

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 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

Brad Lail  
Vernon Tarlton  
Danny Seaver

Aldermen

Hank Guess  
David P. Zagaroli  
Jill Patton

A quorum was present.

Also present were: City Manager Warren Wood, Assistant City Manager Andrea Surratt, Assistant City Manager Rodney Miller, Deputy City Attorney Arnita Dula, City Attorney John W. Crone, III, Governmental Affairs Manager Yaidee Fox and City Clerk Debbie D. Miller

I. Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton called the meeting to order. All Council members were present except for Mayor Wright who had passed away on May 11, 2017.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Invocation by Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, Lori Blocker, Corinth Reformed Church

A moment of silence was observed for Mayor Rudy Wright prior to the invocation.

IV. Special Presentations

V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard

VI. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting of May 2, 2017

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton moved, seconded by Alderman Lail that the Minutes of May 2, 2017 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.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver that the following be reaffirmed and ratified on second reading. The motion carried unanimously. Council inadvertently missed this item therefore this action occurred after the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of the Microenterprise Grant Agreement with Atreom, LLC. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

B. Budget Revision Number 23. (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 Seaver approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously. At this point Council went back to Item VII as it was inadvertently missed.

A. Called for Public Hearing for Consideration of the City Manager's FY2017-2018 Recommended Budget. (Authorize Public Hearing for June 6, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building).

B. Called for Public Hearing for Consideration of Rezoning Petition 17-01 for Property Located at 1329 Zion Church Road, Containing 1.518 Acres. (Authorize Public Hearing for June 6, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building).

C. Approved the Special Events Activities Application Swinging Under the Stars, Tony Eltora, Executive Director, Hickory Music Factory, May 28, 2017, 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Sails on the Square, Downtown Hickory.

D. Approved the Special Events Activities Application Replay America: The Ultimate 80's Music Festival, Cady Ray, Director of Promotions and Community Relations, Hickory Crawdads, August 11, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m., L.P. Frans Stadium, 2500 Clement Blvd. NW.

E. Approved the Special Events Activities Application, Hickory Choral Society Pops Concert "Groovin" in the 70's, Bonita Ferretti, Hickory Choral Society Office Manager, May 21, 2017, 2:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Sails on the Square in Downtown Hickory.

- F. Approved the Special Events Activities Application, New Blood Championship Wrestling Show, Cady Ray, Director of Promotions and Community Relations, Hickory Crawdads, July 14, 2017, 3:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., L.P. Frans Stadium, 2500 Clement Blvd. NW.
- G. Approved Applying for the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center and Federal Emergency Management Agency "Get Alarmed, North Carolina 2017" Grant.

The City of Hickory Fire Department has been offering smoke detectors to target groups throughout our jurisdiction utilizing matching and non-matching grants from Federal and State funded programs. In May 2017, the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center contacted the City of Hickory Fire & Life Safety Education staff encouraging our participation to apply for the 2017 grant. The North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center staff is aware of the City of Hickory's ongoing program, and since the department had previously performed at such a high level of distribution in years past, sought the department's involvement for 2017. The North Carolina grant offers 250 smoke detectors with the 10-year lithium self-contained battery. The areas being served includes Hickory city limits, rural, and Brookford town limits; making it one of the more diverse areas within the three county jurisdictions that are served. Population according to most recent census information identifies over 50,000 people. This program will utilize fire and life safety educator staff as well as on-duty shift personnel to deliver the program in the target areas while also incorporating household safety checklists and other life safety related materials. The grant requires no matching funds. Staff recommends approval to apply for the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center and Federal Emergency Management Agency "Get Alarmed, North Carolina 2017" grant.

- H. Approved on First Reading Amendment One to the Agreement with Veolia Water North America South, LLC for Continued Operations of the Regional Compost Facility for the Sludge Consortium.

Staff requests Council's approval of amendment one to the existing agreement for operations, maintenance, management and marketing services with Veolia Water North America South, LLC (VWNA) for continued operations of the Regional Compost Facility for the Sludge Consortium. The City of Hickory, City of Conover and Catawba County jointly formed the Sludge Consortium making up the partners in the Regional Compost Facility. The City of Hickory is Lead Agent for the Sludge Consortium and thereby the contracting agent for the Sludge Consortium with the private contract operations firm. Veolia Water North America South, LLC is the current contract operations firm and has been the contract operators for the Regional Compost Facility since inception in 1990, under various names due to mergers and acquisitions. VWNA has successfully operated the Regional Compost Facility for the Sludge Consortium for 29 years resulting in a 99% operational time, minimal issues with nuisance or actual permit violations and successful marketing of the finished compost. Amendment one to the agreement is necessary due to the previous six year contract expiring. The term of the agreement shall expire on June 30, 2018. Thereafter, this agreement shall be automatically renewed upon the same terms and conditions in effect at the time of such renewal for two successive terms of one year each unless canceled in writing by either party no less than 120 day prior to expiration. The agreement includes creation of a Capital Improvement listing for extending useful life of the facility and transitions the budget to recognize a greater importance in mechanical replacements due to age. Staff recommends Council's approval of amendment one to the existing agreement with Veolia Water North America South, LLC for continued operations of the Regional Compost Facility for the Sludge Consortium.

- I. Approved on First Reading the Automatic Aide Response Contract with St. Stephens Fire Department.

Due to voluntary and involuntary annexation since the late 1990's, the City of Hickory Fire Department jurisdiction has increased throughout the years incorporating land areas that were being served with fire protection by rural district fire departments. In order to maintain adequate response coverage in the northeast and northwest quadrants of the city resulting from past years annexation, an automatic aide contract has been developed defining the process for improved response. In order to further clarify specific areas where automatic aide is required, discussions were conducted with St. Stephens Fire Department staff regarding response capabilities for automatic aide. Automatic aide is the use of personnel and equipment for a predetermined response to a jurisdiction upon receipt of an alarm. This process is accomplished through simultaneous dispatch, documented in writing, and included as part of a 911 communications center dispatch protocol. The new Automatic Aide contract with St. Stephens Fire Department is a predetermined response to specific areas within the City of Hickory's municipal limits in the northeast and northwest quadrants for structure alarms and structure fire calls received within the designated areas. The automatic aide contract identifies the response using fire apparatus, personnel, and equipment maintained and operated by the St. Stephens Fire Department. The contract identifies apparatus response, use of resources, scene management, communications, performance criteria, training, and annual evaluation of performance outcomes. The terms include a 59-month contract effective June 1, 2017, and ending May 31, 2022. The City of Hickory will pay St. Stephens \$3,348 per month during the agreement period. Staff recommends approval of the Automatic Aide contract with St. Stephens Fire Department.

- J. Approved on First Reading an Amendment with Talbert, Bright & Ellington, Inc. in the Amount of \$6,479.66 for the Construction Phase for Professional Services of Taxiway “B”, Taxiway “S”, and North Apron Pavement Rehabilitation Project.

Staff requests City Council’s approval of Contract Amendment 1 to work authorization for the construction phase for professional services of the Taxiway “B”, Taxiway “S”, & North Apron Pavement Rehabilitation Project with Talbert, Bright & Ellington, Inc. in the amount of \$6,479.66. Work on the rehabilitation project has been completed and Talbert, Bright & Ellington, Inc. has submitted an amendment to their work authorization for additional professional services they incurred. During the construction phase certain liquidated damages occurred by fault of the contractor, expiration of the project’s allotted construction time had expired and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) approved the construction of a concrete helicopter pad on the north ramp that were not initially part of the project. Due to these project changes, certain reductions and increases to the initial contract for professional services have been incurred. The contract amendment is in the amount of \$6,479.66 and will be paid out of funds for Grant 36237.66.4.3. The final project costs were less than the funds awarded and therefore, no additional local funds will need to be allocated for the amendment. All work on this project is now complete and is ready for payment of final invoices and closeout upon approval and execution of this amendment. The NC Division of Aviation had previously issued grant 36237.66.4.3, at the 90 percent level for this contract that will pay for the additional services covered under this contract amendment in the amount of \$5,831.69. The City has a matching obligation of 10 percent or \$647.97 that will be paid out of the 10 percent City match already in place for this project. The total sum of these amounts constitutes the contract amendment total of \$6,479.66. This contract amendment does not require an increase to the total grant funds already in place for this project. Staff recommends City Council’s approval of this contract amendment with Talbert, Bright & Ellington, Inc. in the amount of \$6,479.66.

- K. Approved on First Reading Budget Revision Number 24.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-14  
BUDGET REVISION NUMBER 24

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

SECTION 1. 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	18,419	-
TOTAL	18,419	-

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous Revenues	18,419	-
TOTAL	18,419	-

SECTION 2. Copies of this budget revision shall be furnished to the Clerk of the Governing Board, and to the City Manager (Budget Officer) and the Finance Officer for their direction.

- IX. Items Removed from Consent Agenda – None

- X. Informational Item

- A. Budget Transfer Report:

Under Section 22 (b) of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget Ordinance, the City Manager is authorized to transfer appropriations with a report to City Council as follows:

Section 22 (b): “He may transfer amounts up to \$50,000 between functional areas including contingency appropriations, within the same fund. He must make an official report on such transfers at the next regular meeting of the Governing Board.”

Under this provision, the following Budget Transfers recently occurred:

- May 9, 2017 (BT #68): \$36 transferred from Community Relations Council (CRC) budget to Police Department to reimburse for postage used for mailings associated with CRC events.

- Background: To expedite the availability of insurance-claims revenue to the appropriate department, the City has budgeted specific funds within the Risk Management division which, upon the case-by-case receipt of said revenues, may be transferred as necessary for making repairs and/or replacements in a timely manner.
  - May 5, 2017 (BT #67): \$165 transferred to the Traffic Division from insurance-claim revenue received from a citizen driver's insurance. Incident involved a damaged speed limit sign on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE on 3/26/17.
  - May 9, 2017 (BT #68): \$7,218 transferred to the Traffic Division from insurance-claim revenue received from a citizen driver's insurance. Incident involved damage to a traffic control box sustained on 4/5/17 on 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW at the intersection with 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW.
  - May 9, 2017 (BT #68): \$11,805 transferred to the Traffic Division from insurance-claim revenue received from a citizen driver's insurance. Incident involved damage to a traffic control box sustained on 3/22/17 at the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW and 9<sup>th</sup> Street SW.

City Manager Warren Wood explained the Budget Transfer Report. One item was related to postage and the other items were for transactions that were insurance related claims. He advised these were informational items which were required to be reported to Council and no action was required from Council.

XI. New Business:

A. Public Hearings

1. Approved on First Reading Vacant Building Revitalization Grant Performance Agreement with MDI Management, LLC in the Amount of \$20,000 for Rehabilitation to the Building Located at 521 Main Avenue SW.

City Council established the Vacant Building Revitalization and Demolition Grant program on September 16, 2008. The program provides grant funding up to \$20,000 for projects to rehabilitate vacant buildings within the Urban Revitalization Area and targeted industrial buildings in other areas of the City. MDI Management, LLC has applied for a Vacant Building Revitalization Grant in the amount of \$20,000 to assist in the rehabilitation of the building located at 521 Main Avenue SW which is located within the Urban Revitalization Area. The applicant plans to spend approximately \$1.6 million to rehabilitate the building and site. The owner will use the building for office and studio space associated with a marketing company. The project would be eligible for a \$20,000 revitalization grant. The Business Development Committee reviewed this proposal at their April 19, 2017 meeting and recommends approval. The North Carolina General Statutes require a public hearing prior to approval of the grant. Staff recommends that City Council approve the Vacant Building Revitalization Grant with MDI Management, LLC.

This public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on May 5, 2017.

City Manager Warren Wood asked the City's Community Development Manager Dave Leonetti to the podium to present Council with the Vacant Building Grant with MDI.

Community Development Manager Dave Leonetti presented City Council with a PowerPoint presentation. He discussed the Vacant Building Revitalization Grant application for property located at 521 Main Avenue SW. This was the original warehouse, the first building where the company was founded approximately 80 some years ago. Mr. Leonetti discussed background on the Vacant Building Grant program. The program allows grants of up to \$20,000 or 15 percent of eligible project costs. Improvements include the interior and the exterior of the building, basically all of the real property improvements with the exception of signage. He advised the building was approximately 26,000 square feet and owned by MDI Management LLC. The building had been vacant for at least 10 years. They plan on spending approximately \$1.6 million dollars to up-fit the building and renovate it into office space. It would be eligible for the maximum grant of \$20,000. It would be used for office space for their retail innovation and marketing of the company.

Alderman Seaver asked if that was something they are going to do or if it was for a tenant.

Mr. Leonetti advised the MDI will be both the tenant and the applicant. The subject property was located just to the west of downtown along the railroad tracks in the middle of the urban revitalization area. On the PowerPoint he showed a photo of the building side which faced the railroad tracks. The plan for the structure was to

redo all of the windows, and put a historic awning back on the building, and replace a lot of the older garage and bay doors. The plan also included adding a historic sign that was on the building originally or something that is as close to approximate as possible. He showed a current photo of the rear of the building which will be more of the main entrance once the building is remodeled because it faces 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue which is where the rest of their office buildings are located along with that a shopping center which they purchased recently. They will be adding some landscaping, windows, and an entry way on the backside of this building. He showed an aerial view of the site pointing out Main Avenue to the north, 5<sup>th</sup> Street SW and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW. He noted that Council previously closed a portion of 5<sup>th</sup> Street SW because MDI owned properties on both sides of the street there. He referenced the material in the agenda which mentioned the demolition of a small building. He thought it was previously used as a restaurant. They had not decided on what they would do with that structure at this time, there was still a chance that they may rehabilitate the structure either for a tenant or their own use. He advised it was not part of the application. The Business Development Committee reviewed the application at their April meeting and recommended approval. He advised Council he could answer any questions that they might have.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton asked City Attorney John Crone to explain the Public Hearing Rules to those in attendance.

City Attorney John Crone explained the rules for the public hearing. He advised this is a public hearing and according to the rules of North Carolina State Law, in particular the City of Hickory's Ordinance, this is a public hearing and Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton would open the public hearing. He advised the way the Ordinance is written those that oppose the proposal go first and are allowed up to 15 minutes which can be divided among those that want to speak. And then those in favor, if any, would speak and they have a total of 15 minutes. Council can increase that time if they so desire. Then there are five minutes for rebuttal and five minutes for surrebuttal.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton confirmed those in favor of the proposal have 15 minutes also.

City Attorney John Crone stated that is correct.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton declared the public hearing open.

City Attorney John Crone asked if anybody was in opposition to the proposal they could come forward and speak to Council at this time. No one appeared. He asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the proposal. No one appeared. He suggested Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton close the public hearing and ask for discussion or motion.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton closed the public hearing.

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Zagaroli approval of the Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Departmental Reports:

1. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

<u>COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION</u> (Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council) Ward 4 (Guess Appoints)	VACANT
<u>COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL</u> (Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council) Other Minority (Council Appoints) Other Minority (Council Appoints)	VACANT VACANT
<u>HICKORY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION</u> (Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms With Unlimited Appointments) (Appointed by City Council) Ward 2 (Tarlton Appoints) (Noah Geoghegan moved out of Ward 2) Burke County (Mayor to Nominate)	VACANT VACANT
<u>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL</u> (Appointed by Mayor with the Concurrence of City Council) (2) Positions	VACANT
<u>LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD</u> (Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)	

Ward 4 (Guess Appoints) VACANT

Alderman Guess appointed Elliott Neil Walker as Ward 4 Representative, Library Advisory Board.

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 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)

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

City Manager Warren Wood advised there was a number of vacancies listed and Alderman Guess wished to appoint Elliott Neil Walker as Ward 4 Representative to the Library Advisory Board.

Alderman Guess advised he had spoken to Mr. Walker and he had been looking for someone to fill that vacancy for quite some time. He advised Elliott Neil Walker was Susan Walker's husband and he had agreed to accept the position and was excited about it. Alderman Guess advised he wanted to make that appointment.

City Manager Warren Wood commented if there are other appointments that City Council would like to make they could make them now, otherwise they would need to take action on the nomination.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton asked if there were any others. There were none.

Alderman Guess moved seconded by Alderwoman Patton approval of the above nomination. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Presentation of Petitions and Requests

At this point in the meeting Alderwoman Patton moved that Council change the order of the "General Comments by Members of Council, City Manager or City Attorney of a Non-Business Nature" with "Matters Not on Agenda". Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Alderwoman Patton thought everyone was present with heavy hearts and they would all miss Rudy (Mayor Wright), and the way that he made everyone feel really special. Someone has some big shoes to fill, but they knew that he would want this City to keep right on moving, move forward and fulfill his vision.

Alderman Seaver asked if anyone had permission, referring to sitting by Mayor Wright, to kick or elbow him during the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton confirmed he had.

Alderman Seaver advised he had that too. He actually sat on the other side of the Mayor for a while and then he moved him. He thought one leg was stronger than the other. He commented that Mayor Wright told him if he ever got out of line, or he was going a little too far or something for him to nudge him. He advised that sometimes he nudged him and it didn't make any difference. He thought everyone knew the man that Rudy (Mayor Wright) was. He didn't know of anybody who hadn't been touched by him one way or another, either through some things he said, or actually shaking your hand, a pat on the back, or whatever. He was really the peoples Mayor. He missed him.

Alderman Zagaroli commented he felt the same way. He was the second newest City Council member, Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton being the newest. He got to know Rudy (Mayor Wright) very personally and he felt that he was the best thing that ever happened to Hickory. He advised he has a hole in his heart for the guy and he knew that the rest of them did as well. They will miss them.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton responded he did too.

Alderman Lail had never known another Mayor, he explained as far as sitting on Council. Rudy (Mayor Wright) had been here his whole tenure. That gave him a chance, in some ways, to watch him evolve as a Mayor. He really did Hickory proud in so many ways. He advised that everyone knew that Rudy (Mayor Wright) liked to talk a lot. Sometimes what you do speaks so loud you can't hear what somebody says. That was true with Rudy (Mayor Wright). It never ceased to amaze him the things that he did that nobody even knew about in the community. These were things not necessarily even in his mayoral role. He mentioned in one case where a fellow whose parents were deceased and Rudy (Mayor Wright) took it upon himself to help look after him. Any number of different things. Alderman Lail also had the privilege of being around Mayor Wright outside of Council settings, not necessarily in social settings, but on trips, meetings with Federal and State officials, with other local officials in meetings and he conducted himself with such grace and with such ardent support for the citizens of Hickory. He was all in for the citizens and taxpayers. That will be very difficult to replace. Alderman Lail commented he was a sad fellow, there was no doubt about it.

Alderman Guess advised he had the honor and privilege of knowing Mayor Wright from a couple different perspectives. One of those perspectives was as a City employee. He stated that he always would call him Mayor Wright every time he would have a conversation with him as an employee of the City of course. He would call Alderman Guess about mainly speeding tickets that he had gotten and things like that. Alderman Guess always addressed him as Mayor Wright sir most of the time. After Alderman Guess was elected to Council he called Mayor Wright, and said Mayor Wright sir, and Mayor Wright told him he could call him Rudy, he didn't need to call him Mayor Wright sir. Alderman Guess advised he still most of the time called him Mayor Wright sir, just because he had that kind of respect. He knew everyone had that kind of respect. Alderman Guess stated he didn't have a single bad memory of Mayor Wright. There are not many people that you can say that about. He never had any kind of conflict. They never had any kind of an argument. They never had that. So every single memory that he has of Mayor Wright sir is good and he will cherish that forever.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton agreed with Alderman Guess. He knew Rudy (Mayor Wright) for years before serving on Council, mostly as a customer of his. He always did what he said he was going to do. When he got on Council Mayor Wright took him under his wing and gave him some pointers. He would never forget that and he would miss him forever. He was quite a man.

City Attorney John Crone commented that Mayor Wright was very comfortable in his role as Mayor. The only couple of times that Mr. Crone could remember butting heads with him, he didn't always like what the law was. The thing about the three minute rule, Mayor Wright would say to Attorney Crone, there are rules with a capital "R" and rules with a small "r", and that is just a small "r", that is ridiculous. Attorney Crone would respond to Mayor Wright, I am just telling you what the law says. Attorney Crone was so proud of his leadership and Council's leadership in being overly transparent. The Mayor and all of the Council members hate closed session. He had never seen a situation where the law or the statutes don't require a certain amount of notice, that they don't go, or the Mayor did not recommend and Council didn't say, you are absolutely right beyond the legal notice requirements and put extra notice. Attorney Crone had seen two mayors, and what Alderman Lail said, he had friends who had deaths in the family and Mayor Wright would just call them and say I'm sorry. Nobody ever knew about that. Mayor Wright could cut a ribbon. He was everywhere. What Attorney Crone remembered most about him was his integrity and his zest for transparency.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton commented that it a good point. Mayor Wright wanted the public to be aware of everything that Council did, and they always have been.

City Manager Warren Wood commented when the City Manager's position became vacant, Mayor Wright was the first to call him and he asked him if he wanted to come home. Mr. Wood referenced the PowerPoint slide that was being displayed of pictures of Mayor Wright. One of the slides said "Big Heart, Big Smile" and that was Rudy Wright.

Alderman Seaver commented some of those things that were spoken of and that people didn't know that he had done, he learned something earlier at a Kiwanis meeting. Mayor Wright was a great Kiwanian, even though he was never a member of the club. Alderman Seaver offered to pay his dues for two years to get him to join up. He remembered when the Zahra Baker Playground was on Mayor Wright's mind, he was trying to find somebody to do it. He told Alderman Seaver that he had to get the Kiwanis Club to do that. Alderman Seaver told him he would bring it up to the board. Mayor Wright called the board meeting himself, not even a member of the club and called a board meeting and had them together and everybody was on board immediately. Mayor Wright had a way about him that he could come in and start a meeting. You didn't have to have the people that were supposed to be there. He advised that the new Director of the Catawba County Council on Aging, Vickie Blevins, spoke at the Kiwanis meeting and she said one thing that really impressed her about Mayor Wright, she had been in the area twenty-some years and worked there when Mary Mode directed it. She said there was a lady, Alderman Seaver didn't know how Mayor Wright got hooked up with her; but he went by and picked her up because she had missed the bus to go to the senior's morning out. There was a musical thing going on there and she just wanted to be there. Mayor Wright got her in his car and drove her over there. He took her there and danced with everybody there before he left. Alderman Seaver had not heard that story before, but

everyone has a story like that which is personal to them or a certain situation where he just showed up out of the blue. When you talk about ribbon cuttings, he thought Mayor Wright tried to cut every single ribbon that was available to be cut. Alderman Seaver remembered one time that he was at a ceremony and someone asked him if he could cut the ribbon if the Mayor didn't show up. Alderman Seaver advised that Mayor Wright would probably be there. Mayor Wright pulled up, the car still running, jumps out, says a few words, cuts the ribbon, and goes back gets in the car because he said he had to go somewhere else. It was that quick, but he was there. Alderman Seaver commented a lot of people don't see all of those little things out there, and Council didn't see them and they had worked with him a lot. It is going to be hard to replace a person that is everywhere like that. He didn't know if they could find anybody, but they will get the next best thing.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton agreed with Alderman Zagaroli he was the best thing that ever happened to Hickory.

Alderman Lail commented that Mayor Wright came to him in a dream last night and he wanted him to tell the staff, "No change orders, no change orders".

Alderman Seaver asked if he gave him a time limit on that.

Alderwoman Patton responded he will be missed.

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

City Attorney John Crone advised the next thing on the agenda was "Matters Not on Agenda" if there are any, would require a motion of Council to consider if there are any matters not on the agenda.

Alderwoman Patton commented in light of that Council needs to fill the unexpired term of Rudy Wright, she moved to nominate Jeff Cline to fill the unexpired term. Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Patton invited Mr. Jeff Cline to the podium to speak.

Mayoral Elect Jeff Cline addressed Council. He was honored to receive the appointment and he humbly accepted. He thanked Council, his wife Joy, and his employer BB&T for their understanding and support with this endeavor. He mentioned as he had privately spoken to each of Council he would share it publicly. He advised he would not seek election in November. His commitment was to serve City Council, this City, and to continue the work of Council unabated until a new mayor is elected in November. For all of us this is a surreal experience. He referenced Mayor Wright's service and commented it was a powerful thing. He thought we should remember that beyond his extraordinary personality, his love and enthusiasm, and his passion and compassion for us as citizens and individuals, he has a two-fold legacy. Mayor Wright's first legacy was financial. He led this City through the darkest recession, in most of our lifetimes that we have seen. His fiscal responsibility, his stewardship of this City was something he was extremely proud of. That legacy is finished, but the second contribution is still in progress, his vision for a revitalized City with our bond projects, the Riverwalk, the City Walk, and the Business Park, that is a work in progress and it is underway. That too as it is finished will be his legacy. Mr. Cline was at the memorial service, he couldn't see very well being a little fellow it was so crowded all he could see was the tops of people's heads, but he heard every word that was said and the love that was poured out was just overwhelming being there. He knows that his shoes will not be filled, but everyone can all work together to fulfill his legacy of a beautiful reborn City. We honor Rudy Wright not just with our words but with our deeds and together we will work to make him proud. He asked for everyone's prayers and support of Council as they work together to make this dream possible.

Council thanked Mr. Cline.

Attorney John Crone commented he knew that everyone wanted to thank Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton, and he would still be serving in that capacity until Mayor Elect Cline takes his oath, which he understood would be at the next regular meeting. He asked if that was correct.

Alderwoman Patton confirmed that was correct.

Alderman Seaver asked the date of the next meeting.

City Manager Warren Wood advised it was actually three weeks out.

Alderman Seaver reiterated three weeks from today.

XIV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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Mayor Pro Tempore Tarlton

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City Clerk