

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hickory was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

	Hank Guess	
Charlotte C. Williams	Aldermen	David L. Williams
Danny Seaver		David P. Zagaroli
		Jill Patton

A quorum was present.

Also present were: City Manager Warren Wood, Assistant City Manager Rodney Miller, Deputy City Attorney Arnita Dula, City Attorney John W. Crone, III, Executive Assistant to the City Manager Deisy Zavala Vazquez and City Clerk Debbie D. Miller

- I. Mayor Guess called the meeting to order. All Council members were present except for Alderman Lail
- II. Invocation by Rev. Cliff Moone Representing First Presbyterian Church
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Special Presentations

- A. Proclamation for National American Public Works Week – May 20 - 26, 2018.

Mayor Guess asked public services staff to the podium. Mayor Guess read and presented the proclamation for National American Public Works Week to Public Services Director Kevin Greer, Assistant Public Services Directors Shawn Pennell and Steve Miller.

- B. Proclamation for Building Safety Month – May 2018.

Mayor Guess asked Code Enforcement Officers to the podium. Mayor Guess read and presented the proclamation for Building Safety Month to Senior Code Enforcement Officers Kent Sigmon and Daniel Robbins.

- C. Proclamation for National Police Week – May 13 -19, 2018.

Mayor Guess asked officers of the Hickory Police Department to the podium. Mayor Guess read and presented the proclamation for National Police Week to Chief of Police Thurman Whisnant, Deputy Chief of Police Reed Baer, Captain Vidal Sipe, and Master Police Officer Kyle Brown.

- D. Employment Trends and Census – Presentation by Taylor Dellinger, Data Analyst, Western Piedmont Council of Governments

Mayor Guess asked Mr. Taylor Dellinger from the Western Piedmont Council of Governments to the podium to present Council with employment trends and census.

Mr. Taylor Dellinger, Data Analyst, Western Piedmont Council of Governments presented a PowerPoint presentation. He advised the good news was we are gaining jobs and starting to gain some population. He discussed unemployment and labor force trends. Referring to a chart on his PowerPoint he pointed out Hickory's unemployment rate, the Catawba County unemployment rate for reference and the Hickory MSA metropolitan statistical area rate that was the unifour counties consisting of Alexander, Burke, Caldwell and Catawba Counties. He advised in February 2010 the region's unemployment rate was over 15 percent, 1 out of 6 people that were in the labor force couldn't find a job. What a difference 8 years makes, we had gone from 15 percent down to 4 percent. We had cut that rate by over half, which showed how the economy had really turned around in the last few years.

Mr. Dellinger discussed labor force and employment. He referred to a chart and advised labor force meant people that were unemployed or looking for work, it didn't include students, retirees, and they had to be over 16. In 2017, we lost about 5,000 in the labor force. A lot of that was due to retirees or people that had given up searching for a job. He noted in the last year that number had gone up by a couple thousand. We are starting to see people reengage in the workforce, looking for job opportunities. He pointed out 150,000 (2010) to 167,973 (2018), and advised we have about 18,000 more employed residents in the region now than in 2010, which was certainly heading in the right direction. He showed a chart of the Hickory numbers which were a little bit different in terms of the labor force. The region numbers went down by 5,000 between 2010 and 2017. The Hickory number had actually been slowly going up, not going down between 2010 and 2017. Part of that was the City's residents are a little bit younger than surrounding rural areas particularly in Burke and Caldwell. Since Hickory is a little bit younger maybe fewer people had dropped out of the labor force, so you could see that trend up. In terms of the number employed it had gone from 17,400 to 19,748. That was 2,000 more employed residents that live in Hickory today versus 2010. All of the job losses that we had in the recession in 2007/2008, we have definitely been turning that around the last couple of years.

Mr. Dellinger discussed employment by industry. In 1990, our region was 51 percent manufacturing jobs, in 2017 the chart showed 28 percent. He advised if he showed Council the pie chart for 2014/2015 that manufacturing percentage actually would have been a little bit lower. We had been gaining some manufacturing jobs back. We are still three times the national average in terms of manufacturing. The U.S. manufacturing employment was 9 percent and we are at 28 percent, three times as much. He referred to the pie chart and advised that the services category had become more important for our region. This category included everything from finance to accountants, architects, engineers, and healthcare. That had gone from 28 to 47 percent. The good news was that manufacturing was still important but we are more diversified now than we were 30 years ago. That would help us in harder economic times, if and when they come. He referred to a chart which showed the number of jobs in the region between 2010 and 2017. A nice upward trend. We had gone from 137,000 to nearly 150,000 gain, so we gained 13,000 jobs over the last seven years. He advised the peak employment was 186,000 back in 2000. We had almost gained back from the recession in 2007 and we are heading in the right direction. He didn't know when we would get back to 186,000 but at least we are adding a couple thousand every year for the last couple of years and that is the direction that we want to go in.

Mr. Dellinger showed a chart which compared us to other areas in the State. We are trying to get jobs, but all of these other areas in the State are trying to get jobs too. He referred to the chart of 15 metro areas in North Carolina, and advised he thought we were actually doing pretty well. Charlotte and Raleigh's numbers showed 25 percent growth, but that was some of the fastest growth rates in the United States. The Hickory region was 9.1 percent and that was pretty comparable with lots of other metro areas like Greenville. It was a little bit behind Durham, and very close to Winston-Salem. We were far exceeding Rocky Mount. He advised usually when we compare ourselves to Rocky Mount that is kind of a more negative thing, but we are actually not comparing ourselves to Rocky Mount here, we are comparing ourselves to Winston-Salem and Durham and that is good news for us too.

Mr. Dellinger displayed a chart which showed employment gains by sector in the region between 2010 and 2017. The big gain was in manufacturing. We gained almost 4,000 manufacturing jobs in the region since 2010. Second place was administrative services, which was temp agency jobs. That showed a growth of 2,282. He advised that some of these temp agency jobs will become fulltime employment in manufacturing and other sectors. He pointed out accommodation and food services and referred to all of the restaurants that had popped up in Hickory since 2010, whether it was downtown, Springs Road, or Highway 70. That was happening in Morganton and Lenoir as well. There was growth of over 2,000 jobs there. He pointed out in retail trade there was an increase of 1,865. He commented you hear a lot in the news that retail is dead, all of these retail jobs are going away. At least in our region we had actually had an increase in retail trade jobs. He noted the wholesale trade figure, MDI was an example of that. He commented the last category was professional, scientific and technical services which tend to be higher paying jobs. Examples of that would be jobs like engineering, some of the work that Transportation Insight is doing, those professional jobs. It was real good to see growth in that sector as well.

Mr. Dellinger discussed Catawba County's numbers which were up, 76,000 to 86,589, growth of about 10,000 jobs in Catawba County since 2010. Manufacturing was the big winner, almost 2,400 manufacturing jobs in the region. He noted the importance of the professional, scientific and technical services, we had growth of almost 1,200 jobs there.

Mr. Dellinger discussed recent trends using the most recent data that he could find, third quarter 2016 to third quarter 2017. He discussed the ones which had losses, furniture had lost a little bit, but that again was regional, so it was kind of spread out, but that was not a big loss. Trucking had lost 251, but part of their issue was finding workers. We are making a lot more stuff in this region and it has got to be hauled out and they have go to find workers for those positions. He referred to the food and beverage category number and advised that was because Bi-Lo's were in the process of closing stores. He discussed the administrative category which was down 178, which was actually good, they are hoping that temp agency jobs are becoming permanent jobs. He noted some small losses in management and nonmetallic minerals. The big winner was plastics. Plastics had actually grown more than any other sector in our region between 2016 and 2017. A good example of that was Poppelmann Plastics in Claremont, which make plastic products. He noted electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing gain was 303. Examples of that category were like CommScope and Corning. He mentioned the chemical manufacturing category and advised we actually do make a lot of chemical products in our region, things like paint. That category had been doing well and growing. The next category was durable goods, and wholesalers. We are making all of this stuff and it has got to be stored and warehoused, so they are doing well. The professional, scientific and technical services were showing really good growth over the last year.

Mr. Dellinger showed the graph for Catawba County which was similar but a couple of differences. Their biggest loss was in the temp agency, in the administrative and support services category. Catawba County's gains were pretty similar to the region. He advised plastics, electrical equipment, and professional, scientific, and technical services were the top three.

Mr. Dellinger discussed the job market. He showed a table and pointed out the Catawba County number. He pointed out the number of job openings, these were the online job openings which they get from NC Works Online. The total number of job openings was 3,484. The number of unemployed was 3,126. We have more job openings in Catawba County than the number of unemployed. The ratio was less than one. If you looked at this chart back in 2010, the ratio would have been more like five or six. Or you would have had six workers trying to get one job. Now we have more jobs than available workers. We will either have to get workers from Alexander, Burke, and Caldwell to commute here, so we are going to have to fight for those workers, or we are going to have to bring people in to Catawba County to move here. That was the two ways, either through commuting or through people coming here to live here.

Mr. Dellinger showed a table of job openings by occupation to give Council a sense of which sectors were hiring today and what they were paying. Number one was healthcare practitioners and technical, there were 874 job openings with entry level wages of \$33,969, average wage, \$47,717, and median wage of \$35,000. Healthcare is going to be a big sector for the region going forward. Baby boomers are getting older and are going to need more medical services and as we grow there is going to be more of a need for medical services. They are trying to find workers right now. Production job openings were 422. He referred to the chart that showed the growth in manufacturing, there are a lot of manufacturing positions open and they are struggling to find qualified workers for those jobs. That goes back to education, what the Community College is doing, things like the Furniture Academy and also what the three school systems are doing in Catawba County to get people ready for the workforce. He discussed transportation and material moving, which the shortage of truck drivers ties into that. He noted the categories for sales, office support, management, and healthcare support. There were almost 200 jobs in installation, maintenance and repair. That was important because if your HVAC goes out you want to be able call a technician to fix it. They have a lot of openings too. He referred to the computer and mathematical category number, 181 openings. Those are definitely jobs that we want to fill because it pays pretty well. That goes back to growth in the professional, and scientific services, so there was definitely a demand there. Restaurants finished out the list, they are always looking for workers.

Mr. Dellinger concluded his presentation by discussing population growth over the last year. He advised the trend was very positive. He had taken our region and compared it to the other 15 metros in North Carolina. He wanted Council to focus on the population change rankings. He advised the population change total was 164 and the population change ranking was 196 percent. There were 382 metros in the country and half of that would be 190. We are at about 50 percent, plus or minus, half are growing slower than us and half are growing quicker than us. That was a significant improvement for our region. If you had looked at this chart back in 2011/2012, our ranking, where one was the quickest and 382 was the slowest, we would have been in the 350s or 360s because we were actually losing population. The Census Bureau's estimate shows that we actually gained .6 of a percent between 2016/2017. We want know this for sure, because this is an estimate, until the 2020 census numbers comes out. That count will be coming in about two years. We will see if this is confirmed, but definitely the trend is in the right direction.

Mr. Dellinger showed the County numbers for 2016-2017. He pointed out that Catawba County lead the list with .8 of a percent population growth between July 1, 2016 and July 1, 2017. Its ranking for number was 25 and the percent was 39. If you look at this chart for the State, five or six years ago, our ranking would have been more like in the 80s or 90s. Again we are definitely headed in the right direction. Looking at all the data we are gaining jobs again and we are starting to see signs of some population growth which is good news too. He asked Council for questions.

Mayor Guess asked Council if they had any questions.

Alderwoman Patton thanked Mr. Dellinger and commented it was always a pleasure when Mr. Dellinger came and gave Council numbers, good or bad.

Alderman Seaver asked how they counted all of those people when they were talking about population growth.

Mr. Dellinger commented that the census counts everybody every ten years. What they do after that, they look at things like birth rate, death rate, life expectancy, and building permit activity. We are starting to get some more building permits in Catawba County again but it is not what it was in 2006/2007, but it is starting to go up. They put all of that together and the census actually generates numbers for every County in the United States. It enables

them to look at our numbers versus everybody else. It is an estimate, so are they right? We will know in 2020 if they are right. Historically, usually they tend to underestimate us a little bit in terms of our population growth, hopefully we will actually be able to exceed these numbers a little bit.

Alderwoman Patton requested Mr. Dellinger to come back after the census and confirm the numbers.

Mr. Dellinger reminded everyone to fill out their census forms when they come in a couple of years. They will have the numbers available in 2021, it takes them about a year to get everything together and then there is some constitutional mandate that they get it to the President by the end of 2020. They usually see the numbers a couple of months later than that. They will be able to confirm this.

City Manager Warren Wood commented on some of Mr. Dellinger's slides, 13,000 jobs created in the metro area, 10,000 of those were in Catawba County, so the other 3,000 jobs were in the other three counties. Catawba County is doing well within the region. With the job vacancies that are currently out there, he would say a third of those would be jobs that someone would move here for from out of town. The whole population was one of the main reasons for the bond referendum, to create the amenities that folks are looking for and the quality of life to attract folks to come fill these jobs.

Mayor Guess mentioned another initiative was the Chamber of Commerce's initiative to recruit veterans to our area. He thanked Mr. Dellinger. The partnership that the City has with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments is very valuable and Council appreciates them.

V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard

VI. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting of April 17, 2018.

Alderman Zagaroli moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton that the Minutes of April 17, 2018 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.

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

A. Approval to Modify the Traffic Ordinance to Increase the Speed Limit from 35 mph to 45 mph along Startown Road within the City Limits and to Increase the Speed Limit from 45 mph to 50 mph along McDonald Parkway within the City Limits. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

B. Budget Revision Number 19. (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 Zagaroli approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Approved the Special Events Activities Application for the 4th Annual WNC CASI Chili Cook Off, Andrea Beatty, Shooting Stars Booster Club President, Shooting Stars Gymnastics Booster Club, September 15, 2018, L.P. Frans Stadium, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

B. Approved Applying for a Walmart Grant in the Amount of \$3,000.

Hickory Police Department requests approval to apply for a Walmart Grant in the amount of \$3,000. The job of policing is a difficult one. Involving the community is an important aspect of their duty to society. The ability of the police to perform their duty is dependent on public approval of their existence, actions, behavior, and their ability to secure and maintain public respect. The department regularly tries to become involved in community activities, such as; neighborhood watch programs, back to school events, safety classes for children and adults, daycare and scouting activities, and crime prevention classes for the public. They believe that building a bond with the community only makes their jobs easier and that preventing crime is only a benefit to every citizen. Money from the grant will be used for community education and outreach through providing educational materials, promotional

items, and equipment for various community activities. Funds will also be used to enhance the explorer program. Hickory Police Department requests approval to apply for a Walmart grant in the amount of \$3,000.

- C. Approved the Issuance of a Pyrotechnic Display Permit to Hickory Motor Speedway.

Kevin Piercy, General Manager of the Hickory Motor Speedway has submitted a request to obtain permission to have a public fireworks display on June 2, 2018. The North Carolina Fire Code requires an operational permit for the use and handling of pyrotechnic special effects material. The Division of Fire & Life Safety Bureau shall review all required documentation for the events. The Fire Prevention Bureau will also inspect the pyrotechnics display area prior to the events to ensure compliance with all guidelines and codes. Staff recommends approval of the pyrotechnics displays.

- D. Called for a Public Hearing for Consideration of a Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation of Property Owned by Accel Discount Tire of Springs Road, Inc. (Authorize Public Hearing for May 15, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building).

RESOLUTION NO. 18-13
RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CLERK TO INVESTIGATE A PETITION RECEIVED
UNDER G.S. 160A-31 AND/OR 160A-58.1, AS AMENDED

WHEREAS, a petition from Accel Discount Tire of Springs Road, Inc. requesting annexation of an area described in a petition was received on April 16, 2018 by the City Council of the City of Hickory; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-31 and G.S. 160A-58.1 provide that the sufficiency of the petition shall be investigated by the Clerk before further annexation proceedings may take place; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory deems it advisable to proceed in response to this request for annexation.

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

THAT, the Clerk is hereby directed to investigate the sufficiency of the above-described petition and to certify as soon as possible to the City Council the result of her investigation.

CERTIFICATE OF SUFFICIENCY

TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA:

I, Debbie D. Miller, City Clerk, do hereby certify that I have investigated the petition attached hereto and have found as a fact that said petition is signed by all owners of real property lying in the area described therein, in accordance with G.S. 160A-31 and/or G.S. 160A-58.1, as amended:

2614 & 2716 Springs Road NE, Hickory, containing 2.479 acres more or less

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Hickory this 16th day of April, 2018.

/s/Debbie D. Miller, City Clerk

RESOLUTION FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON QUESTION OF ANNEXATION,
PURSUANT TO G.S. 160A-31 OR G.S. 160A-58.1, AS AMENDED

WHEREAS, a petition requesting annexation of the area described herein has been received; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory has, by Resolution, directed the clerk to investigate the sufficiency thereof; and

WHEREAS, certification by the Clerk as to the sufficiency of said petition has been made.

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

Section 1: That a public hearing on the question of annexation of the area described herein will be held at 7:00 p.m. on May 15, 2018 in the Council Chambers

of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building, located at 76 North Center Street, Hickory, North Carolina.

Section 2: The area proposed for annexation is described as follows:

2614 & 2716 Springs Road NE, Hickory, containing 2.479 acres more or less

Section 3: Notice of said public hearing shall be published in The Hickory Daily Record, a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Hickory, at least ten (10) days prior to the date of said public hearing.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-14

A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE INTENT TO ANNEX INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HICKORY CERTAIN PROPERTY OWNED BY ACCEL DISCOUNT TIRE OF SPRINGS ROAD, INC. AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SAME

WHEREAS, Accel Discount Tire of Springs Road, Inc. is the owner of certain real property as described herein, which property is located at 2614 & 2716 Springs Road NE, containing 2.479 acres more or less; and

WHEREAS, such property is currently located in the City's extra-territorial jurisdictional (ETJ); and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the health, safety and well-being of the residents of the City of Hickory to annex such property into the corporate limits of the City of Hickory as authorized by N.C.G.S. Section 160A-31; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Hickory City Council, sitting in open session this 1st day of May, 2018, at a regularly scheduled meeting of the governing body of said Council, duly called and posted in accordance with the statutes of the State of North Carolina, as follows:

Section 1: That the Hickory City Council does determine that it is in the best interest of the health, safety and well-being of the residents of the City of Hickory to annex the property described hereinafter into the corporate limits of the City of Hickory.

Section 2: That a public hearing on the question of annexation of the area described herein will be held at 7:00 p.m. on May 15, 2018 in the Council Chamber of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building, located at 76 North Center Street, Hickory, North Carolina.

Section 3: The same being that property reflected on a maps entitled Accel Discount Tire (White Tire) Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation Map 1, Current City Boundary, subject property outlined in red; Accel Discount Tire (White Tire) Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation Map 2, 2017 Aerial Photo, subject property outlined in red; Accel Discount Tire (White Tire) Voluntary Non-Contiguous Annexation Map 3, Current Zoning, subject property outlined in red.

Section 4: Notice of said public hearing shall be published in The Hickory Daily Record, a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Hickory, at least ten (10) days prior to the date of said public hearing.

E. Called for a Public Hearing for Review and Consideration of the System Development Fees Compliant with the Requirements of House Bill 436. (Authorize Public Hearing for May 15, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building).

F. Approved on First Reading Amending the Traffic Ordinance to Designate the Speed Limit to 25 mph on 12th Street NW between Main Avenue NW and 2nd Avenue NW.

Staff requests Council's approval to amend the Traffic Ordinance such that 12th Street NW, between Main Avenue NW and 2nd Avenue NW, be designated 25 mph. The Traffic Division received all necessary paperwork from residents within the area with regards to the Traffic Calming Guidelines and have found the residents to be in compliance with the guidelines. Based on recent speed studies it appears traffic is exceeding the speed limit on 12th Street NW. Following the City's Traffic Calming Guidelines, the petition qualifies for a speed limit reduction on the roadway listed. Nineteen properties were included in the petition and eighteen property owners signed the petition. This represents 95 percent approval which exceeds the required 75 percent. The necessary sign modifications along

the roadway can be performed as a normal part of the Traffic Division's signs/markings shop operations. Staff recommends Council's approval to amend the Traffic Ordinance such that 12th Street NW, between Main Avenue NW and 2nd Avenue NW, be designated 25 mph.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-13
AN ORDINANCE OF THE HICKORY CITY COUNCIL
AMENDING THE TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AUTHORIZED IN THE
HICKORY CODE OF ORDINANCES – ARTICLE III, SECTION 18-81

WHEREAS, Article III of the City of Hickory Code of Ordinances be and is hereby amended through the modification of the official maps authorized therein as follows, to wit:

Amend the Traffic Ordinance by reducing the speed limit along 12th St NW, from Main Ave NW to 2nd Ave NW, to 25 mph.

All ordinances or provisions of the Hickory City Code of Ordinances which are not in conformance with the provisions of the Amendment occurring herein are repealed as of the effective date of this Ordinance.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

- G. Approved on First Reading Amending the Traffic Ordinance to Designate the Speed Limit to 25 mph on 8th Street Drive NW between 6th Avenue NW and 9th Avenue NW.

Staff requests Council's approval to amend the Traffic Ordinance such that 8th Street Drive NW, between 6th Avenue NW and 9th Avenue NW, be designated 25 mph. The Traffic Division received all necessary paperwork from residents within the area with regards to the Traffic Calming Guidelines and have found the residents to be in compliance with the guidelines. Based on recent speed studies it appears traffic is exceeding the speed limit on 8th Street Drive NW. Following the City's Traffic Calming Guidelines, the petition qualifies for a speed limit reduction on the roadway listed. Twenty-five properties were included in the petition and twenty-four property owners signed the petition. This represents 96 percent approval which exceeds the required 75 percent. The necessary sign modifications along the roadway can be performed as a normal part of the Traffic Division's signs/markings shop operations. Staff recommends Council's approval to amend the Traffic Ordinance such that 8th Street Drive NW, between 6th Avenue NW and 9th Avenue NW, be designated 25 mph.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-14
AN ORDINANCE OF THE HICKORY CITY COUNCIL
AMENDING THE TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AUTHORIZED IN THE
HICKORY CODE OF ORDINANCES – ARTICLE III, SECTION 18-81

WHEREAS, Article III of the City of Hickory Code of Ordinances be and is hereby amended through the modification of the official maps authorized therein as follows, to wit:

Amend the Traffic Ordinance by reducing the speed limit along 8th St Dr NW, from 6th Ave NW to 9th Ave NW, to 25 mph.

All ordinances or provisions of the Hickory City Code of Ordinances which are not in conformance with the provisions of the Amendment occurring herein are repealed as of the effective date of this Ordinance.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

- H. Approved Applying for the 2018 Bullet Proof Vest Grant.

Hickory Police Department requests permission to apply for a grant to assist in funding the purchase of bulletproof vests for police officers. The City of Hickory will receive up to 50 percent reimbursement for each vest purchased. Since 1999, the Bullet Proof Vest Grant program has provided an opportunity for law enforcement agencies to apply for a grant to receive up to 50 percent funding on the purchase of ballistic vests. In order to be eligible, the agency must have a policy in effect making it mandatory for uniformed officers to wear the vests while on duty. Hickory Police Department has the mandatory wear policy in effect and has been a recipient of this grant for numerous years. Monies are placed in the police department budget uniform line item annually to purchase vests for police officers. Life expectancy of each vest is approximately five years. The Police Department recommends the submission of this grant to receive up to 50 percent funding to purchase bulletproof vests for police officers.

- I. Approved a Professional Services Agreement with Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. in the Amount of \$9,100.

Staff requests Council's acceptance of a Professional Services Agreement with Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. (CEC) for the construction observation and contract administration of the off-site sanitary sewer extension for Trivium Corporate Center in the amount of \$9,100. The City of Hickory identified an area in southeast Hickory that is large enough and conducive to development of a business park, convenient to major roadways and adjacent to significant utility infrastructure. The City of Hickory, Catawba County and Catawba County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) have worked on development of this area as a business park for several years and the City and County have agreed to split the cost of development. Trivium Corporate Center is the business park identified for bond proceeds for the bond referendum that was passed by the City of Hickory. The City, County and EDC have jointly worked on development of the project to a condition that is receptive to marketing. One of the main infrastructure improvements that is necessary for development is to install gravity sanitary sewer to the lowest point on the property. The project was advertised for bids and Hickory Sand Company, Inc. was the responsible low bidder at \$347,625. Staff recommends that Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. continue the field observation, construction documentation and closeout of the project for the lump sum fee of \$9,100. Staff requests Council's acceptance of a Professional Services Agreement with Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc. for the construction observation and contract administration of the off-site sanitary sewer extension for Trivium Corporate Center in the amount of \$9,100.

- J. Approved the Denial of Special Events Activities Amended Application for the Hickory Farmers Market 2018, Sarah Taylor Wood, Downton Hickory Farmer's Market Manager, April 21, 2018 through November 24, 2018, Union Square, Start Time, Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. and Saturdays 8:00 a.m., End Time Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. Set-up Begins 1.5 Hours Prior to Event and Clean-up Ends 1.5 Hours after Closing.

Staff does not recommend approval of the amended application. Any mobile food truck vendors that were not listed on the original special event application are welcome to use any of the designated parking locations that the City has approved for mobile vendors with permits.

- K. Approved on First Reading Budget Revision Number 20.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-15
Budget Revision Number 20

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, 2018.

SECTION 1. To amend the General Fund within the FY 2017-18 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Economic and Community Development	420	-
Culture and Recreation	7,051	-
TOTAL	7,471	-

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous Revenues	920	-
Sales and Services	6,551	-
TOTAL	7,471	-

SECTION 2. To amend the Transportation Fund within the FY 2017-18 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Transportation	30,000	-
TOTAL	30,000	-

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous Revenues	30,000	-
TOTAL	30,000	-

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

XI. New Business:

A. Public Hearings

1. Approved a Voluntary Contiguous Annexation of Property Owned by Graystone Enterprises, LLC, located at 2412 Century Place SE, Hickory, Containing 3.603 Acres, PIN 3722-05-18-0333. – Presentation by Planning Manager Cal Overby. – Presentation by Planning Manager Cal Overby.

Consideration of the voluntary contiguous annexation of 3.603 acres of property located at 2412 Century Place SE, which is also identified as PIN 3722-05-18-0333. Graystone Enterprises, LLC has submitted a petition for the voluntary contiguous annexation of 3.603 acres of property located at 2413 Century Place SE. The annexation area consists of a lot which is to be combined with Graystone's property immediately to the south to create an expansion area for their existing medical office. The owners of the property are seeking annexation, which was part of an agreement with the property developers when the McDonald Crossing development was initially constructed. The agreement was that properties would be voluntarily annexed as they were developed, and in turn the City would maintain the roadways and developer constructed utility system. The current tax value of the property is \$373,700. If annexed with its present value, the property would generate approximately \$2,117 in additional tax revenues. The subject property is poised to be developed as an expansion area of the existing Graystone Eye medical facility, which will inevitably increase the property's tax value, and the tax revenue generated by the property. Upon analysis, staff has determined the petition meets the statutory requirements for voluntary contiguous annexation, and adequate public services are available. Staff finds the petition to be in conformity with applicable statutes, and recommends approval of the annexation petition.

This public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on April 20, 2018.

City Manager Warren Wood asked the City's Planning Manager Cal Overby to the podium to present Council with a voluntary contiguous annexation of property owned by Graystone Enterprises, LLC, located at 2412 Century Place SE.

Planning Manager Cal Overby presented a PowerPoint presentation. He advised Council the request was for a voluntary contiguous annexation of the property owned by Graystone Enterprises, LLC, located at 2412 Century Place SE. The request was for the voluntary annexation of their property, which contained approximately 3.6 acres in size and the closest ward was Ward 3. The property was currently undeveloped and vacant. It was located within the McDonald Crossing Business Park. The property was purchased by Graystone Enterprises which was the parent group that owns Graystone Ophthalmology. Graystone was preparing to undertake an expansion of their existing medical facility and this property will serve as an area for additional parking as well as a building expansion area onto that property. There was an agreement between the developers, the McDonald Crossing Development and the City of Hickory. When the development was put in, at that point in time, it was in the extra territorial jurisdiction, the City approved the development plans for the subdivision. The agreement was the City would immediately annex the street and assume the maintenance of the infrastructure, water, sewer, and other items and the City would annex properties as they would come online for development. Some of the development which had taken place in the McDonald Crossing Development were Carolina Oncology, a call center was located there, Graystone Ophthalmology, and the VA facility was there also. Mr. Overby showed a map and pointed out the municipal boundaries, the subject property, properties currently incorporated or being inside Hickory City limits, and the extra territorial jurisdiction area. He pointed out the properties which encompassed McDonald Crossing. There were still three vacant tracts available for development located within this business park. He showed a 2017 aerial photograph and pointed out the existing development going on. He noted the location of the current practice of Graystone Ophthalmology, Carolina Oncology, the call center, the VA facility, and the location of Klingspor. Mr. Overby advised it was all zoned industrial. Most of the Tate Boulevard area from McDonald Parkway eastward to Fairgrove Church Road was basically zoned industrial as it was bordered to the north by the rail line and to the south by Tate Boulevard. The industrial zoning was intact and was the correct zoning for business park development, medical offices, manufacturing, warehouses and things of that nature. Staff evaluated and found all services were available to service the property and the future expansion. The City currently already serves the properties

that are adjacent to it, so this is basically continuation of services and a continuation of the agreement that the City already has with the developers of the property. Understanding those factors, Staff recommended approval. He asked Council for any questions.

Mayor Guess asked Council if they had any questions. 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 Guess closed the public hearing.

Alderman Seaver moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton approval of the voluntary contiguous annexation of property owned by Graystone Enterprises, LLC, located at 2412 Century Place SE, Hickory. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NO. 443
VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION ORDINANCE (CONTIGUOUS)
Graystone Enterprises, LLC

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 1st day of May, 2018, after due notice by publication on April 20, 2018; 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 May 31, 2018.

CONTIGUOUS ANNEXATION OF .652 ACRES BY THE CITY OF HICKORY KNOWN AS GRAYSTONE ENTERPRISES, LLC
DEED BOOK 3432 PAGE 969

Being all of Lot #7 of McDonald Crossing, Phase One as recorded in Plat Book 65 Page 198 in Hickory Township, Catawba County, North Carolina and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at an existing 1/2" rebar located in the Southern margin of the 50' R/W of Century Place, S.E., said 1/2" rebar being the Northeastern corner of Lot #8 of McDonald Crossing, Phase One as recorded in Plat Book 65 Page 198, and the Northwestern corner of Lot #7 of McDonald Crossing, Phase One as recorded in Plat Book 65 Page 198; thence from said point of beginning and with the Southern margin of the 50' R/W of Century Place, S.E. the following (9) calls: (1) S59°36'32"E 14.54' to a calculated point, (2) S59°36'32"E 84.93' to a calculated point, (3) S59°36'32"E 21.43' to a calculated point, (4) S59°36'32"E 35.86' to a new iron, (5) a curve to the right having a chord bearing of S59°12'01"E, a radius of 575.00', a length of 8.20', and a chord distance of 8.20' to a calculated point, (6) a curve to the right having a chord bearing of S57°42'20"E, a radius of 575.00', a length of 21.80', and a chord distance of 21.80' to a calculated point, (7) a curve to the right having a chord bearing of S26°10'39"E, a radius of 575.00', a length of 337.91', and a chord distance of 582.66' to an existing 1/2" rebar, (8) S04°15'51"W 46.69' to a calculated point, and (9) S04°15'51"W 13.73' to a new iron, a common corner of Lot #6 of McDonald Crossing, Phase One as recorded in Plat Book 65 Page 198; thence with common line of Lot #6 N53°25'12"W 563.38' to an existing 1/2" rebar in the Eastern line of Lot #8; thence with the common line of Lot #8 the following (2) calls: (1) N49°30'16"E 18.73' to an existing 1/2" rebar, and (2) N04°18'48"E 331.34' to the point and place of beginning containing 3.603 acres by coordinate computation as shown on a survey plat by Carl D. Bunton, PLS-3032 and dated February 22, 2018.

Section 2. Upon and after the 31st day of May, 2018, 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. 3 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 May, 2018.

B. Departmental Reports:

1. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

BOND IMPLEMENTATION COMMISSION

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

Alderman Ward 2 Appoints

Jennifer Beane expires 2-1-18 eligible for reappointment

Kay Schmucker expires 2-1-18 eligible for reappointment

(Note: The representatives for Ward 2 will continue serving until such time as the Ward 2 Alderman appoints or reappoints these positions.)

Alderwoman Williams reappointed Jennifer Beane and Kay Schmucker as Ward 2 Representatives on the Bond Implementation Commission.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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

At-Large (Council Appoints)

VACANT

(Dana Chambers Resigned 4-3-18)

Mayor Guess appointed Joan Long to the Business Development Committee.

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

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

Ward 2 (C. Williams 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

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms With Unlimited Appointments)

(Appointed by City Council)

Burke County (Mayor Appoints)

VACANT

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

(Appointed by Mayor with the Concurrence of City Council)

(1) Position

VACANT

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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

At-Large Minority (1) (Council Appoints)

VACANT

(David Williams no longer eligible)

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

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

Ward 4 (D. Williams Appoints)

VACANT

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY

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

VACANT

Mayor Guess appointed Rebecca Clements to the Public Housing Authority.

RECYCLING ADVISORY BOARD

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Ward 4 (D. Williams Appoints)

VACANT

YOUTH COUNCIL

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 1-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Challenger High School Representative
Homeschool Representative
St. Stephens High School Representative

VACANT

VACANT

VACANT

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

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

Alderman Seaver mentioned the splash pad was open.

Mayor Guess advised it was dedicated and named in memory of Charles Dixon at a ceremony today. He mentioned that on Sunday, April 29, 2018, all City coworkers were invited by Dr. Davis to a special service at Viewmont Baptist Church. Mayor Guess had attended the service and advised there was a good turnout. He read the plaque that was presented at the service and presented it to City Manager Warren Wood for display at City Hall.

Alderman Seaver congratulated all of the coworkers and requested a round of applause.

XIV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk