

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hickory was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

	Rudy Wright	
Vernon Tarlton	Aldermen	Hank Guess
Danny Seaver		David P. Zagaroli
		Jill Patton

A quorum was present.

Also present were: Interim City Manager Andrea Surratt, Assistant City Manager Rodney Miller, Deputy City Attorney Arnita Dula, City Attorney John W. Crone, III, Deputy City Clerk Cari Burns and City Clerk Debbie D. Miller

- I. Mayor Wright called the meeting to order. All Council members were present except for Alderman Lail.
- II. Invocation by Rev. Lori Blocker, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, Corinth Reformed Church
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Special Presentations
- V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard
- VI. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Special Meeting of July 29, 2016

Alderman Seaver moved, seconded by Alderman Zagaroli that the Minutes of July 29, 2016 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wright announced that the motion was made by Alderman Seaver seconded by Alderman Zagaroli and the motion carried unanimously.
 - B. Regular Meeting of August 2, 2016

Alderman Guess moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver that the Minutes of August 2, 2016 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wright announced that the motion was made by Alderman Guess seconded by Alderman Seaver and 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.

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

Mayor Wright announced that the motion was made by Alderman Zagaroli seconded by Alderwoman Patton and the motion carried unanimously.

 - A. Acceptance of a Temporary Construction Easement for the Property of Jacomine Investments, LLC, PIN 3703-19-50-1115 for Installation of Utilities Infrastructure. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - B. Acceptance of a Temporary Construction Easement and Permanent Storm Drainage Easement for the Property of Jacomine Investments, LLC, PIN 3702-07-59-1955 for Installation of Utilities Infrastructure. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - C. Acceptance of a 7.5 foot Temporary Construction Easement for the Property of Arthur Plaster and wife, Nancy Plaster Described as PIN 3703-19-50-1165 for Installation of Utilities. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - D. Acceptance of a 25 foot Temporary Construction Easement and a 25 foot Permanent Sanitary Sewer Line Easement for the Property of Sharon Ann Hahn Described as PIN 3724-18-31-6461 for Installation of a Sanitary Sewer Line. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - E. Approval to Purchase Two 2017 F150 Extended Cab Trucks for the Fire Department's Fire and Life Safety Division from Asheville Ford in the Amount of \$22,191.45 each. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - F. Approval of a Lease Agreement for Property Located at 304 3rd Street SW, Hickory to Jamie Janine Reed and Christopher Martin Stevey. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - G. Budget Revision Number 2. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

- H. Consideration of Designating Lyerly Full Fashioned Mill as a Local Historic Landmark. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - I. Agreement with North Carolina Department of Transportation for Repairs to the "Sinkhole Property" on Highway 70. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - J. Budget Revision Number 3. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
- VIII. Consent Agenda: All items below are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. 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 Alderman Tarlton approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wright announced that the motion was made by Alderwoman Patton seconded by Alderman Tarlton and the motion carried unanimously.

- A. Called for a Public Hearing – Consideration of Rezoning Petition 16-04, Petitioned by George Condeelis, Joseph Condeelis, Dianne Davenport, and Rosemary Penland for the Rezoning of Approximately Six Acres of Three Contiguous Properties Located at 3165, 3179, and 3181 S NC 127 Highway. The Petition is to Rezone the Properties from Low Density Residential (R-1) to Commercial Corridor (CC-2) (Authorize Public Hearing for September 6, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building).
- B. Called for a Public Hearing – Consideration of Rezoning Petition 16-05, Petitioned by FJS & JC, LLC for the Rezoning of 1.014 Acres of Two Portions of Property Located at 5251 Hickory Boulevard. The Petition is to Rezone the Property from General Business (C-2) to Medium Density Residential – 2 (R-2) (Authorize Public Hearing for September 6, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building).
- C. Approved on First Reading the Purchase of 75 Dell Latitude 14 Rugged Laptops from GovConnection at a Total Cost of \$115,857.75.

Recent security and capability upgrades to the Hickory Police Department's mobile technology platform make it necessary to have mobile computers in the field that are powerful enough to run the programs utilized by patrol officers and operate effectively in a harsh environment. The purchase of these laptops is a necessary step in a larger budgeted project for this fiscal year to add internet access to all patrol units. This will allow officers in the field to access a host of internet based applications to assist in investigations and officer safety. These laptops are ruggedized and are powerful enough to allow officers to write incident and accident reports, connect to several regional law enforcement data sharing networks, write electronic tickets, receive important information about callers or locations they are dispatched to, and have access to electronic departmental resources out in the field. The Dell Latitude 14 Rugged best meets the needs of officers in regards to form, price, warranty, and service. By purchasing from GovConnection the City receives the discount pricing already gained through a governmental bid process ensuring the lowest possible price. Hickory Police Department requests Council's approval of the purchase of 75 Dell Latitude 14 Rugged laptops from GovConnection at a total cost of \$115,857.75. Funds are budgeted in FY16/17 for this purchase.

- D. Approved the Special Event Activities Application Safe Harbor Rescue Mission Bedspread Derby, Laura Garland, Volunteer for Safe Harbor Rescue Mission, August 20, 2016, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Transportation Insight, 310 South Main Avenue Way SE.
- E. Approved the Special Event Activities Application Ridgeview Community Block Party 2016, MPO Michael Crisp, Hickory Police Department, August 25, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Taft Broom Park, 115 7th Avenue SW.
- F. Accepted on First Reading a Temporary Construction Easement and Permanent Easement for the Property of Capital Concepts Properties Limited Partnership Described as PIN 3702-13-14-6529.

Staff requests acceptance of a temporary construction easement and a permanent easement for the property of Capital Concepts Properties Limited Partnership described as PIN 3702-13-14-6529 for installation of utilities infrastructure. The easements are necessary for completion of the Geitner Basin Replacement/Rehabilitation Project. This project is completely funded through a loan to the City as a State Revolving Loan by NCDEQ-IFS in 2016 in the amount of \$3.5 million dollars. The easement was negotiated for a total sum of recording fees in exchange for the easement. Staff recommends acceptance of a temporary construction easement and a permanent easement for the property of Capital Concepts Properties Limited Partnership described as PIN 3702-13-14-6529 for installation of utilities infrastructure.

- G. Accepted on First Reading a Temporary Construction Easement and Permanent Easement for the Property of Gateway 4 Properties, LLC Described as PIN 3702-09-15-6460.

Staff requests acceptance of a temporary construction easement and a permanent easement for the property of Gateway 4 Properties, LLC described as PIN 3702-09-15-6460 for installation of utilities infrastructure. The easements are necessary for completion of the Geitner Basin Replacement/Rehabilitation Project. This project is completely funded through a loan to the City as a State Revolving Loan by NCDEQ-IFS in 2016 in the amount of \$3.5 million dollars. The easement was negotiated for a total sum of recording fees in exchange for the easement. Staff recommends acceptance of a temporary construction easement and a permanent easement for the property of Gateway 4 Properties, LLC described as PIN 3702-09-15-6460 for installation of utilities infrastructure.

- H. Accepted on First Reading a Temporary Construction Easement and Permanent Easement for the Property of Walter Stephen Ikerd Described as PIN 3702-13-14-4561.

Staff requests acceptance of a temporary construction easement and a permanent easement for the property of Walter Stephen Ikerd described as PIN 3702-13-14-4561 for installation of utilities infrastructure. The easements are necessary for completion of the Geitner Basin Replacement/Rehabilitation Project. This project is completely funded through a loan to the City as a State Revolving Loan by NCDEQ-IFS in 2016 in the amount of \$3.5 million dollars. The easement was negotiated for a total sum of recording fees in exchange for the easement. Staff recommends acceptance of a temporary construction easement and a permanent easement for the property of Walter Stephen Ikerd described as PIN 3702-13-14-4561 for installation of utilities infrastructure.

- I. Accepted on First Reading a Temporary Construction Easement and Permanent Easement for the Property of Record Properties, Inc. Described as PIN 3703-19-50-1523.

Staff requests acceptance of a temporary construction easement and a permanent easement for the property of Record Properties, Inc. described as PIN 3703-19-50-1523 for installation of utilities infrastructure. The easements are necessary for completion of the Central Business District Infrastructure Replacement and Rehabilitation Project. This project is partially funded by Public Utilities Department Fund Balance and all sanitary sewer improvements are to be funded through a loan to the City as a State Revolving Loan by NCDEQ-IFS in 2016 in the amount of \$1.3641 million dollars. The easement was negotiated for a total sum of recording fees in exchange for the easement. Staff recommends acceptance of a temporary construction easement and a permanent easement for the property of Record Properties, Inc. described as PIN 3703-19-50-1523 for installation of utilities infrastructure.

- J. Accepted on First Reading a Temporary Construction Easement for the Property of John G. Millholland, David K. Millholland and Marjorie M. Meyer Described as PIN 3703-19-50-0534.

Staff requests acceptance of a temporary construction easement for the property of John G. Millholland, David K. Millholland and Marjorie M. Meyer described as PIN 3703-19-50-0534 for installation of utilities infrastructure. The easements are necessary for completion of the Central Business District Infrastructure Replacement and Rehabilitation Project. This project is partially funded by Public Utilities Department Fund Balance and all sanitary sewer improvements are to be funded through a loan to the City as a State Revolving Loan by NCDEQ-IFS in 2016 in the amount of \$1.3641 million dollars. The easement was negotiated for a total sum of recording fees in exchange for the easement. Staff recommends acceptance of a temporary construction easement for the property of John G. Millholland, David K. Millholland and Marjorie M. Meyer described as PIN 3703-19-50-0534 for installation of utilities infrastructure.

- K. Accepted on First Reading a Temporary Construction Easement and Permanent Sanitary Sewer/Storm Drainage Easement for the Property of Alpha Office Group, LLC Described as PIN 3702-07-59-1906.

Staff requests acceptance of a temporary construction easement and a permanent sanitary sewer/storm drainage easement for the property of Alpha Office Group, LLC described as PIN 3702-07-59-1906 for installation of utilities infrastructure. The easements are necessary for completion of the Central Business District Infrastructure Replacement and Rehabilitation Project. This project is partially funded by Public Utilities Department Fund Balance and all sanitary sewer improvements are to be funded through a loan to the City as a State Revolving Loan by NCDEQ-IFS in 2016 in the amount of \$1.3641 million dollars. The easement was negotiated for a total sum of recording fees in exchange for the easement. Staff recommends acceptance of a temporary construction easement and permanent sanitary sewer/storm drainage easement for the property of Alpha Office Group, LLC described as PIN 3702-07-59-1906 for installation of utilities infrastructure.

- L. Accepted on First Reading a 25 Foot Temporary Construction Easement and a 25 Foot Permanent Easement for the Property of Jerry Lynn Hefner Described as PIN 3724-18-31-6143.

Staff requests acceptance of a 25 foot temporary construction easement and a 25 foot permanent easement for the property of Jerry Lynn Hefner described as PIN 3724-18-31-6143 for installation of a sanitary sewer line. The easements are necessary for completion of the Random Woods Subdivision Sanitary Sewer Project. This project was awarded to the City as a State Revolving Grant by NCDENR-DWQ in 2012 in the amount of \$2.946 million dollars. The easement was negotiated for a total sum of \$2,500 and one 4-inch service connection in exchange for the easement. Staff recommends acceptance of a 25 foot temporary construction easement and a 25 foot permanent sanitary sewer line easement for the property of Jerry Lynn Hefner described as PIN 3724-18-31-6143 for installation of a sanitary sewer line.

- M. Approved a Resolution to Declare Library Materials as Surplus and Donate the Materials to the Friends of the Library.

Staff requests approval of a Resolution to declare surplus 8,515 discarded library materials. These materials will be donated to the Friends of the Library to be sold at the Friends October 2016 book sale and/or at the "Corner Book Store" at Patrick Beaver Memorial Library. The sale of the donated and discarded books is the primary fundraising activity of the Friends of the Library, and discarded library materials comprise a significant portion of their inventory. The sale of these items ultimately benefits the library and is an appropriate means of disposing of unneeded materials. Staff recommends Council's approval of the Resolution to declare the library materials as surplus and donate the materials to the Friends of the Library for their use at the annual October book sale and/or the "Corner Book Store".

Public Notice advertised on August 6, 2016 in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-17
A RESOLUTION OF THE HICKORY CITY COUNCIL
DECLARING SURPLUS LIBRARY BOOKS AND
AUTHORIZING DONATION TO THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

WHEREAS, the Hickory Public Library declares a list of 8,515 discarded, out of date in poor condition, or no longer needed to meet the collection development goals of the library; and

WHEREAS, the Library wishes to dispose of said property to The Friends of the Library for their use at the annual October book sale and/or the "Corner Book Store" at Patrick Beaver Memorial Library.

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-280 allows the city to donate to another governmental unit within the United States, or a nonprofit organization incorporated after advertising and Council approval.

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

SECTION 1. That authorization is given to the Hickory Public Library to dispose of the declared surplus in a manner serving the best interest of the City.

SECTION 2. This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

- N. Accepted on First Reading the Bid and Award the Contract to Maymead, Inc. for Pavement Resurfacing with Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Federal Funds.

Staff requests acceptance of the bid and award of the resurfacing contract utilizing federal funds to the responsible responsive low bidder, Maymead, Inc. for asphalt resurfacing in the amount of \$51.75 per ton for S9.5A asphalt surface, \$51.75 per ton for S9.5B asphalt surface, \$51.75 per ton for S4.75A asphalt surface, \$400 per ton for binder, \$8 per square yard for asphalt milling (100-1,000 square yards), \$4 per square yard for asphalt milling (1,001-3,000 square yards), \$3.50 per square yard for asphalt milling (3,001-6,000 square yards). Staff prepared formal bid documents for an estimated 2,028 tons of asphalt surface course and up to 6,000 square yards of asphalt milling. Three bidders submitted sealed bids: J.T. Russell & Sons, Inc., Maymead, Inc., and Midstate Contractors, Inc. Maymead, Inc. was the lowest bidder with a total bid amount of \$149,525. Contractor's prices are firm until June 30, 2017. Projects will be coordinated and overseen by the City's Engineering Division and Street Division staff for the duration and completion of the resurfacing. Currently, there is \$92,000 in the Community Development Block Grant Public Infrastructure line item, additional unbudgeted program income may be added if it

becomes available over the FY 15-16 year. Staff recommends acceptance of the bid and award the contract to Maymead, Inc. for the pavement resurfacing projects.

- O. Accepted on First Reading the Bid and Award the Contract to Maymead, Inc. for Pavement Resurfacing for Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

Staff requests acceptance of the bid and award of the annual resurfacing contract to the responsible responsive low bidder, Maymead, Inc. for asphalt resurfacing in the amount of \$51.75 per ton for S9.5A asphalt surface, \$51.75 per ton for S9.5B asphalt surface, \$51.75 per ton for S4.74A asphalt surface, \$400.00 per ton for binder, \$2.00 per sq. yd. for asphalt milling (1,000-10,000 sq. yds.) and \$1.50 per sq. yd. (10,001-20,000 sq. yds.). Staff prepared formal bid documents for an estimated 10,650 tons of asphalt surface course in place and up to 20,000 square yards of asphalt milling. Four bidders submitted sealed bids: Carolina Paving of Hickory, Inc., J.T. Russell & Sons, Inc., Maymead, Inc., and Midstate Contractors, Inc. Maymead Inc., was the lowest bidder with a total bid amount of \$777,500 (\$338,750 for the Fall 2016 Schedule, and \$388,750 for the Spring 2017 Schedule). Contractor's prices are firm until June 30, 2017. Projects will be coordinated and overseen by the City's Engineering Division and Street Division staff for the duration and completion of the resurfacing. This work is budgeted in the Street Division's fiscal year 2016-2017 budget. Staff recommends acceptance of the bid and award the contract to Maymead, Inc. for the annual resurfacing projects.

- P. Approved the Citizens' Advisory Committee Recommendations for Assistance through the City of Hickory's Housing Programs.

The following request was considered by the Citizens' Advisory Committee at their regular meeting on August 4 2016:

- Vickie Pope, 1015 22nd Street NE, Hickory, was awarded a City of Hickory's Housing Rehabilitation Loan in the amount of \$9,086.00. She received the loan in 2004 and has made payments in a timely manner. The loan amount to date is \$4,327.65. Ms. Pope is in need of replacing her heat system in the house. The Citizen's Advisory Committee recommends approval to increase her loan to \$10,000.00. This would include the remaining \$4,327.65 currently owed with an additional \$5,672.35.

Funds are budgeted for this item through the City of Hickory's former Rental Rehabilitation program income and/or program income received through the City of Hickory's Community Development Block Grant Program.

Each of the following applicants are being recommended for approval for assistance under the City of Hickory's 2015 and 2016 Urgent Repair Program. This program provides qualified low income citizens with assistance for emergency-related repairs not to exceed \$8,000.

- Eula Ruff, 226 8th Avenue SE, Hickory
- Kevin Lackey, 950 13th Street SE, Hickory

The Citizens' Advisory Committee recommends approval of the aforementioned requests for assistance through the City of Hickory's housing assistance programs.

- Q. Approved on First Reading Budget Revision Number 4.

ORDINANCE NO. 16-35
BUDGET REVISION NO. 4

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the City of Hickory that, pursuant to N.C. General Statute 159.15, the following revisions be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

SECTION 1. To amend the General Fund within the FY 2016-17 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Culture & Recreation	7,749	-
TOTAL	7,749	-

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous Revenue	290	-
Other Revenue Sources	7,459	-
TOTAL	7,749	-

SECTION 2. To amend the Water & Sewer Fund within the FY 2016-17 Budget

Ordinance, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Environmental Protection	9,538	-
TOTAL	9,538	-

To provide funding for the above, the Water & Sewer Fund revenues will be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous Revenues	9,538	-
TOTAL	9,583	-

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

IX. Items Removed from Consent Agenda – None

X. Informational Item

- A. Report of Alderman Guess' Travel to Washington, D.C. July 14, 2016 (Flight - \$1,026.34; Meal Per Diem - \$33).
- B. Report of Alderman Tarlton's Travel to Washington, D.C. July 14, 2016 (Flight - \$1,026.34; Meal Per Diem - \$33, Uber/Taxi - \$50.07).
- C. Report of Mayor Wright's Travel to Washington, D.C. July 14, 2016 (Flight - \$1,026.34; Meal Per Diem - \$33).

Mayor Wright advised that he, Alderman Tarlton, Alderman Guess, Governmental Affairs Manager Yaidee Fox, and her assistant went to Washington to make a plea for the TIGER Grant and also to make a plea for money for the sinkhole repairs. He commented it was a whirlwind trip, and decided close to the last moment because they found out that the day of decision was nigh. They thought they had two or three more weeks. It was a relatively pricey trip, but that is what happens when you get an up and back trip. It was clearly a business trip, and sort of last minute. The trip was meaningful for them, and for the people they talked with. The City didn't get the TIGER Grant. He thought that everybody that was sitting in on the meetings would tell you that it was strictly political. The City deserved it. We didn't get it. These were the grants that two years running we haven't gotten. Charlotte had received one. Wilson had received \$10 million dollars. Goldsboro had received two \$5 million dollar grants. He advised that the City was doing what they could. He advised that they walked the halls, begged, whined, grumbled, but they couldn't demand because they would have gotten kicked out. The City didn't get it, but the taxpayers and residents of Hickory deserve it.

XI. New Business:

A. Public Hearings

- 1. Approved a Voluntary Contiguous Annexation of Property owned by Michael and Louise Maguth, 1730 30th Avenue Court NE.

Michael and Louise Maguth submitted a petition for the voluntary contiguous annexation of 1.005 acres of property located at 1730 30th Avenue Court NE. The annexation area is the proposed location of a single-family residence. The annexation is being requested in order to gain water and sewer service from the City of Hickory. The subject property is currently located within the City's extra-territorial jurisdictional area (ETJ), and zoned Medium Density Residential – 2 (R-2). The petitioner has requested the property retain its current zoning classification upon annexation. The current tax value of the vacant land is \$24,800. If annexed with its present value, the property would generate approximately \$140.50 in additional tax revenues. The estimated tax values of the five adjacent single-family residences is currently \$269,660. If the residence constructed on the proposed property holds a similar tax value, then the tax revenue would increase to \$1,527.62. Staff finds the petition to be in conformity with applicable statutes, and recommends approval of the voluntary annexation petition.

This public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on August 5, 2016.

Interim City Manager Andrea Surratt asked the Planning and Development Director Brian Frazier to the podium to present Council with a request for voluntary contiguous annexation of property located at 1730 30th Avenue Court NE.

Planning and Development Director Brian Frazier presented a PowerPoint presentation to Council. He discussed the voluntary contiguous annexation of property owned by Michael and Louise Maguth located at 1730 30th Avenue Court NE, off of 16th Street NE. The property contained a little over an acre in size and was located closest to Ward 2. The property is currently vacant residential property. He advised the current value of the land was \$24,800. The future development was planned to be a single family residence, as are the others in the area. He advised that the property was in the Lawson's Creek area and the average values of adjacent residential properties was \$269,660. The annexation was requested by the applicants to gain connection to the City's sanitary sewer system. He showed a map pointing out the properties currently located in the City, the properties currently located in the extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ), the subject property owned by the Maguth's, Lawson's Creek Subdivision, and Sandy Ridge Road. He showed an aerial ortho photograph of the neighborhood and pointed out the subject property, and Lawson's Creek. He pointed out the current zoning of PD, and Residential R2, which the subject property would be located within the Lawson's Creek Subdivision. Staff found that the voluntary annexation complied with all of the applicable annexation statutes. Public services are available, after talking to all of the pertinent Department Heads, to serve the proposed single family residential structure and the annexation of the property will not cause available public services to fall below standard acceptable levels. Staff recommended approval of the annexation.

Mayor Wright asked if the City had annexed all of the properties in Lawson's Creek that had asked to be annexed.

Mr. Frazier responded he thought that was correct.

Mayor Wright asked if all properties in there had been annexed.

Mr. Frazier commented yes, they have City water and sewer.

Mayor Wright asked if they had been annexed.

Mr. Frazier responded yes.

Mayor Wright commented if they hadn't been annexed then they would pay higher rates for water and sewer.

Mr. Frazier responded that is correct. He believed that they had been annexed. He advised that this was new construction and there were still several vacant lots in that subdivision area.

Mayor Wright commented not that he was suggesting that it would be proper, but his guess was the City actually losses a little money by annexing them.

Alderman Seaver commented it depends on the value of the property.

Mr. Frazier responded we might.

Mayor Wright commented that we are giving up the premium on the utilities and gaining \$140 in taxes. He wasn't suggesting that was germane to anything, but people might be interested in the process that Council goes through when trying to make the proper decision. He explained the rules for conducting the public hearing. He declared the public hearing open and asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition to the proposal. No one appeared. He asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the proposal. No one appeared. Mayor Wright closed the public hearing.

Mayor Wright moved, seconded by Alderman Guess approval of the Voluntary Annexation Ordinance for the property located at 1730 30th Avenue Court NE. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wright announced that he moved, seconded by Alderman Guess and the motion carried unanimously.

ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NO. 432
VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION ORDINANCE (CONTIGUOUS)
Michael Maguth and wife, Louise Maguth

AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF
HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA, PURSUANT TO
GENERAL STATUTES 160A-31, AS AMENDED (CONTIGUOUS)

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory has been petitioned under G.S. 160A-31, as amended, to annex the area herein described; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has by resolution directed the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of said petition; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has certified the sufficiency of said petition and a public hearing on the question of this annexation was held in the Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. on the 16th day of August, 2016, after due notice by publication on August 5, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City Council does find as a fact that said petition meets the requirements of G.S. 160A-31, as amended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA:

Section 1. By virtue of the authority granted by G.S. 160A-31, as amended, the following-described territory is hereby annexed and made a part of the City of Hickory as of August 31, 2016.

CONTIGUOUS ANNEXATION
DESCRIPTION FOR
MICHAEL MAGUTH AND WIFE, LOUISE MAGUTH
1730 30TH AVENUE COURT NE, HICKORY NC 28601

Beginning at an iron pin in the southern margin of 30th Avenue Court NE (S.R. 1401), said iron pin marking the northwest corner of Lot 79 of Lawson's Creek Subdivision, Phase 3-B, as shown on a plat recorded in Plat Book 61 at Page 164, Catawba County Registry, and lying North 63° 22' 55" West 158.29 feet from a spike in the center of the intersection of 30th Avenue Court NE and 30th Avenue Place NE, and proceeding thence with the western lines of Lots 79, 80, and 81 of Lawson's Creek Subdivision South 34° 32' 15" West 300.88 feet to an iron pin in the northern line of Roger L. Vanskike and, subsequently, Jonathan A. Moseley (see Book 3029 at Page 1242) North 55° 59' 30" West 144.79 feet to an iron pin in the southeast corner of Joshua A. Bengé (see Book 3242 at Page 1726); thence with Bengé's eastern line North 34° 29' 1 0" East 302.70 feet to an iron pin in the southern margin of 30th Avenue Court NE; thence with the southern margin of 301h Avenue Court NE South 55° 16' 30" East 145.07 feet to the Beginning, and containing approximately 1.00 acre, according to a survey by James D. Ferguson, P.L.S., dated July 29th , 2014.

Section 2. Upon and after the 31st day of August, 2016, the above-described territory and its citizens and property shall be subject to all debts, laws, ordinances, and regulations in force in the City of Hickory. Said territory shall be subject to municipal taxes according to G.S. 160A-31 (e), as amended.

Section 3. That the newly annexed territory described hereinabove shall become a part of Ward No. 2 of the City of Hickory.

Section 4. The Mayor of the City of Hickory shall cause to be recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Catawba County, and in the office of the Secretary of State at Raleigh, North Carolina, an accurate map of the annexed territory, described in Section 1 hereof, together with a duly certified copy of this Ordinance.

Section 5. That all ordinances and clauses of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the 31st day of August, 2016.

2. Approved Petition 16-02 for Installation of Curb and Gutter along a Portion of the North Side of the 3300 Block of 48th Avenue Lane NE.

The City Clerk received a petition from the owner of property along the north side of the 3300 block of 48th Avenue Lane NE to install curb and gutter along a portion of their street as per Section 29-2 of the Hickory Code of Ordinance. The petitioner(s) represents a majority, greater than 50 percent of the property owner(s) as well as a majority, greater than 50 percent, of the property footage of the property frontage requested in the petition and therefore qualifies as a valid petition. The City Clerk certified that notification of the public hearing on the preliminary assessment roll resolution was mailed to the owner of the property subject to assessment. Staff recommends Council's approval of the Resolution Directing that the Street Improvements Project Be Undertaken.

This public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on July 22, 2016.

Interim City Manager Andrea Surratt asked the City's Public Services Director Chuck Hansen to the podium to present Council with Petition 16-02 for installation of curb and gutter along a section of the 3300 block of 48th Avenue Lane NE.

Public Services Director Chuck Hansen discussed Petition 16-02 with Council. He advised that Petition 16-02 was for curb and gutter, which followed the normal petition process. The petition was a single property owner petition for a corner lot. It met all of the requirements that the City had for curb and gutter petitions. He referred to page 247 of the Agenda and advised that the property was located just off of Sulphur Springs, 3313 48th Avenue Lane NE, out past Wandering Lane on the left going out Sulphur Springs Road. The property owner initiated this petition. Staff had evaluated the petition and recommended approval of the petition.

Mayor Wright confirmed that no one was affected except for the one property owner.

Mr. Hansen advised just one property owner, a corner lot, containing approximately 250 feet. They are curbing both sides of their corner lot.

Mayor Wright declared the public hearing open and asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition to the proposal. No one appeared. He asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the proposal. No one appeared. Mayor Wright closed the public hearing.

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Zagaroli approval of the Resolution directing that the street improvements project be undertaken. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wright announced that the motion was made by Alderman Patton seconded by Alderman Zagaroli and the motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-18
Resolution Directing That Street Improvement Project Be Undertaken
(No. 16-02)

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2016, the property owner of 3313 48th Avenue Lane NE, Hickory filed with the City Engineer of the City of Hickory a petition for improving said street by placing and constructing thereon curb and gutter according to plans and specifications on file in the office of the City Engineer; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has certified to the City Council of the City of Hickory 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 streets or portion of streets hereinabove described; and

WHEREAS, a Preliminary Assessment Resolution was adopted by this City Council and a public hearing thereon duly held.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA:

1. That 3313 48th Avenue Lane NE, Hickory be improved by placing and constructing thereon 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 improvements be done by the City of Hickory or by contract after due notice and advertisement for bids, as outlined by Chapter 143, Section 129, of the General Statutes of North Carolina.
2. That 50 percent of the total cost of said improvement, exclusive of so much of the total costs as is incurred in improving the street intersections, be hereafter assessed upon the property receiving the improvements.
3. That the assessment herein provided for shall be payable in cash, or if any property owner shall so elect, 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) annual installments, said installments to bear interest at the rate of 8 percent per annum.

B. Departmental Reports:

1. Southside Brownfields Area-Wide Project Update.

The Brownfields Area-wide Planning Grant provides grants of up to \$200,000 to develop a plan for a small area that contains multiple known or suspect Brownfield sites. The grant is focusing on an area that generally includes the area of US 70 between US 321 and South Center Street. The City has established a Brownfield Advisory Group, has identified several catalyst sites, hired consultants, initiated a community engagement plan, and completed a base marketing and economic development study in the first year of the two year grant.

The Planning staff will hold planning workshops on August 23 through August 25, 2016 with the local community to plan for the beneficial reuse of brownfield sites along the Hwy 70 corridor and surrounding neighborhoods.

Interim City Manager Andrea Surratt advised that the departmental report would be from Planning and Development Director Brian Frazier and Harold Thurston from Amec. She advised the City had a Southside Area Brownfield project in the works and Staff wanted to update Council on that. Mr. Frazier would discuss that and then turn the discussion over to Mr. Thurston for additional information.

Planning and Development Director Brian Frazier discussed some background on the grant. The City was awarded \$200,000 from the EPA in 2015 to complete a Brownfield area-wide planning study for the US 70 southwest area. The two year grant ran from August 2015 to July 2017. He advised they were entering into the second year. Only 20 grants were awarded that year nationwide and Hickory was the only recipient of this Federal money, which is extremely difficult to get. We were the only recipient in the State. He presented a PowerPoint presentation and pointed out the target area on an aerial ortho photograph. He pointed out Interstate 40, Highway 70, Highway 321, Highway 127 and Center Street. He pointed out the old City landfilled near the Putt-Putt golf course, the old Sky City, Midland Plaza, there was a laundry mat furthest to the east, which was a contaminated site. He pointed out the Pet Dairy, the abandoned former Contract Seating, Southside Heights Subdivision, an abandoned gas station, an old woodshop/framing shop, and Joan Fabrics. He advised that was the study area that they had. The southern boundary ran just behind the old Catawba Furniture Mall, the U-Haul facility, Highway 321 to the west, Interstate 40 to the southeast, and to the north 7th Avenue SW. The area encompassed part of West Hickory, Ridgeview, and the Green Park Neighborhoods. He advised that Staff had their active support.

Mr. Frazier discussed the work completed to date. They initiated extensive community engagement. He advised that was one thing that the EPA really wanted. Amec Foster Wheeler hired a subcontractor to have that extensive public process and initiate that citizen engagement plan that they had to develop with Amec Foster Wheeler with the approval of EPA. Staff had conducted meetings with numerous stakeholders, reformed the Brownfield Advisory Group (BAG), property owners, business owners, a ministers meeting with Alderman Guess, community leaders, community activists, members of the Hickory Housing Association, the school district, members of the Hmong community, and Central Latino. They had all kinds of public support. To date they had contracted and spoken to, by phone, email, or in person over 200 individuals. They completed the review of their existing plans related to the project area that he previously showed Council. They identified those potential catalysts sites such as Pet Dairy, Joan Fabrics, the old laundry mat and gas station. Those catalysts sites are the principle sites in that neighborhood study area. If redeveloped it could really turn that neighborhood around. This was a planning and a future redevelopment study. The City's consultants completed a baseline real estate market analysis. They will be doing more work on that as they go. He displayed photos of some of the potential sites: the old Midland Plaza, Sky City, the drycleaner, the former Contract Seating on 4th Street Drive behind the U-Haul facility, the former Pet Dairy building, and the former Joan Fabric site. He advised Wallace brothers had bought and were renovating part of that site. He showed the abandoned gas station which had been under DEQ monitoring for a number of years. He advised that those were catalysts sites and there were several other sites within the area, a lot of old gas stations, and woodshops associated with the furniture industry that they will be looking at. He introduced Harold Thurston, Associate Project Manager for Environment and Infrastructure at Amec Foster Wheeler, out of Durham. They had been the City's consultants on this two year grant and they were also the City's consultants for the 2012/2015 EPA environmental assessment grant where they conducted close to three dozen assessments utilizing \$400,000. He advised that the City was now up to a million in Brownfield money. He just found out that the next round of funding, the notice of funding availability, was coming out in mid-September. With Council's permission Staff would look to apply for additional

monies, possibly up to half a million dollars of this next grant. He asked Mr. Thurston to the podium to continue the presentation.

Associate Project Manager for Environment and Infrastructure, Amec Foster Wheeler, Mr. Harold Thurston continued the presentation. He advised that they had done the market analysis and also had to look at all of the environmental information that was available on all of the catalyst sites. He mentioned that the grant came about years ago when they were doing the assessment grant. They were allowed to use some planning money as part of the assessment grant. The advisory group identified some sites in which they wanted to do some planning in the areas. With the assessment grant they were very limited on how much money they could spend on planning. They really want it for assessment. The area got larger and larger. The advisory group wants the study area that they have now. They realized they couldn't pay for it under the old grant. They decided to look for the area-wide planning grant. The way they will leverage the previous grant is during the assessment grant they will gather some of the environmental information on those catalyst sites. The idea is finding the best use of that property with the environmental information knowing what contaminates are on that property. For instance if you want to use residential, you may not be able to put residential on certain properties that are highly contaminated. Likewise, warehousing works anywhere. They look at what is the highest and best use of these properties based on the current environmental condition and whether or not remediation needs to be done.

Mr. Thurston discussed their next steps. They were conducting a planning workshop, which would include all the research, and all the study work. The workshop will be a three day process, involving the community to give their ideas and recommendations on what to use it for or what to do with it in those areas. They have a kickoff meeting on August 23rd, which is an evening meeting just to kick it off to explain the process to everyone. The big day will be on August 24th which is an open studio planning workshop. It will be a drop in approach from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to make it easy for residents to participate, so they can drop in anytime. The team participating in the workshop will include three planners, a landscape architect, a real estate analyst, City Staff, and Mr. Thurston. Some of the planners have graphic capabilities. They have prepared large maps which they will lay out on tables. The maps will show the catalyst sites, the streets, and the land use. They will place tracing paper on top of the maps. As ideas are presented by citizens they will have the planners with graphic capabilities draw the concepts as they come up. Simultaneous, the real estate analyst will be doing project performance on these ideas. If someone has an idea for development at the Pet Dairy site, he will be able to run the numbers right there to determine whether or not that would be a profitable development. The workshop will conclude on the August 25th with a presentation of the concepts and ideas presented from the residents. It will all be culminated and available for everyone to review. These concepts and recommendations will be taken back at the end of the workshop, and they will work with City Staff to refine the concepts, refine the ideas, discard the ones that aren't going to work, keep the ones that they think will work, and work on preparing the plan. They will go through a formal process to finalize the plan. They are excited about the next week. It had been a great project, and the area has a lot of potential. Everyone that who had come through and walked the sites felt there was so much that they could do here. Everyone is very positive and looking forward to kicking off the workshop.

Alderman Guess asked how this had been advertised to the public.

Mr. Frazier advised it had been advertised on the City's website, press releases done by Communications, and in the newspaper. They had also contacted the Housing Authority, the school district, and neighborhood associations had passed out flyers. There had been over 200-250 flyers posted at various buildings. Inga Kennedy had literally gone door to door in those neighborhoods making the residents aware of the meetings, and if they want to talk about the future redevelopment, and the safety environmental health of their properties in contiguous sites, now is the time to come. It had been a very extensive effort and EPA was very pleased.

Alderman Seaver mentioned that the rate for getting information out to people and getting them to understand it was to be hit seven times. He didn't know if that was more or less now with the electronic age.

Mr. Frazier advised that they had been hit a lot. They had been hearing it over and over since it was scheduled several months ago.

Alderman Tarlton advised he had seen it at a couple of places.

Interim City Manager Andrea Surratt added the work that they are doing is really about making that area more business friendly, because those are sites that need private investment. All of these designs and concepts are for private investors to come in. The steps have been taken already. The due diligence is being done, the pro-formas are being developed for those sites so private investors can make those business decisions faster and easier. The City does not have property that they, the City government, are trying to develop in that area. That was not what the plan was about. It was about promoting the private property that needs to turnover so that those neighborhoods can experience some redevelopment.

Alderman Seaver asked about the old Joan Fabrics facility. He asked if Wallace Roofing had bought part of it.

Mr. Frazier advised they had bought one of the parcels and they had been doing a building renovation interior and exterior. The other parcel is still vacant.

Alderman Guess advised it was going to be a car lot. He advised someone was also looking at the site right beside of it.

Alderman Tarlton questioned if it was the big building.

Alderman Guess responded yes, it use to be Joan Fabrics.

Mr. Frazier advised that the environmentals looked good on that site too.

Mr. Guess advised this person was real appreciative of the Brownfield study and what all it was able to do for him to help him make a decision as to whether or not he should buy that property. As we all know there were some questions in peoples mind. Once that was done it alleviated all the questions he had, and he didn't hesitate to purchase the property.

Mr. Frazier advised since 2007 the City had been extremely fortunate because there is a lot of properties out there that they knew were dirty. They didn't know how dirty they were, but none of them have come out as nasty as they thought they could have been, and that was just one example. They thought there was going to be a lot of problems, but there really wasn't much of anything.

Alderman Guess commented it was a tremendous savings to the property owner.

Mr. Frazier commented these grants were great, because the ones that they had to date, there had not been a single penny of local match. It is our taxpayer dollars, but having that local match sometimes is tough when you have to do grant triage.

Mayor Wright commented it looks a lot better, which is the obvious, but it really looks good.

Alderman Zagaroli advised he was under the impression that Pet Dairy was owned by Benny Yount.

Mr. Frazier confirmed that was correct. He had redevelopment plans for the site but they did not happen for whatever reason, but that site is still developable. They had talked to Mr. Yount. One of his staffers was representing him on the Brownfield Advisory Group as a business owner in that area. They had been very connected with him.

2. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

BOND IMPLEMENTATION COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 2-1; 3 Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

Mayor's Appointment

Unexpired Term of Charlie Dixon (2-1-19)

Community Relations Council appointed Crystal Killian as the ex-officio representative on the Bond Implementation Commission to fulfill the unexpired term of Adelia Parrado-Ortiz who resigned.

Mayor Wright nominated Eloise (Ellie) Bradshaw to the Bond Implementation Commission to fulfill the unexpired term of Charlie Dixon.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 2 Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

At-Large (Council Appoints)

VACANT

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

At-Large (Council Appoints) VACANT
 At-Large (Council Appoints) VACANT

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) VACANT
 Ward 4 (Guess Appoints) VACANT
 At-Large (Outside City but within Hickory Regional Planning Area)
 (Council Appoints) VACANT
 At Large (Council Appoints) VACANT

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

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

Mayor Wright nominated David Walker as Caucasian Representative on the Community Relations Council.

HICKORY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms With Unlimited Appointments)
 (Appointed by City Council)
 Ward 2 (Tarlton Appoints) VACANT
 Burke County (Mayor to Nominate) VACANT

Alderman Tarlton nominated Noah Geoghegan as Ward 2 Representative on the Hickory Regional Planning Commission.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms (Appointed by City Council)
 Historic Properties (Council Appoints) VACANT
 Building Trades Profession (Council Appoints) VACANT
 At-Large (1) (Council Appoints) VACANT

Mayor Wright nominated Nancy Zagaroli as Historic Properties Representative for the Historic Preservation Commission.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

(Appointed by Mayor with the Concurrence of City Council)
 (6) Positions VACANT

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 Ward 4 (Guess Appoints) VACANT
 At-Large (Mayor Appoints) VACANT

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 At-Large (2) (Council Appoints) VACANT
 At-Large (3) (Council Appoints) VACANT

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 At-Large (Mayor Appoints) VACANT

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 5-Year Terms) (Appointed by the Mayor)
 Position 9 VACANT

RECYCLING ADVISORY BOARD

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
 Ward 2 (Tarlton Appoints) VACANT
 Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) VACANT
 Ward 4 (Guess Appoints) VACANT
 At-Large (Council Appoints) VACANT
 At-Large (Council Appoints) VACANT

YOUTH COUNCIL

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 1-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

The Youth Council Applicant Review Committee Makes the Following Recommendation for Appointment to the Youth Council:

Emma Lail (At-Large Representative)

Lorenzo Nigrelli (At-Large Representative)
Michael Sumpter (St. Stephens High School Representative)

St. Stephens High School Representatives	2 Positions VACANT
At-Large Representatives	3 Positions VACANT
Challenger High School Representative	1 Position VACANT

Mayor Wright nominated Emma Lail (At-Large Representative), Lorenzo Nigrelli (At-Large Representative), and Michael Sumpter (St. Stephens High School Representative), to the Youth Council.

Mayor Wright moved seconded by Alderman Seaver approval of the above nominations. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Presentation of Petitions and Requests

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

Interim City Manager Andrea Surratt reminded Mayor Wright of a CommScope video if he wanted Council to view it. She advised she had received an email from the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) explaining that August 16th was CommScope's 40th Anniversary. CommScope had become a global company, now employing nearly 25,000 people around the world, and more than 1,500 in Catawba County alone. A press release had been sent out and a flyer was left for each Councilmember.

The CommScope video was presented which included the history of CommScope.

Mayor Wright commented what a great story and there were a lot of local people involved in that in many ways and a lot of Lenoir-Rhyne graduates were involved in that. It is a local success story that would be the envy of most cities anywhere.

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

Alderman Seaver commented on a post that Allen Finley was sharing regarding an article on the front page of the Wall Street Journal about Hickory and the problems that the City has. He questioned if that was recent.

Discussion ensued regarding the article.

Mayor Wright referenced a rebuttal article written by Eric Cunningham. He mentioned that Mr. Cunningham had written a great article. Mr. Cunningham had attended CVCC for two years and was studying journalism at Appalachian. He commented the City had gotten a lot of attention more good than bad, but you hate to be in the Wall Street Journal on the front page with a paragraph leading off like that one did. He stated the worst one was a Facebook thing that listed the 20 cities with the highest opioid dependency in the country. It had Hickory at number five. Which is not true. We are not even number five in the State. Everybody in this country today has significant opioid dependency problems, and we are no different.

Alderman Tarlton responded that the medical community was the one that had to take care of that mess.

Mayor Wright stated they are starting now by law that they have to be a matching up of all of these prescriptions, so they see if people are doctor shopping. He advised there was an email that said why isn't the Mayor doing something about this? Mayor Wright advised that he had not prescribed a single opiate in his life. The City has been getting a lot of attention and the Wall Street Journal article was not our favorite moment. We have been getting good stuff. The yahoo "blurb" talked about a lot of great things about Hickory.

Alderman Zagaroli mentioned a positive article in USA.

Mayor Wright commented that they felt like they were moving in the right direction. He felt that the citizens believed that the City was moving in the right direction now.

Alderman Seaver commented let's keep the good things coming.

Alderman Tarlton advised that he had a copy of the article and they could copy it to share with everyone.

Mayor Wright referenced Council had previously honored the Hickory High School Golf team for winning the State Championship. He mentioned that there was a lot of discussion that J.T. Poston was the great quiet leader of that group. He advised that J.T. had just gotten his tour card. He thought that he was the first person in this area to ever have a tour card. He didn't know if Billy Joe Patton ever had one, or if he could have gotten it. Billy Joe finished second in the Masters one

time. A young man getting a tour card is a pretty big deal. Twenty-five people on the web.com tour are getting a card and he is one of them.

Alderman Tarlton questioned his rank.

Mayor Wright advised he was 11th now. He shot from 60th to 30th, to 19th, to 11th.

Alderman Tarlton commented he is on the verge of doing some great things.

Alderman Zagaroli advised that his Mr. Poston's grandfather had just moved back to Hickory.

Alderman Seaver commented he had said the City has a lot of very smart citizens in Hickory and very talented ones too. It starts from youngsters working. He mentioned that they were discussing that in the Sisters Cities meeting, and planning the Mayor's trip out to Germany next year.

Mayor Wright commented it might cost a little more than going to Washington.

Alderman Seaver advised that he heard some very good numbers today, it might even be cheaper than the trip to Washington.

Mayor Wright commented they come to this area a lot of times, and we have never gone there.

Alderman Seaver advised they are coming back next year too. The group's trip will try and be in August from the whole area.

XIV. Closed Session Per NC General Statutes §143-318.11(a)(1)(3)(6) to consult with the attorneys regarding the following: (Action on these items, if any, will occur in Open Session)

Mayor Wright added discussion of a personnel matter (City Manager's position) to the closed session, pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(1)(6).

Mayor Wright moved that Council go into closed session to consult with the attorneys to discuss the items below and the addition of a personnel matter, seconded by Alderwoman Patton. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wright announced he moved seconded by Alderwoman Patton and the motion carried unanimously.

1. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of July 29, 2016, and August 2, 2016 - NCGS §143-318.11(a)(1)
2. Discussion of Litigation - Willie James Grimes vs. City of Hickory, et. al. File No. 5:14-CV-160 - NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3)
3. Discussion of Potential Litigation - NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3)

No action was taken upon return to open session.

XV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk