

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hickory was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

Bruce Meisner
Danny Seaver

Aldermen

Hank Guess
Jill Patton

A quorum was present.

Also present were: City Manager Mick Berry, Assistant City Manager Rodney Miller, Assistant City Manager Andrea Surratt, Deputy City Attorney Arnita Dula, City Attorney John W. Crone, III, Deputy City Clerk Sarah Prencipe and City Clerk Debbie D. Miller

- I. City Attorney John Crone advised Council that since neither the Mayor nor the Mayor Pro Tempore were present then Council's first order of business was to select a member of their body to conduct the meeting. Alderman Guess moved that Alderman Meisner, in honor of his last City Council meeting for the City of Hickory, perform the duties as the Mayor. Alderwoman Patton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. All Council members were present except for Alderman Lail, Alderman Zagaroli, and Mayor Wright.
- II. Invocation by Rev. Jay Robison, Pastor, Viewmont Baptist Church

Rev. Jay Robison observed a moment of silence for the people affected by the terrorist bombings, and then he gave the invocation.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Special Presentations
- V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard

- A. Rev. Susan Smith Walker, Catawba Valley Interfaith Council, Community-Wide Service Commemorating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 2015.

Rev. Susan Smith Walker, Associate Pastor of Exodus Missionary Outreach Church and also Minister at Church of the Master United Church of Christ in Hickory, was accompanied by other ministers and lay leaders representing the Catawba Valley Interfaith Council. The group of ministers and lay leaders from many faith traditions who meet monthly seeking to be an inclusive voice for the many faith perspectives in this community. At this time their council includes, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Unitarian Representatives, and they are open to other people of faith to join them. They are a new organization and have been meeting for approximately six months. They are planning to hold an interfaith service to celebrate Human Rights Day, Thursday, December 10, 2015, at Temple Beth Shalom at 7:00 p.m. December 10th is the 67th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which was passed unanimously by the United Nations General Assembly shortly after World War II. The goal of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is to establish a worldwide vision from individual freedom and dignity, much like our constitution and Bill of Rights was done. The Declaration establishes a roadmap listing the fundamental rights due every individual throughout the world. A few of the 30 Articles contained in the Declaration of Human Rights are: all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights; everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion; everyone has a right to an education; everyone charged with a crime has the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty; everyone has a right to own property. She requested that the City of Hickory join them in this important work by issuing a proclamation commemorating December 10, 2015 as Human Rights Day to commemorate and honor the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Dignity. She thanked Council for consideration of the request. She stated that they look forward to being an organization that will bring people together in peace and brotherly love.

- B. Mr. Billy Sudderth, 821 1st Street SW, addressed City Council on behalf of his community. He advised that it wanted to discuss concerns that he and his community have regarding the lack of investment in the Ridgeview Community and in other parts of the City.

Mr. Sudderth thanked Rev. Robison for his words concerning the senseless violence that had taken place in Paris, France. He also observed a moment of silence. Mr. Sudderth felt that it was important to mention what had taken place on a level of that nature, of that violence, occurring in our communities, cities, Nation, and around the world.

Mr. Sudderth advised that he had spoken with City Council members and the City Manager regarding the need for a Multipurpose Resource Center in general, and in particular, in the Ridgeview Community because of its centralized location which would provide resource training to everyone in the Hickory area that is seeking help with a variety of needs. During the past two years he has tried to help residents in the Ridgeview Community, where he lives and work, to share their concerns with City officials. Some have been reluctant because they believe the more they complain the more things remain the same. We all share a common bond with our City and can envision it being a place of opportunities for all citizens. The Ridgeview Community is faced with many problems and needs which

Council should be aware of and concerned about. They have a high level of crime, unemployment, illiteracy, health crisis, poor housing conditions, and lack of economic growth which permeates throughout the county. He requested that City Council authorize a feasibility study to be conducted in the Ridgeview Community to determine what investment can and will be made to enhance its growth. He wanted the reputation of our "All-American City" status to resonate beyond Hickory, North Carolina. He will accept any offers to assist City Council, and its designated members in conducting this suggested study to expedite the process of obtaining the Multipurpose Resource Center that Council will determine is a necessity for the future growth of the City. He advised that he was consistently working on this. There will be a lot of writing done, a lot of people contacted, and they will be coming down to City Hall and do some research on grants. He thanked Council for allowing him to share that information. He gave the City Clerk a copy of his talking points.

VI. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting of November 3, 2015

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 3, 2015 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Meisner announced that the motion was made by Alderwoman Patton seconded by Alderman Seaver and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Special Meeting of November 3, 2015

Alderman Guess moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of November 3, 2015 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Meisner announced that the motion was made by Alderman Guess seconded by Alderwoman Patton 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.

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

Alderman Meisner announced that the motion was made by Alderwoman Patton seconded by Alderman Guess and the motion carried unanimously.

A. Approval to Amend the Speed Ordinance for Roadways In and Around Lenoir-Rhyne University. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

B. Approval to Retire Police Canine Bachak and an Agreement to Allow Police Canine Bachak to be adopted by Handler MPO Matt Williams. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

C. Approval of Community Relations Council Fall Grant Recommendations. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

D. Consideration of the Sale of Five City-Owned Properties Located on F Avenue SE. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

E. Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 9. (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.

Alderman Meisner announced that the motion was made by Alderwoman Patton seconded by Alderman Seaver and the motion carried unanimously.

A. Approved the Special Events Activities Application, A Very Vintage Christmas, Caleb Haworth, Operations Pastor, Vintage City Church, Union Square, December 24, 2015 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

B. Approved Closing Patrick Beaver Memorial Library and Ridgeview Library on December 18, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for Staff Development Workshop, and Closing Ridgeview Library for Carpet Installation on a Date to be Determined.

Library staff, both full-time and part-time, interact on a daily basis with the public and, therefore, need periodic opportunities to participate in staff development training to re-energize and motivate themselves, acquire new skills, and learn to work together as a team. To ensure that this happens, it is necessary to schedule the training during a workday. Staff determined that the afternoon of Friday, December 18, 2015 is a date that the libraries could be closed and that would create as little disruption as possible in service to the public. Staff requests approval to close Patrick Beaver Memorial Library and Ridgeview Library on December 18, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the Staff Development Workshop.

Library staff also requests approval to close Ridgeview Library, on a date to be determined, for the installation of carpet. Although an effort will be made to have as much of the work as possible done after normal operating hours, it may be necessary and more efficient to close the building to the public while the new carpet is installed. Staff recommends approval of closing Ridgeview Library as required for carpet installation.

- C. Called for a Public Hearing – For Consideration of Text Amendment (TA) 15-01. (Authorize Public Hearing for December 1, 2015)
- D. Called for a Public Hearing – For Consideration of Amending Chapter 18, Article VI, Sections 18-119 and 18-136 of the Hickory City Code. (Authorize Public Hearing for December 1, 2015)
- E. Approved a Proclamation for Small Business Saturday, November 28, 2015.
- F. Approved the Citizens' Advisory Committee Recommendations for Assistance through the City of Hickory's Housing Programs.

The following requests were considered by the Citizens' Advisory Committee at their regular meeting on November 5, 2015:

- Keondra Allred was approved for recommendation to City Council for first-time homebuyer's assistance to purchase a house located at 1010 33rd Avenue Loop NE, Hickory. She had requested \$10,000 for assistance with down payment and closing costs. The First-Time Homebuyers Assistance Loan is zero interest, no payments and repaid upon sale, refinance or payoff of first mortgage.
- David & Anna Gruver was approved for recommendation to City Council for first-time homebuyer's assistance to purchase a house located at 1031 33rd Avenue Loop NE, Hickory. They have requested \$7,500 for assistance with down payment and closing costs. The First-Time Homebuyers Assistance Loan is zero interest, no payments and repaid upon sale, refinance or payoff of first mortgage

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

- Donna Arbogast, 1527 11th Avenue SW, Hickory
- Belinda Clark, 207 8th Avenue Drive SW, Hickory
- Geraldine Suddreth, 428 2nd Street SW, Hickory

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

- G. Approved on First Reading the Acceptance of the Bid and Award to Asheville Ford Lincoln in the Amount of \$71,455.44 for the Purchase of Replacement Service Vehicles for Public Utilities.

Staff requests City Council's approval to accept the bid and award to Asheville Ford Lincoln in the amount of \$71,455.44 for replacement service vehicles for Public Utilities. These service trucks are being proposed as a component of the Public Utilities Department's normal capital replacement program and are budgeted in the FY 2015/2016 Capital Budget. Public Utilities will remove replacement vehicles from inventory to control fleet growth. Asheville Ford Lincoln was the lowest responsive bidder in the amount of \$71,455.44 for the purchase of one full size standard cab half ton 4x2 pickup, and two full size extended cab half ton 4x4 pickups. Staff recommends City Council accept the bid and award the purchase of three pickups from Asheville Ford Lincoln in the amount of \$71,455.44.

- H. Approved on First Reading Grant Project Ordinance Amendment Number 3.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-53
GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 3

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the City of Hickory, that pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following amendment be made to the grant project ordinance for the duration of this project.

SECTION 1. To amend the Brownfield Grant 95499212, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Economic and Community Development	4	-
TOTAL	4	-

To provide the revenue for the above, the revenues will be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Investment Earnings	4	-
TOTAL	4	-

SECTION 2. Copies of the grant project ordinance amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk of the Governing Board, and to the City Manager (Budget Officer) and the Finance Officer for their direction.

- I. Approved on First Reading Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 10.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-54
BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NUMBER 10

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the City of Hickory, that pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.

SECTION 1. To amend the General Fund the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Transportation	9,830	-
Culture & Recreation	30	-
Public Safety	31,325	-
TOTAL	41,185	-

To provide the additional revenue for the above, the revenues will be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous	10,360	-
Other Financing Sources	30,825	-
TOTAL	41,185	-

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

- IX. Items Removed from Consent Agenda – None
- X. Informational Item
- XI. New Business:
 - A. Public Hearings
 - B. Departmental Reports:
 - 1. Splash Pad Update at Kiwanis Park

City Manager Mick Berry asked the City's Chief Financial Officer and Assistant City Manager Rodney Miller to the podium. He advised that at Council's Special

Meeting on November 3, 2015, Mr. Miller had presented the City's financial position and how it relates to pending capital projects that are not part of the bond projects. Council had discussed that and there was some interest in moving forward with some of those projects in an expeditious fashion. Prior to that meeting, Parks and Recreation Director Mr. Mack McLeod had presented and Council had approved a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Kiwanians in the region for them to raise funds and for the City, in conjunction with the Kiwanians, to construct a splash pad at Zahra Baker Park. He asked Mr. Miller to discuss the budget for that project and the meeting that Staff had with the Kiwanians to see if Council was prepared to establishing a budget so that project could move forward.

Assistant City Manager Rodney Miller advised Council that at last month's meeting Mr. McLeod had presented several options of splash pads at Kiwanis Park. The high end was a \$425,000 option, which was recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission. City Staff had reviewed those options, and felt they could reduce the cost of that particular option with the buckets, and the features that rain down on children's heads. They were able to remove the recirculation system which takes out all of the underground tanks, all of the chemicals, and all of the extra costs that we would have. He advised that it saved a little over \$100,000 by removing those items. Without the recirculation system we are in the \$250,000 to \$350,000 range, which he had previously presented to Council at their November 3rd, Capital Planning Workshop. He advised that Staff had met with members of both Kiwanis Clubs, as well as members of the Parks and Recreation Commission that had been appointed to the Splash Pad Management Committee, which Council had authorized via the Memorandum of Understanding agreement. They are very excited and are ready to move forward fundraising. They have two clubs, and one of the club's chairs had mentioned that they want to start immediately with the fundraising effort and would hope to secure half of the funding by the end of the calendar year. They want to get the project completed by the summer so the children and the residents could enjoy it. Mr. Miller summarized that they have reviewed the financial picture with Council. There are multiple projects that are being considered, this being the first one that is shovel ready. They have picked out several designs. Staff felt that it was best to move forward with a project budget, which he requested Council to consider. He advised that the project budget would be established at \$300,000, which would be \$200,000 in City funds and \$100,000 in revenue from both Kiwanis Clubs. At that point the Splash Pad Management Team would go back to the manufacturer, discuss among themselves, get citizens input, to determine which features are needed at Kiwanis Park/Zahra Baker Playground, and come back to Council with that recommendation to do that with that sum of money. In formalizing the dollar amount, a not to exceed amount, it would also allow the Kiwanis Clubs to get a rendition, a drawing, a sketch, of that particular splash pad that we are going to construct and allow them to send that out to the community and raise funds for that. He reiterated that Staff's recommendation was to establish a project budget of \$300,000, \$100,000 coming from Kiwanis, and the \$200,000 specifically coming from Fund Balance. At the November 3rd workshop he had advised that the City currently sets at 33 percent of our available Fund Balance which is eight percent higher than Council's goal of 25 percent for a rainy day.

Alderwoman Patton asked if the Kiwanians raised more than \$100,000 would that decrease the amount that the City would spend.

Mr. Miller advised that the Memorandum of Understanding states that if they were to raise funds greater than \$100,000 it would offset the amount of the project.

Alderman Meisner questioned the recirculation and asked if it affected safety or sanitation.

Mr. Miller commented no sir it does not. Staff had spoken to the Environmental Health Department, which is part of Catawba County Public Health, and they have authorized that particular project and there is no issue with that. In essence, the City is recycling the water instead of recirculating the water. It goes right back down the storm drain and back into the lake. The City will recycle that water. We have a great valuable resource with the lake in our backyard.

Mr. Berry advised that it is an ongoing maintenance cost issue as well. As Staff was doing their research they heard from other communities that having those recirculation systems are a problem and there is ongoing maintenance cost. Staff felt that it was advantageous to use the systems that we already have in place. It is potable water coming out, drinkable water.

Alderman Seaver asked if there was a need for a pump.

Mr. Berry advised that not included in the \$300,000 budget is utility work. He commented that for many years there had been some pressure issues because the size of the waterline that serves the neighborhood. As a utility project the City will actually upsize that water pipe. We will have plenty of capacity and flow and pressure.

Mr. Miller commented that the City assumed a 10 percent contingency and would asked them to include that 10 percent contingency in that number, but within that \$300,000 budget. It would not be over \$300,000 it would be included within that \$300,000 budget.

Alderman Meisner asked if Staff was requesting a motion.

Mr. Berry confirmed a motion on the budget amendment.

Alderman Patton commented that this is setting a precedents if Council is moving forward with this so when there are other areas of the City that want a splash pad they need to keep in mind that the Kiwanis is raising \$100,000 of that, a third of it. The City is looking for those partnerships, so far have done really well with the City of Hickory.

Alderman Seaver commented when it comes to helping children that is what Kiwanis is all about.

Mr. Miller commented that they are in their 100th year anniversary for the Kiwanis Club. That is why they felt a \$100,000 commitment would be a good number to obtain.

Alderman Guess asked if the Kiwanians would be responsible for securing the funds and depositing them and dealing with the monies that come in.

Mr. Miller commented that they will actually solicit those donations, but the donations will come to the City of Hickory. We will have a separate donation account to authorize and allocate to keep track of those dollars. Acknowledgement letters will also be sent to donor's recognizing their gift for tax purposes.

Alderman Seaver commented that it was an easier process to do that than through the Kiwanis Foundation.

Alderman Patton moved that Council authorize up to \$300,000 with the Kiwanis raising a minimum of \$100,000.

Mr. Berry asked Alderman Patton if she would state to recommend approving Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 11.

Alderman Patton restated approval of Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 11, seconded by Alderman Seaver. The motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-55
BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NUMBER 11

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the City of Hickory, that pursuant to Section 15 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following amendment be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.

SECTION 1. To amend the General Fund the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Culture & Recreation	300,000	-
TOTAL	300,000	-

To provide the additional revenue for the above, the revenues will be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous	100,000	-

Other Financing Sources	200,000	-
TOTAL	300,000	-

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

2. Approval of a Landscape Grant for Non-residential Property Owned by Lakeview Land Development Located at 716 4th Street SW in the Amount of \$2,500.

City Council created the Landscape Grant program in 1999 to provide economic incentives for property owners to improve the general appearance of non-residential properties located within the City. The Community Appearance Commission reviews applications for the grant program and forwards a recommendation of approval or denial to City Council. The grants are designed as a reimbursement grant in which the City of Hickory will match the applicant on a 50/50 basis. The maximum grant amount from the City of Hickory is \$2,500. The applicant, Lakeview Land Development, LLC provided two bids for the installation of new landscape material around the perimeter of an existing commercial office complex. Both estimates are in excess of \$5,000 and would qualify for the full \$2,500 grant. The Community Appearance Commission voted unanimously (7-0) at their October 26, 2015 regular meeting, to recommend funding of the requested grant in the amount of \$2,500.

Mr. Berry asked the City's Planning Manager Cal Overby to the podium to present Council with three grant proposals.

Planning Manager Cal Overby presented a PowerPoint presentation to Council. The first presentation, a request from Lakeview Development Holdings, LLC for a landscape incentive grant for property located at 716 4th Street SW. The owner of the property had requested the grant in the amount of \$2,500. The purpose of the request was to remove the existing landscaping that surrounds an office complex and replace it with new landscaping. He showed a photo of the subject property which was the former Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) facility. He pointed out that it is now the Catawba County Cooperative Children's Resource Center, and there is also another small office located there. He showed exterior photos of the building and pointed out the minimum landscaping and the older landscaping that were established 20-25 years in the past. He advised they plan to install new landscaping, especially around the sidewalk and an open area and the front face of the building. He pointed out the areas of where the landscaping was being installed. He pointed out 4th Street heading south toward US70. He pointed out the west portion of the complex to the rear and advised that landscaping in those areas would also be replaced. He pointed out where the WPCOG Section 8 Housing used to be located when they occupied the facility there. The application submitted to the Appearance Commission contained two quotes as part of the application. One was for a little over \$5,100 and the other one was a little over \$7,400. Since both of these amounts were over \$5,000 the application qualified for a \$2,500 grant. It is a dollar per dollar grant match on these funds. The owner must invest the same amount of money that they are requested from the City, up to the cap, which in this instance is \$2,500. He advised that the current tax value of the property was just a little over \$540,000 which the grant represents about a half of a percent of the value of the property. It is a decent investment over the overall value of the property. The Appearance Commission considered this request at their October 26th meeting and unanimously recommended Council's approval.

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver approval of the Landscape Grant for Non-residential property owned by Lakeview Development Holdings LLC in the amount of \$2,500. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Meisner announced that the motion was made by Alderman Patton seconded by Alderman Seaver and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of a Community Appearance Grant for Non-residential Property Owned by the Hickory Elks Lodge Located at 356 Main Avenue NW in the Amount of \$5,000.

City Council created the Community Appearance Grant program in 1999 to provide economic incentives for property owners to improve the general appearance of properties located within the City's designated urban revitalization area. The Community Appearance Commission reviews applications for the grant program and forwards a recommendation of approval or denial to City Council.

The grants are designed as a reimbursement grant in which the City of Hickory will match the applicant on a 50/50 basis. The maximum grant amount from the City of Hickory is \$5,000. The applicant, Hickory Elks Lodge, provided two bids for renovations of an exterior wall elevation. These improvements include the removal of aged and weathered pebble board, bricking in the areas where the pebble board was removed, and the clean-up of electrical wiring on the building's exterior. Both estimates are in excess of \$10,000 and would qualify for the full \$5,000 grant. On October 26, 2015 at their regular meeting, the Community Appearance Commission voted (6-0-1) with one members abstaining, to recommend funding for the requested grant in the amount of \$5,000.

Mr. Overby continued his presentation with the PowerPoint. The next grant was a Community Appearance Grant, unlike the landscape grant, the Community Appearance Grants are for upgrades to the exterior facades of buildings, with the ideal that these improvements to beautify the building will make it more attractive and look better in the City. The application was submitted by The Hickory Elks Lodge Trustee, Rick Berry, for property located at 356 Main Avenue. The request was for a grant in the amount of \$5,000. This grant was a continuation of some projects that the Elks Lodge had undertaken over the last few years. They are removing some dated pebble board which was installed vertically on the sides of the building. Those are being removed and they are being replaced with inlaid brick to match the remainder of the building. It is also being painted to match the exterior of the building. They are also redoing some electrical wiring on the exterior of the building to conceal it from view. There are wires showing at the corner of Main Avenue and 4th. He showed the subject property pointing out Main Avenue, 4th Street, and the rail line and the elevation of the property. He pointed out the vertical pebble board architectural features. He pointed out an area that had previously been updated removing the pebble board and replacing with the inlaid brick. He advised that the windows had been replaced also. They will be removing more of the windows, and some of the wiring that is showing. The application submitted by the Elks Lodge contained two quotes for the improvements. One was just shy of \$15,000 and the other one was slightly over \$17,000. As with the landscape grant it is a dollar for dollar match. The cap on this grant program is \$5,000. In order to qualify for a \$5,000 grant you would need to invest at least \$10,000. They are at the threshold to maximize the grant in this particular instance. The value of the property was just shy of \$450,000, which it is approximately one percent of the tax value. He advised that part of the property is taxable, however part of it is not. There are some commercial ventures going on in the building but the majority of it is not. The Appearance Commission considered the grant on October 26th and recommend approval.

Alderman Seaver moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton approval of the Community Appearance Grant for non-residential property owned by the Hickory Elks Lodge the amount of \$5,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Meisner announced that the motion was made by Alderman Seaver seconded by Alderwoman Patton and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of a Community Appearance Grant for Non-residential Property Owned by ADEMNC, LLC Located at 509 11th Street NW, in the Amount of \$5,000.

City Council created the Community Appearance Grant program in 1999 to provide economic incentives for property owners to improve the general appearance of properties located within the City's designated urban revitalization area. The Community Appearance Commission reviews applications for the grant program and forwards a recommendation of approval or denial to City Council. The grants are designed as a reimbursement grant in which the City of Hickory will match the applicant on a 50/50 basis. The maximum grant amount from the City of Hickory is \$5,000. The applicant, ADEMNC, LLC, provided two bids for replacement of windows, painting of portions of the building's exterior, the replacement of wooden siding, and the replacement of metal roofing. Both estimates are in excess of \$10,000 and would qualify for the full \$5,000 grant. On October 26, 2015 at their regular meeting, the Community Appearance Commission voted (7-0) to recommend funding for the requested grant in the amount of \$5,000.

Mr. Overby continued his presentation to Council with another Community Appearance Grant to be used for exterior building upgrades. The applicant was ADEMNC, LLC for property located at 509 11th Street NW. The applicant was David Moore, owner of the limited liability corporation. The request was for a grant in the amount of \$5,000 to replace windows, paint portions of the building, replacement of some wood siding and some metal roofing on the building. He pointed out the subject property, Old Lenoir Road heading north towards Catawba River. Part of this building has Resource Warehouse located in it and the

remainder is Hickory Mechanical, which is a mechanical contractor. He showed the elevation of the property. He showed where the wooded siding would be replaced, where the painting would be done, and the roof replacement. The application was submitted with two quotes, one was a little over \$19,000 and the other one was \$22,500. Being that they are over \$10,000 they would qualify for the full \$5,000 grant that is allowed through this program. The subject property was valued at \$273,000, this grant represents approximately 1.8 percent of the value of the property. The Appearance Commission reviewed the request at their October 26th meeting and recommended City Council's approval.

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver approval of the Community Appearance Grant for non-residential property owned by ADEMNC, LLC the amount of \$5,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Meisner announced that the motion was made by Alderman Patton seconded by Alderman Seaver and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

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

Other Minority VACANT
Other Minority VACANT

HICKORY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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

Burke County (Mayor to Nominate) VACANT Since 8-6-2008
Brookford (Mayor to Nominate) VACANT Since 6-2006

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

(Appointed by Mayor with the Concurrence of City Council)

(8) Positions VACANT

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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

At-Large Minority VACANT

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

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

Ward 2 VACANT
Ward 3 VACANT
At-Large (Mayor Nominates) VACANT

RECYCLING ADVISORY BOARD

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

Ward 3 VACANT

YOUTH COUNCIL

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

Hickory Career Arts Magnet VACANT

C. Presentation of Petitions and Requests

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

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

City Attorney John Crone commented that he and Alderman Meisner go way back, and he is going to miss him. He commented that he had done such a good job for the City and he knows Alderman Meisner personally and he is a good person, a good Council person, and that he truly cares about the City. He commented that he loved him a lot and that everyone is going to miss him.

Alderman Meisner advised that it had been a labor of love. He commented that he can't say enough about the staff that the City has. It is incredible how well they make Council look. The amount of information that Council is given and the response time is incredible. He felt that he was not just speaking for himself, but for all of his fellow Council members. In all, the 32 years had been wonderful for him. He will miss each and every one of them very much. He commented that he is not going away.

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Alderman Guess commented that he would save his comments for the next meeting. He reiterated what Attorney Crone had already said, they will miss him and appreciate him. He had been a great example and a mentor to him.

Alderman Seaver commented that he would miss going to Alderman Meisner for advice. This means that he is now going to be the senior member.

XIV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Alderman Meisner

City Clerk