw at those events were from outside of what was considered the local area traveling in. Then when they looked at the spending between those groups, local spending was about \$50 per person, non-local was about \$65 which made sense, they have gas, they have lodging sometimes to contend with, but overall, that was what creates that \$56 per person per event average.

Mr. Jackson advised the study also gave them some great insight into just what people see as the importance of the arts and culture organizations and facilities that they have in the area. All the people that were asked these survey questions were asked about, do they feel the venue or facility that they visited for this event was an important pillar within their community? Do they feel like there would be a great sense of loss of that activity or venue were no longer available? He noted they could see, the percentages were very high. They were at the National average on that, about 85% on these kind of questions was what the National average was. Their audiences had pretty strong opinions about the arts and culture organizations and facilities that were located in Catawba County as well. The same questions were asked of the actual organizations or leaders of those organizations, as they could imagine, those percentage would be high, but they were also on the National average as well. They had that same sense of pride and importance in the arts and cultural community from the actual organizations themselves that were running those groups. Overall, this was Nationwide, not just Catawba County. The study told them that 86% of people across the Nation felt like the arts and culture was important to their community's quality of life and livability. They were happy to say that in Catawba County those percentages were the same. People have the same importance they put on those factors there as well.

Mr. Jackson discussed demographics from the people that took part in the study that represented the audiences they had in 2022. The nice thing was that they did have some good representation from all different age groups in the study. The largest age group of attending arts and culture organization events was still the 58 to 76 years of age, but they did have some great representation from other age groups as well. They also had some great cross section information from educational attainment. Household income was a nice spread of seeing those numbers as well. Then race and ethnicity, they had breakouts of what made up their audiences in 2022 there as well. With that in general, the biggest thing summarized for them was that they saw from the study, the same thing they saw in 2016, but actually to a greater extent. Their arts and cultural organizations were spending a little bit less on average on themselves as an organization than what they saw across the Nation with comparable communities. However, the ripple effect of what that then translates to for audience spending for all the events and activities they were putting on was actually significantly higher than they were seeing in other communities across the Nation. They really could show the economic impact of the arts and culture organizations and audiences here in this County to a really, really dramatic effect and also much higher than what they saw in 2016 as well, which was important to see. That was all they wanted to share with them today, to help understand, put some numbers to what they already knew was a great arts and cultural community they have here, but to understand the economic impact that it actually had on them as well was what the study was about. They were very happy to take part in it a second time and see some very positive results. He asked for any questions about the study and the report.

Alderwoman Williams commented in 2016, she was on the board and participated and they did not know what to expect. They were just really pleased with what they got, and it was great to see that things had continued to just blossom. They knew all the new venues and one of the things she thought their arts community did well was to be responsive to really look at what was out there. What do their audiences want? That was how they got people from even outside their areas. It was impressive. She thanked Mr. Jackson.

Alderman Wood asked if he got any indication that these numbers reflected a full recovery from the effects of the pandemic or if he felt like they were still muted a bit because of that.

Mr. Jackson responded that was a good point. Actually, the organization that put together this study actually in their report said that there were going to be some numbers that they still felt like were a little muted from the after effect of the COVID pandemic. Again, 2022 was the full year 2022, early 2022, they were still seeing some residual effects when it came to audiences and attendance. That was a big footnote in the report. They had actually trimmed down some of the comparisons back to 2016 and did not offer quite as many comparisons because they did not feel like it was a very apt comparison. But that economic impact number was where they were the most surprised to see that it still went up 6% even despite the fact that they knew they had gone through a couple of years of

attrition when it came to audiences and events and activities. Yes, there were some considerations for that. They honestly expected the economic impact to be lower than it was in 2016. The fact that it was a little bit higher was a real surprise for them. Yes, there was definitely some impact floating in there still from that.

Alderwoman Patton knew that back when he presented in 2016, it was a nice figure to see of what their impact was in the community. She thanked them for all that they did to improve the community. It makes it very special.

Mr. Jackson commented they enjoyed it, and it was nice to sometimes have some numbers to kind of put to it, to see that there really was some impact on what the work that these organizations was doing. The impact it has on all of them here. He thanked Council.

Mayor Guess commented that this was just tremendous. He thanked Mr. Jackson and Ingrid Keller, and he knew there were a lot of people, it was not just him and Ingrid. He knew that, but they were present representing today and practically every day they hear from folks that talk about, wow, we did not realize that this was available, we did not realize this happened. We moved here because of this. What a great City, what a great asset this is to the community. Obviously, economic development was something that they all were going to see grow. The partnership, and the relationships that they had with the arts commission and different folks, folks such as Mr. Jackson and Ingrid, and everybody that served was tremendous. It really did make a huge impact and they saw the numbers here today. He hoped they could certainly share those with the rest of the community and continue with the progress that they had already seen. He wanted to take this opportunity to say thanks and they appreciated everything that they were doing now.

Mr. Jackson thanked Council for the support the City of Hickory had over all the years too. It had really been a great partnership and they appreciated all the support and continuing everything they were all doing.

Alderman Seaver commented they need something for everyone to enjoy.

Mr. Jackson commented absolutely, he thought that makes a big difference. He really thought that was why the numbers were so strong was the diversity of activities and audiences that they brought here was just great.

Mayor Guess commented that the one that really stood out was the 93% of people that said they had a sense of pride in the arts and cultural community. That was tremendously high.

Alderman Seaver asked what the sample size was they used.

Mr. Jackson advised for the audiences it was right at 800 responses, about 793. That was random responses gathered throughout the year, different activities, different events that they had volunteers go out and solicit those surveys. They needed those numbers, at least those numbers, they exceeded the number of what they requested for the sample of survey numbers to use. Right under 800 people gathered created that audience survey data they saw.

Mayor Guess asked if the bids were back on the OLLE Artwalk.

City Manager Warren Wood responded no, not yet.

Mayor Guess commented that was something that would certainly contribute to those numbers he was hoping for in the future as well.

Mr. Jackson expected that as well.

Mayor Guess thanked Mr. Jackson.

V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard

VI. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting of January 2, 2024.

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderwoman Williams that the Minutes of January 2, 2024, be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Reaffirmation and Ratification of Second Readings. Votes recorded on first reading will be reaffirmed and ratified on second reading unless Council Members change their votes and so indicate on second reading.

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Zagaroli that the following be reaffirmed and ratified on second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Approval to Implement a Speed Limit Reduction to 25mph along 9th Avenue NE between 16th Street NE and 20th Street NE. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
- B. Approval to Implement a Speed Limit Reduction to 25mph along 7th Avenue NW between 4th Street Drive NW and 6th Street NW. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
- C. Budget Revision Number 12. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

VIII. Consent Agenda: All items below will be enacted by vote of City Council. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests. In which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered under Item IX.

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderwoman Williams approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Approved Applying for a Governor’s Highway Safety Program Grant in the Amount of \$25,000.

Hickory Police Department requests approval to apply for a Governor’s Highway Safety Program Grant for officer overtime traffic enforcement. Hickory Police is requesting \$25,000. The Hickory Police Department is committed to reducing motor vehicle crashes, especially those involving injury and death. If awarded, the overtime grant will fund extra duty efforts by the Hickory Police Department to conduct operations that will involve highly visible traffic enforcement for speeding, occupant protection devices, and other traffic violations. Conducting these traffic enforcement operations will allow Hickory Police Department to address the rising trend in motor vehicle crashes involving injury or death. The Hickory Police Department will use these funds to pay officers to work on these highly visible traffic enforcement operations. Increasing traffic enforcement efforts will allow Hickory Police to address the rising trend in motor vehicle crash fatalities, serious injuries, crashes caused by speeding and intersection traffic violations. Hickory Police Department recommends approval to apply for a Governor’s Highway Safety Program Grant for officer overtime traffic enforcement in the amount of \$25,000. There are no matching funds required for this grant if awarded.

- B. Approved on First Reading Budget Revision Number 13.

**ORDINANCE NO. 24-04
BUDGET REVISION NUMBER 13**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the City of Hickory that, pursuant to N.C. General Statutes 159.15 and 159.13.2, the following revision be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and for the duration of the Project Ordinance noted herein.

SECTION 1. To amend the Airport Fund within the FY 2023-24 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures shall be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Transportation	5,000,000	-
TOTAL	5,000,000	-

To provide funding for the above, the Airport Fund revenues will be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Restricted Intergovernmental	5,000,000	-
TOTAL	5,000,000	-

SECTION 2. To establish the TRF Runway Extension (#650034) Capital Project, the expenditures shall be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
General Capital Projects	15,000,000	-
TOTAL	15,000,000	-

To provide funding for the above, the TRF Runway Extension (#650034) revenues will be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Restricted Intergovernmental	15,000,000	-
TOTAL	15,000,000	-

SECTION 3. Copies of the budget revision shall be furnished to the Clerk of the Governing Board, and to the City Manager (Budget Officer) and the Finance Officer for their direction.

IX. Items Removed from Consent Agenda – None

X. Informational Item

XI. New Business

A. Public Hearings

B. Departmental Reports:

1. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION
 (Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 At-Large (Outside City but within HRP) (Council Appoints) VACANT

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
 (Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT
 Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT
 Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT

HICKORY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
 (Term Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms With Unlimited Appointments) (Appointed by City Council)
 Burke County Representative (Mayor Appoints with Recommendation from Burke County) VACANT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
 (Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 Historic Properties Owner (Council Appoints) VACANT
 Building Trade Profession (Council Appoints) VACANT

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
 (Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) VACANT

RECYCLING ADVISORY BOARD
 (Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 Ward 6 (Patton Appoints) VACANT
 At-Large (Council Appoints) VACANT

C. Presentation of Petitions and Requests

XII. Matters Not on Agenda (requires majority vote of Council to consider)

XIII. General Comments by Members of Council, City Manager or City Attorney of a Non-Business Nature

Alderwoman Patton mentioned the City lost a member of the community, and a fixture here. David Crosby passed away, and he was on several commissions here. He was a founder of the Farmer's Market and was present at Council meetings. They would all miss David.

Mayor Guess commented very much, very much.

Alderman Wood commented on the audit presentation. Looking at the numbers, they were impressive. One group that he wanted to thank, he did not want to call out anybody individually, but the people that do the work on the grants that they get for a lot of the projects that they do, he thought the results of that were seen in these numbers, the increases in fund balance that they were not having to draw down to do some of the things that they were doing. He thought they had some tremendously bright and insightful people working on these grants and getting this money for them. Thank you to everybody that was involved in that because he thought that work was reflected in these numbers that were seeing here. He thanked everyone.

City Manager Warren Wood commented that getting the grants and administering those grants was a bear, bureaucracy that goes along with it. It was great to get that money. He appreciated that.

Mayor Guess commented right before this meeting, they had a celebration with the 2023 Community Appearance Commission Beautification Awards. They had seven award recipients for that. He wanted to mention that. They appreciated not only those folks that got awards but all of

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them that contributed towards making the City a more beautiful place. He mentioned litter, of course, was one of the priorities and they were always looking for folks that would help to make their City look better and they appreciated all that everybody did in correlation with that. He mentioned that yesterday was the Martin Luther King celebration and march. The winning State Champion Hickory High School football team as well as the band was there to lead that group and they were there with their coach, Coach Joe Glass, and some of the other coaches and, they appreciated them and wanted to recognize them for participating in that yesterday. That was a good turnout.

XIV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk