

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hickory was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

Brad Lail	Rudy Wright	Hank Guess
Bruce Meisner	Aldermen	David P. Zagaroli
Danny Seaver		Jill Patton

A quorum was present.

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

- I. Mayor Wright called the meeting to order. All Council members were present except for Alderman Lail.
- II. Invocation by Rev. Bill Garrard, Retired United Methodist Pastor
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Special Presentations
 - A. Proclamation for Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, 2015.

Mayor Wright read and presented the Proclamation for Fire Prevention Week to Terri Byers of the Hickory Fire Department.

Ms. Byers advised citizens that they have smoke alarms available if anyone is in need of one.

Mayor Wright commented that the City had only had one fire death in 16 years, which was a homeless person in makeshift housing. Mayor Wright recognized the City's other heroes, the Hickory Police Department who were in attendance.
- V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard
- VI. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Regular Meeting of September 15, 2015

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver that the Minutes of September 15, 2015 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wright announced that the motion was made by Alderman Patton seconded by Alderman Seaver and the motion carried unanimously.
 - B. Special Meeting of September 16, 2015

Alderman Zagaroli moved, seconded by Alderman Patton that the Minutes of September 16, 2015 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wright announced that the motion was made by Alderman Zagaroli seconded by Alderman Patton and the motion carried unanimously.
 - C. Special Meeting of September 24, 2015

Alderman Seaver moved, seconded by Alderman Patton that the Minutes of September 24, 2015 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

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

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

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

 - A. Approval of a Landscape Grant for Non-residential Property Owned by First Lawyers, LLC, Located at 858 2nd Street NE in the Amount of \$2,500. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

- B. Approval of a Community Appearance Grant for Non-residential Property Owned by Phillip McCluney Located at 903 10th Street NE, in the Amount of \$5,000. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - C. Approval of a Community Appearance Grant for Non-residential Property Owned by Cooperative Christian Ministry (CCM) Located at 31 1st Avenue NE, in the Amount of \$5,000. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - D. Acceptance of the Bid and Award of the Construction Contract to Hickory Sand Company, Inc. for the Construction of the Sherwood Forest Sewer Project in the amount of \$748,924.50. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - E. Grant Project Ordinance Number 2. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - F. Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 6. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
 - G. Acceptance of the Bid for the Water Treatment Facility Emergency Power Generator Replacement Project with Crowder Construction Company in the amount of \$2,699,000. (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.

Alderman Meisner moved, seconded by Alderman Guess approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wright announced that the motion was made by Alderman Meisner seconded by Alderman Guess and the motion carried unanimously.

- A. Approved on First Reading the National Naval Aviation Museum Standard Renewal Loan Agreement for Loaned Aircraft and Artifacts Located at the Hickory Regional Airport.

The City of Hickory/Hickory Regional Airport has on loan from the National Naval Aviation Museum (NNAM) certain retired aircraft and artifacts located at the Hickory Regional Airport and on display by the Hickory Aviation Museum. The Hickory Regional Airport has participated in and has had on loan property from the NNAM for over fifteen (15) years. The Loan Agreement with NNAM covers a period of five (5) years commencing September 1, 2015 and ending September 1, 2020 with an option for renewal. Staff recommends approval of the National Naval Aviation Museum Standard Renewal Loan Agreement for loaned aircraft and artifacts.
- B. Approved Eight Days of Vacation Time to Use as Door Prizes for Coworker Appreciation Day.

Human Resources requests approval of eight days of vacation time to use as door prizes for the annual Coworker Appreciation event scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 2015, at Hickory Metro Convention Center. Five days are used as the grand prize and the other three days as additional door prizes. Staff recommends approval of eight days of vacation time for door prizes at the annual coworker event.
- C. Approved on First Reading the Contract Renewal with Socrata in the Amount of \$12,000.

In an effort to provide greater transparency, the City of Hickory contracted with Socrata to present the FY 2016 Budget over the internet. Following the success and popularity of that initiative Staff recommends that we take the next step in transparency by utilizing Socrata's OpenExpenditures product. The open data portal will enable citizens to reduce the need for administrative assistance when seeking public information from the City. Staff recommends approval of the contract renewal with Socrata in the amount of \$12,000 for OpenBudget with the addition of Socrata's OpenExpenditures product for a one year term.
- D. Approved the Special Events Activities Application for Children's Advocacy and Protection Center Vigil, Kathleen Landry, Community Outreach Coordinator, October 20, 2015, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Sails on the Square.
- E. Called for a Public Hearing for Consideration of Voluntary Contiguous Annexation of 11.936 acres Located in the 3000 Block of Short Road. (Authorize Public Hearing for October 20, 2015)

RESOLUTION NO. 15-24
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 Cecil and Rachel Munday requesting annexation of an area described in a petition was received on September 22, 2015 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:

Located in the 3000 Block of Short Road, Hickory, NC, identified as PIN 3711-12-95-4256 containing 11.936 acres more or less

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Hickory this 23rd day of September, 2015.

/s/ Debbie D. Miller, City Clerk

(SEAL)

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 October 20, 2015, 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:

Property of Cecil and Rachel Munday located in the 3000 Block of Short Road, Hickory, NC, identified as PIN 3711-12-95-4256 containing 11.936 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. 15-25
A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE INTENT TO ANNEX INTO THE CORPORATE
LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HICKORY CERTAIN PROPERTY OWNED BY CECIL AND
RACHEL MUNDAY
CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SAME

WHEREAS, Cecil Munday, and wife Rachel Munday are the owners of certain real property as described herein, which property is located in the 3000 Block of Short Road, Hickory, identified as PIN 3711-12-95-4256 containing 11.936 acres more or less; and

WHEREAS, such property is immediately adjacent to the existing corporate limits of the City of Hickory; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the health, safety and wellbeing 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 6th day of October, 2015, 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 October 20, 2015, 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 Short Road Property Annexation, property outlined in red;

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

F. Called for a Public Hearing for Consideration of the Sale of Five City-Owned Properties Located on F Avenue SE. (Authorize Public Hearing for October 20, 2015)

G. Accepted the North Carolina Department of Transportation Grant (Non-Primary Entitlement Funds) in the Amount of \$150,000 for Airport Improvements.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), by Letter dated July 30, 2015, has allocated FAA Non-Primary Entitlement Funds under the State Block Grant Program for Federal fiscal year 2015 for the Hickory Regional Airport. The funds are to be used for airside safety needs first with consideration of other needed airport projects. These funds are to be expended no later than July 1, 2019. NCDOT has allocated Federal funds via Grant 36237.66.NPE.15 with the Federal share of \$150,000 and the local share of \$16,667 for airport improvements. Upon City Council's acceptances of the grant, any future proposed projects that fall under the guidelines of this grant will be brought back to Council for approval. Staff recommends Council's acceptance of the grant in the amount of \$150,000 from NCDOT.

H. Approved on First Reading Budget Ordinance Amendment Number 7.

ORDINANCE NO. 15-46
BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT NO. 7

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	5,175	-
Transportation	4,128	-
TOTAL	9,303	-

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous	5,175	-
Unrestricted Intergovernmental Revenues	4,128	-
TOTAL	9,303	-

SECTION 2. To amend the Water and Sewer Fund the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Environmental Protection	77,465	-
TOTAL	77,465	-

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous	77,465	-
TOTAL	77,465	-

SECTION 3. 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.

- I. Approved Amendments to the Economic Development Agreement between the City of Hickory and Blue Bloodhound, LP. (Exhibit VIII.I.)

On June 25, 2015 City Council approved the Economic Development Agreement with Blue Bloodhound, LP. Subsequent to Council approving the Agreement, Blue Bloodhound, LP created another company, Blue Bloodhound Management, LLC. Clue Bloodhound Management, an affiliate of Blue Bloodhound, LP, will be responsible for some of the performance of Blue Bloodhound, LP under the economic development agreement. Therefore, both companies need to be a part of the Agreement. In addition to adding the affiliate company's name to the Agreement, the due date for the Opinion of Counsel letters from the company and the City has been changed from August 31, 2015 to October 1, 2015. Other than adding Blue Bloodhound Management, LLC to the Agreement and revising the due date for the Opinion of Counsel letters, no other changes have been made to the Agreement. Staff requests Council's approval of the amended Economic Development Agreement between the City of Hickory, Clue Bloodhound, LP, and Blue Bloodhound Management, LLC.

- IX. Items Removed from Consent Agenda – None

- X. Informational Item

- XI. New Business:

- A. Public Hearings

- B. Departmental Reports:

- 1. Recycling Update

City Manager Mick Berry asked the City's Public Services Director Chuck Hansen to the podium to present Council with an update for the recycling program. Mr. Berry complimented Mr. Hansen and his Staff on the smooth transition of getting the new rollout containers out to the citizens.

Public Services Director Chuck Hansen presented a PowerPoint presentation. He pointed out the previous curbside sorting percentages. He advised that there had been the addition of most of the plastics, cardboard which included everything from pizza boxes to moving boxes, fiber board which would include drink boxes, cereal boxes, mixed papers, junk mail, and books. He showed the FY14-15 curb sorting percentages which was for the 18 gallon blue bins. They had compared given months from the previous year to this year. He advised that the numbers were for participation rate, which was one of the measures that they use in their performance measurements. In the past, if you set out your blue bin once a month, then you were counted as participating. He advised that was a random count and they did not count it every month. Under the single-stream they are actually counting each pickup. The equipment is different, it is easier to count for the driver to keep track of the pickups. It is a more accurate account of collection. He advised they the City had been in the high 70's low 80's in participation rate, and now we are in the upper 60's to lower 70's, which is still excellent compared to other areas in North Carolina. This counting measure has gone done which is essentially what they expected it to be. He commented that collection now is every other week, and if you miss your week, then that pickup would occur once a month versus once every two weeks, which some citizens are doing. He showed the tonnage which had increased across the board, 375 to 710. We have gone up 89-90 percent in terms of tonnage collected. The system is working, the process is working. They are hearing positive comments from the citizens. It was a little confusing in the beginning as to which week pickup was, but that has smoothed

out now. He commented that Staff was pleased with the results four months into the program.

Alderman Seaver commented that the tonnage was indicative of the participation rate being higher. There is a bigger bin to put it in, so you don't have to roll it down that often.

Mr. Hansen advised that it was approximately \$5,700 a month less expensive than it was last year as cost to the City. Automated, every other week collection. We have not quite doubled the tonnage, and we are doing it at about \$5,700 a month cheaper. Over the course of a year that is approximately \$68,000 to \$69,000 in terms of the collection process.

Alderman Seaver asked if the City was to the "break even" point yet on expenses.

Mr. Hansen showed the garbage tonnage slide. He advised that it would take a whole year of data for the information to mean something to Staff. He pointed out the tonnage and advised that the City was sending less tons to the landfill, 10-12 percent less tons going to the landfill. He advised that it cost the City \$33 per ton to get it into the landfill. Projecting the numbers out, that would be about \$40,000 in savings too. We are getting approximately \$100,000 to \$110,000 annually in savings with a much better environmental product meaning less going to the landfill and things getting back into the recycle stream. Over the last year or so the markets have come down, we are getting a little bit less for the product than we did previously. That goes back to society as a whole using a recycled product when they buy something. Does it have some recycling content in it? He encouraged citizens to look for that on the buying end of the product.

Alderwoman Patton asked if there was any projection of when the grocery store bags could be recycled. She asked if there was a plan or anticipation of being able to recycle those.

Mr. Hansen commented that they don't take sheet plastic, plastic bag. They have explained to the citizens, and in the literature that went out, that most grocery stores will provide that recycling at their facility. That type of plastic material ties up the sorting equipment. It gets intertwined in the gears. It is a lot of moving parts, fans, magnets, and blowers. He encouraged citizens to take that plastic back to the market that it was purchased in. A big part of that is grocery stores. He advised they don't see that coming in the stream anytime soon. He advised that you get contamination in recycled product when the wrong thing goes into the wrong bin. He advised that they are hearing from Republic Services that our revenue stream is a pretty clean revenue stream. Hopefully it will continue to be so, which helps in what we are sending in and what we get out of it on the backend. Hopefully the citizenry will continue to do the right thing putting the recycled product in the recycle bin, and the garbage in the garbage bin. If we get too much contamination then that load would have to go to the landfill. He advised they are hearing very positive things about what is actually getting recycled, meaning it is pretty clean recycled product.

Alderwoman Patton commented that it is amazing when you do recycle and you start thinking about everything that you can recycle. She advised that her recycle bin is full and she has very little trash.

Mr. Hansen agreed and commented that has been the same at his house as well. He commented that they are seeing that quite a bit. He advised that Staff would see how it goes over the course of the year and get a year's worth of data. They feel like it will continue along the same lines.

2. 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
Catawba County	(Mayor to Nominate)	VACANT

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 3 VACANT
At-Large (Mayor Nominates) VACANT Mylinda Strittmatter resigned 9-8-2015

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

Mayor Wright commented that we can all be thankful that the Legislature is out of session, and also we dodged the rain. He commented about what the people in Columbia have been going through and what they will go through. He advised that Oktoberfest was this weekend, and recommended it, and that there was a Lenoir-Rhyne home game this weekend against Faith University. He commented about Lenoir-Rhyne's huge win on Saturday against Carson-Newman, which is always the toughest team in the conference. He encouraged citizens to attend the ballgame on Saturday, and to also attend the Oktoberfest, and have a big funnel cake.

Alderman Seaver advised that it was also Hickory High's homecoming this weekend.

City Attorney John Crone teased Alderman Meisner about when he attended Lenoir-Rhyne, and they wore leather helmets. He asked if Carson-Newman beat Lenoir-Rhyne back in those days.

Alderman Meisner commented yes they did.

Alderman Seaver shared a story about a student going into Hickory High dressed like a chicken. He commented that it was a homecoming activity. He said that traffic was stopped in front of the school because people were taking pictures of the chicken crossing the road.

Alderman Meisner advised that Hickory High's Girls Volleyball team is undefeated. They beat the number one team in the State last Saturday.

Mayor Wright commented that the meetings are not normally this easy.

City Manager Mick Berry advised that Staff had been working Council hard in workshops, and special meetings.

Mayor Wright commented about the City's audit and advised that it was a good audit. Staff, once again, had done a wonderful job. He commented that the numbers turned out okay. We will have challenges to face next year and future years with the devaluation, and with the loss of the privilege license. We are going into those things in as strong of a position as anybody in the State.

XIV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk