

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hickory was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

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

A quorum was present.

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

- I. Mayor Guess called the meeting to order. All Councilmembers were present.
- II. Invocation by Reverend Bob Thompson, Corinth Reformed Church
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Special Presentations
- V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard
  - A. Mrs. Janice Setzler, 1089 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue Place NW, Hickory addressed City Council on behalf of the Catawba County Quilters' Guild. She advised they were having a quilt show on October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the Convention Center. She advised she had tickets for the Mayor and Councilmembers. She said most people think that a quilt guild is a group of little old ladies that get together and quilt. Well, that is true, but they do other things also. They make preemie quilts for both hospitals for the neo-natal units. These quilts are given to the baby and the mother to keep forever. They also do quilts and pillow cases for the Family Care Center and they get to them as well. They do quilts for the Children's Advocacy Center. That organization was just added this year. They also do quilts of valor. They present quilts to war veterans. At the quilt show they will be doing two presentations, one in the morning and one in the afternoon on Saturday. She thought they were planning on giving approximately 50 quilts that day to veterans. The first presentation will be at 10:00 a.m. and the other one at 3:00 p.m. in the afternoon. They would love for Council to come and see their quilt show. There will be approximately 300 quilts made by their members that have been judged and they will be on display at the show. They only do the show every three years and this is the only thing that their guild does to raise funds for the guild, but they would love for Council to come and see their show and maybe attend the quilts of valor presentation because it is very nice program which they do for the veterans. They do this throughout the year. She didn't know the number of quilts of valor which they had presented so far, but it was a good number of quilts which they had presented. The City gives them a grant for this quilt of valor program, and it was very much appreciated. It helps them buy the materials and whatever they need to make those quilts. She wished she could have tickets for everyone, but she invited everyone to come. Tickets were \$6 apiece and the event would be held on Friday, and Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.  
  
Mayor Guess commented he had attended some of those quilts of valor and there was a lot of love, time and effort that goes into those quilts. Council greatly appreciated that. He thanked Mrs. Setzler.
- VI. Approval of Minutes
  - A. Regular Meeting of September 4, 2018.  
  
Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Zagaroli that the Minutes of September 4, 2018 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
- VII. Reaffirmation and Ratification of Second Readings. Votes recorded on first reading will be reaffirmed and ratified on second reading unless Council Members change their votes and so indicate on second reading.  
  
Alderman Seaver moved, seconded by Alderwoman Williams that the following be reaffirmed and ratified on second reading. The motion carried unanimously.
  - A. Rezoning Petition No. 18-01 for Approximately .70 Acres of Property Located at 3355 Springs Road NE, Owned by Starnes Industries, Inc. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
  - B. Rezoning Petition No. 18-03 for Approximately 113 Acres of Property Located at 2355 and 2369 Startown Road, being the First Phase of the Trivium Corporate Center. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)
  - C. Rezoning Petition No. 18-04 for Approximately .69 Acres of Property Located at 117 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Owned by Lohr Loveland Jr. (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 Lail moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Approved Authorization to Execute the Corporate Property Owner Consent to Risk-Based Remediation Agreement and Former Emerson Leather Remediation Plat for Property Located at 816 13<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Hickory.

Staff requests authorization to execute the Corporate Property Owner Consent to Risk-Based Remediation Agreement and the Former Emerson Leather Remediation Plat as required by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality. The former Emerson Leather Company has been under environmental review and remediation for a number of years by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). DEQ is closing out such property file and has hired Excel Environmental Associates, PLLC of Gastonia, NC to formulate a plat and Consent Agreement. City of Hickory property, Fire Station 2 located at 1305 9th Avenue NE, PIN #3713-14-42-0900 has been directly impacted by the identified contamination at the former Emerson Leather property across 9th Avenue NE. The groundwater contamination has migrated westward from the former Emerson Leather property to Fire Station 2. The contamination is fairly deep and does not negatively affect the station or its crews. DEQ wishes to place Land Use Restrictions (LUR) on the Fire Station 2 property, that no future water well would be installed. That is the only LUR and would not affect future renovation, expansion, sale, etc. NCDEQ is authorized to approve risk-based cleanup remedies for contaminated properties, such as those associated with Fire Station 2, as long as those remedies adequately protect human health and the environment. In 2015, the North Carolina General Assembly passed Session Law 2015-286 that requires the polluting party (Emerson Leather) to notify owners of property (City of Hickory) where that contaminant has spread. Upon analysis, staff has determined that the "Corporate Property Owner Consent to Risk-Based Remediation Agreement" and Land Use Restrictions (LUR) will comply with General Assembly Law 2015-286. Staff finds the documents acceptable for Mayoral and staff affirmation and recommends execution of the documents.

- B. Accepted the Financing Proposal from First National Bank for the Hickory Police Department Radio System Upgrade.

Staff requests approval to accept the financing proposal from First National Bank for the Hickory Police Department Radio System Upgrade. In 2007, the City purchased a new radio system to meet interoperability requirements implemented by the Federal government. The system has now reached its end of life functionality and necessary upgrades are needed on both hardware and software components. The City of Hickory contracted with Loudoun Communications to complete the necessary upgrade to the Police Department's radio system. The equipment consisted of four radio dispatch terminals in the Communications Center, two Dell and two Sun servers. The upgrade also allowed for the relocation of one of the servers from Public Works to the Hickory Police Department's Communications Center. Additional enhanced features include the ability to license certain smart phones to be used on the system as a two-way radio with an installed smart phone application. Based on guidelines in NC General Statute Section 160A-20 Installment Financing, the City of Hickory Finance Department submitted requests for financing proposals to eleven area banks to finance the \$575,000 upgrade expenditure. Finance received eight funding proposals as of the deadline of September 7, 2018. Of those eight funding proposals, First National Bank submitted the lowest fixed interest rate of 2.92%. The loan term will be 59 months with the first payment due March 19, 2019. The funds for the March payment were budgeted in the City's 2018-2019 adopted budget in anticipation of the upcoming financing. Staff recommends approval to accept the financing proposal from First National Bank for the Hickory Police Department Radio System Upgrade.

- C. Approved a Locally Administered Project Agreement with North Carolina Department of Transportation for Project EB-5939 (Riverwalk) in the Amount of \$2,000,000.

The City was granted approval from the Greater Hickory MPO to receive Surface Transportation Block Grant – Direct Attributable (STBG-DA) funds of \$2,000,000 to assist in the construction of Riverwalk. To receive the funding the City must enter into an agreement with North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) so they can administer the disbursement of STBG-DA grant funds. This funding is part of phase one of the project which extends from City owned property starting at Old Lenoir Road to the end of the Rosales Bridge. The distance of this section is approximately 1,700 feet. Riverwalk is part of a much larger multi-use path system being developed by the City of Hickory. Riverwalk connects with other multi-use projects that will tie together proposed development around the lake with the downtown area and Lenoir-Rhyne University as well

as connecting numerous neighborhoods along the way. Staff requests Council's approval of the Agreement with NCDOT for EB-5939 to receive federal funds to construct Riverwalk.

- D. Approved the Cemetery Deed Transfer from Steve M. Rudisill, unmarried to Larry J. Triplette, and wife, Carlotta Rudisill Triplett, Containing 40 Square Feet, More or Less, Fairview Cemetery, Plot CC, Lot 10, Section 2. (Prepared by Susannah L. Brown, Anthony & Brown, PLLC).
- E. Approved the Cemetery Deed Transfer from Karl G. Thomason and wife, Shirley P. Thomason; Doris T. Clapper and husband, David J. Clappier; Joe G. Thomason and wife, Dana L. Thomason to Larry M. McMurtry Jr. and wife, Amy P. McMurtry, Oakwood Cemetery, Section 27, Lot 11, Plots 001, 002, 003, 004, 007 and 008. (Prepared by Kimberly H. Whitley, Esq., Patrick Harper & Dixon L.L.P.)
- F. Accepted the Bid and Awarded the Contract to J.T. Russell & Sons Inc. for Asphalt Resurfacing.

Staff requests Council's acceptance of the bid and award of the contract to J.T. Russell & Sons Inc., for asphalt resurfacing in the amount of \$110 per ton for S9.5A asphalt surface, and \$21.50 per square yard for asphalt milling (100-1,000 square yards) using federal funds. Public Services Department Transportation Division staff prepared formal bid documents for an estimated 900 tons of asphalt surface course and up to 1,000 square yards of asphalt milling. The asphalt binder unit price will be adjusted according to North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) standard procedures. All work will be paid on an in-place unit price basis as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) budget allows. Resurfacing under this contract will be performed in the CDBG eligible funding areas. The project was advertised on the City's website and bid documents were available electronically. The formal bid was publicly opened and read on September 4, 2018. J.T. Russell & Sons, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder with a total bid amount of \$99,000. Contractor's prices are firm until June 30, 2019. The project will be coordinated and overseen by the City's Street Division staff for the duration and completion of the resurfacing. This project is awarded based on unit prices to allow for a variation of quantities that the City will pay for to complete the project. Staff will work with contractors to provide quantity control. Staff recommends Council's acceptance of the bid and award of the contract to J.T. Russell & Sons Inc., for asphalt resurfacing in the amount of \$110 per ton for S9.5A asphalt surface, and \$21.50 per square yard for asphalt milling (100-1,000 square yards) using Federal funds.

- G. Accepted the Bid and Awarded the Contract to J.T. Russell & Sons Inc. for Asphalt Resurfacing.

Staff requests Council's acceptance of the bid and award of the contract to J.T. Russell and Sons, Inc. for asphalt resurfacing in the amount of \$64 per ton for S9.5A asphalt surface, \$64 per ton for S9.5B asphalt surface, \$77 per ton for S4.74A asphalt surface, \$68 per ton for asphalt parking lots for S9.5A, \$325 per ton for binder, \$8.50 per square yard for edge milling, \$20 per square yard for asphalt milling (100-1,000 square yards), \$10 per square yard for asphalt milling (1,001-3,000 square yards) and \$8.50 per square yard (3,001-6,000 square yards). Public Services' Transportation Division staff prepared formal bid documents for an estimated 5,500 plus tons of asphalt surface course in place and up to 10,500 square yards of asphalt milling. All work will be paid on an in-place unit price basis as the resurfacing budget allows. This work is budgeted in the Street Division's FY 18-19 budget. The project was advertised on the City's website and bid documents were available electronically. The formal bid were publicly open and read on September 4, 2018. J.T. Russell & Sons, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder with a total bid amount of \$727,125. Contractor's prices are firm until June 30, 2019. The project will be coordinated and overseen by the City's Street Division staff for the duration and completion of the resurfacing. This project is awarded based on unit prices to allow for a variation of quantities that the City will pay for to complete the project. Staff will work with contractors to provide quantity control. Staff recommends Council's acceptance of the bid and award of the contract to J.T. Russell and Sons, Inc. for asphalt resurfacing in the amount of \$64 per ton for S9.5A asphalt surface, \$64 per ton for S9.5B asphalt surface, \$77 per ton for S4.74A asphalt surface, \$68 per ton for asphalt parking lots for S9.5A, \$325 per ton for binder, \$8.50 per square yard for edge milling, \$20 per square yard for asphalt milling (100-1,000 square yards), \$10 per square yard for asphalt milling (1,001-3,000 square yards) and \$20 per square yard (3,001-6,000 square yards).

- H. Approved on First Reading Amending the Traffic Ordinance Designating the Speed Limit as 25 MPH on 9<sup>th</sup> Street NW between 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW.

Staff requests Council's approval to amend the Traffic Ordinance such that 9th Street NW, between 6th Avenue NW and 9th Avenue NW, be designated 25 mph. Public Services' Transportation Division staff received a completed petition for traffic calming along 9th Street NW, between 6th Avenue NW and 9th Avenue NW. Based on recent speed studies it appears traffic is exceeding the speed limit on 9th Street NW. Following the City's Traffic

Calming Guidelines, the staff recommendation is to reduce the speed limit to 25 mph. Transportation Division staff received all necessary paperwork from residents within the area according to Traffic Calming Guidelines and have found the residents to be in compliance with the guidelines. The petition does qualify for a speed limit reduction on the roadway listed. Fourteen properties were included in the petition and eleven property owners signed the petition. This represents 79 percent approval which meets the requirement. The necessary sign modifications along the roadway can be performed as a normal part of the Traffic Division's signs/markings shop operations. Staff recommends Council's approval to amend the Traffic Ordinance such that 9th Street NW, between 6th Avenue NW and 9th Avenue NW, be designated as 25 mph.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-28  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE HICKORY CITY COUNCIL  
AMENDING THE TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AUTHORIZED IN THE  
HICKORY CODE OF ORDINANCES – ARTICLE III, SECTION 18-81

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

Amend the Traffic Ordinance by reducing the speed limit along 9th Street NW, from 6th Avenue NW to 9th Avenue NW, to 25 mph.

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

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

- I. Approved on First Reading Amending the Traffic Ordinance Designating the Speed Limit as 25 MPH on 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW and 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue Place NW between 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW and 6<sup>th</sup> Street NW.

Staff requests Council's approval to amend the Traffic Ordinance such that 7th Street NW and 13th Avenue Place NW, between 12th Avenue NW and 6th Street NW, be designated 25 mph. Public Services' Transportation Division staff received a completed petition for traffic calming along 7th Street NW and 13th Avenue Place NW, between 12th Avenue NW and 6th Street NW. Based on recent speed studies it appears traffic is exceeding the speed limit on 7th Street NW and 13th Avenue Place NW. Following the City's Traffic Calming Guidelines, the staff recommendation is to reduce the speed limit to 25 mph. Transportation Division staff received all necessary paperwork from residents within the area with regards to the Traffic Calming Guidelines and have found the residents to be in compliance with the guidelines. The petition does qualify for a speed limit reduction on the roadway listed. Thirty-Six properties were included in the petition and twenty-seven property owners signed the petition. This represents 75 percent approval which meets the requirement. The necessary sign modifications along the roadway can be performed as a normal part of the Traffic Division's signs/markings shop operations. Staff recommends Council's approval to amend the Traffic Ordinance such that 7th Street NW and 13th Avenue Place NW between 12th Avenue NW and 6th Street NW be designated 25 mph.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-29  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE HICKORY CITY COUNCIL  
AMENDING THE TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AUTHORIZED IN THE  
HICKORY CODE OF ORDINANCES – ARTICLE III, SECTION 18-81

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

Amend the Traffic Ordinance by reducing the speed limit along 7th Street NW and 13th Avenue Place NW, from 12th Avenue NW to 6th Street NW, to 25 mph.

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

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

- J. Accepted the Bid and Awarded of the Construction Contract to Unifour Concrete Construction Inc. in the Amount of \$34,750 for Construction Services Related to the Claremont/SALT Block Sidewalk Improvements.

The City of Hickory has been awarded a \$100,000 Grant-in-Aid from the NC Department of Cultural and Natural Resources for an identified park improvement that would encourage neighborhood connectivity and enhance an existing passive park area. Staff identified the Arrowhead Park area and the adjacent landscaping along 3rd Avenue NE along the

eastern side of the SALT Block to be the area targeted for improvement with this Grant-in-Aid. Council previously approved the landscaping improvement contract with Southern Lawns of Hickory, LLC in the amount of \$65,370 for this project. The Claremont/SALT Block Sidewalk Improvement project did not receive any bids at the first advertisement. The project was re-advertised for bids and opened with one bid received on July 31, 2018, Unifour Concrete Construction, Inc. - \$34,750. Staff reviewed all documents and has determined that all documents are in proper order. Staff recommends Council's acceptance of the bid and award of the construction contract to Unifour Concrete Construction Inc. in the amount of \$34,750 for construction services related to the Claremont/SALT Block Sidewalk Improvements.

- K. Approved a First Amendment to the City Manager's Employment Agreement.

This change is required in order to comply with the State of North Carolina's rules regarding the administration of the supplemental retirement plans the State manages on behalf of local governments and their employees. No additional financial outlay is required from the City of Hickory with this change.

- L. Approved on First Reading Budget Revision Number 3.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-30  
Budget Revision Number 3

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the City of Hickory that, pursuant to N.C. General Statutes 159.15 and 159.13.2, the following revision be made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

SECTION 1. To amend the General Fund within the FY 2018-19 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Public Safety	17,190	-
TOTAL	17,190	-

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Other Financing Sources	17,190	-
TOTAL	17,190	-

SECTION 2. Copies of the 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

- XI. New Business:

- A. Public Hearings

- B. Departmental Reports:

- 1. Approved a Resolution of Support for a New State Park along the Henry Fork and Jacobs Fork Rivers.

City Manager Warren Wood advised there was a pretty exciting opportunity that had been presented to the City. The North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources Division of Parks and Recreation was investigating the possibility of establishing a State Park along the Henry Fork and Jacobs Fork Rivers in Western Catawba County. He presented a PowerPoint presentation. He advised there was a Resolution of support which he would ask City Council to approve at the end of the presentation. He discussed the concept which they were presenting. He referred to the New River State Park as an example. It was not one contiguous piece of property, but multiple pieces of property along the New River in northwestern North Carolina in Ashe County. The river itself was 35 miles long, but there is camping and hiking opportunities, as well as paddling opportunities and others. That would be the concept that they were investigating along the Henry Fork River and Jacobs Fork River. He showed a map of western Catawba County and pointed out Hickory and the interchange at Highway 321 and I40. The Henry Fork River actually passes through the Henry Fork Soccer Complex off of I40 and Sweet Bay Lane. They began looking at let in and take out spots along the river as well as potential pieces of property that could be purchased or donated and developed for various types of activities. He pointed out Baker's Mountain

which was Catawba County's Park. It is very centrally located and one of the things they like about this was it was an hour's drive from Charlotte, with a large population base there. The two other State Parks in that area are Lake Norman's State Park and Crowder's Mountain. South Mountain State Park is located a little further to the west in Burke County. They felt like this was a pretty good location, pretty much right off of Highway 321 and I40. One of the locations which they were looking at was the Henry River Mill Village in eastern Burke County and the possibility of incorporating that historic site into this in some way. They had some discussions with the owners of that property and they were really excited about the possibilities there. He discussed benefits to having a State Park in Catawba County and in our area. Obviously significant tourism impact, enhanced quality of life, equitable and increased access to North Carolina's State Park System in our area, improved conservation of local area's historic and natural resources. One of the things about both of those rivers was there was very little development on either one of them, so that is a great position to be in. He showed a map focusing on the Henry Fork River. He showed an area which contained 160 acres that straddles the Henry Fork River which was owned by the City of Hickory off of River Road, which is off of Highway 321. The City purchased that property in the late 90s and it really hadn't been developed. The State wanted to know if there was an opportunity, potentially, for the City, if this was to work out. Council was not making a decision tonight. But to donate part of that towards this effort. A lot of that property doesn't lend itself to a lot of development so it might be a great opportunity. He explained how that works. If the City, or anybody, was to donate property towards this effort, the value of that donation gets leveraged and the State will come in and purchase additional property. They will actually come in and buy additional property for the value of what that might be. There is a potential opportunity there. We already own the Henry Fork Soccer Complex and we actually have a canoe launch there at that site. We own some property around Sandy Ford Road near the Country Club as well. The Division of Parks and Recreation is performing a study to evaluate the opportunities and constraints of these potential river access locations in Catawba County and also one in Burke County for canoe and kayak sites. Five of the new potential sites were located on the Henry Fork River, the other seven were located along Jacobs Fork. Henry Fork River has a deeper flow than the Jacobs Fork and that is one of the things that they were looking at. It is more robust in terms of the flow on Henry Fork River versus Jacobs Fork, but both are navigable. He discussed the work they had done so far. He referred to an aerial photograph of the Henry River Mill Village and looking at potential let in sites at that location. They were real excited about the historic nature of that property and what the property owners were planning to do with that and how that might be incorporated into something related to a State Park. They had come down and looked at all of these sites which were identified on the previous map which he had shown Council. They did some analysis. They came back on September 7<sup>th</sup> and actually canoed the rivers and did an additional assessment. The feedback was really good, they like what they saw. All of this is possible on the Henry Fork River side. A couple of years ago the dam at Brookford was taken out, so that was what really allows the pursuit of this. Some of the things which were talked about with the State that might be potential: paddling opportunities with canoeing, and kayaking, camping, picnicking, hiking, potential horseback riding, and mountain biking. Crowder's Mountain State Park has a number of manmade lakes which they had developed where you could go fishing. There are all kinds of possibilities that they are looking at and looking at the availability of land that could potentially be acquired along both of these rivers to developing something similar to what you would see along the New River. Mr. Wood asked for questions or comments.

Mayor Guess thought the County Commissioners voted and had adopted a Proclamation and he thought the City of Newton was considering something similar to what the City was considering tonight as well. Obviously this is economic development more than anything for the City of Hickory. That was the way they were looking at it.

City Manager Warren Wood commented it is positive impact. He had spoken with Longview and they were in favor. Obviously, Newton and Catawba County had adopted their Resolution of Support last night. Everybody was on board locally. That was one of the things that the State wants to know, is everybody locally on board. It then gets turned over to the State side, our Legislators, and others to push it. These parks get developed over a long period of time. This isn't something that happens that they come in and buy up a 1,000 acres right out of the gate. They get developed over a pretty extensive period of time. They are excited if there was the potential of the City donating a portion or all of the River Road property that would really kick start the effort because it produces funds to go out and buy additional property.

Alderman Lail commented that Newton had a key piece too at the confluence of the Jacobs Fork and Henry Fork Rivers.

Mayor Guess knew that the Mayor of Longview was real excited about it as well.

Alderman Williams asked other than the donation of land, and approval that the City would support it, are there any other partnerships or responsibilities that the City would have.

City Manager Warren Wood replied part of it becomes our Legislators getting behind it, pushing it, and advocating for it. Local folks advocating for it.

Alderman Williams responded so there would be no resource allegation from the City.

City Manager Warren Wood replied no.

Alderman Patton confirmed that the City's Legislators were behind it.

City Manager Warren Wood confirmed they were.

Mayor Guess asked if Council needed to take any action other than support of the Resolution.

City Manager Warren Wood advised that was all. Basically the Resolution lays out the City is supportive in pursuing a State Park in western Catawba County and actually, technically part of eastern Burke County. The City would also consider the possibility of a donation of the property, but that doesn't commit the City to doing that.

Mayor Guess moved, seconded by Alderman Patton approval of the Resolution of Support for a new State Park along the Henry Fork and Jacobs Fork Rivers.

Alderman Seaver asked how many miles of streams there was.

City Manager Warren Wood advised on Henry Fork it was 14.5 and on Jacobs Fork it was 21.6 miles.

Alderman Seaver commented you could take an inner tube and float for a good while.

Mayor Guess commented biking, walking and floating will be covered.

Alderman Lail noted that this would be longer than the existing New River State Park.

City Manager Warren Wood replied those two combined are longer.

Mayor Guess interjected there is nothing like this in Catawba County.

City Manager Warren Wood commented being so close to Charlotte, an hour's drive versus driving up to Ashe County which is hard to get to. They feel like we are really in a good location on Highway 321 and I40. Also an hour or so from Winston.

Alderman Lail observed that things like hiking and paddle sports and some of those outdoor activities are popular with the younger generation.

Mayor Guess interjected and the old folks too.

Alderman Lail commented the point being, this is not campgrounds and golf courses and the way things used to be done. He thought long term it presented a great opportunity to attract those types of people.

Alderman Patton commented great economic development.

Mayor Guess advised there was a motion and a second. He asked for further discussion. He took the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-30  
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR  
A NEW STATE PARK ALONG THE HENRY FORK AND JACOBS FORK RIVERS

WHEREAS, the City of Hickory is committed to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life for its citizens and recognizes that a new North Carolina State Park along the Henry Fork and Jacobs Fork rivers in western Catawba County will contribute to our area's quality of life by providing land conservation, education, and additional recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, there are few existing State Parks within the Piedmont region of the state, a new State Park in our area would provide equitable and increased access to North Carolina's State Park system to local citizens, as well as serve visitors from across the region; and

WHEREAS, State Parks have a significant impact on the economic viability of a region through increased levels of tourism, enhanced property values, added jobs, as well as enhanced ability to attract and retain businesses to the region due to improved quality of life; and

WHEREAS, State Parks are freely accessible community assets, providing key recreational amenities and safe areas for our citizens to exercise, play, and connect with nature away from heavily trafficked areas; and

WHEREAS, a new State Park in our area will lend visibility to and make accessible the local area's historic and natural resources and will create significant opportunities for local public-private partnerships and investment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hickory is willing to consider donating a portion of its landholdings at River Road along the Henry Fork River to the State of North Carolina in order to accommodate the sustainable launch of this new State Park. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Hickory supports a new State Park along the Henry Fork and Jacobs Fork Rivers, that will enhance our community's wellness and recreational opportunities, provide increased tourism, and care for our land and natural resources for years to come.

2. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

<u>COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION</u>	
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)	
Ward 2 (C. Williams Appoints)	VACANT
<u>COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL</u>	
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)	
African-American (Council Appoints)	VACANT
Caucasian (Council Appoints)(Katherine Newton Resigned 8-13-18)	VACANT
Other Minority (Council Appoints)	VACANT
Other Minority (Council Appoints)	VACANT
Other Minority (Council Appoints)	VACANT
<u>HICKORY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION</u>	
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms With Unlimited Appointments)	
(Appointed by City Council)	
Burke County (Mayor Appoints with Recommendation from County)	VACANT
Caldwell County (Mayor Appoints with Recommendation from County)	VACANT
<u>INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL</u>	
(Appointed by Mayor with the Concurrence of City Council)	
(3) Position	VACANT
<u>PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION</u>	
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)	
Ward 4 (D. Williams Appoints)	VACANT
At-Large Minority (1) (Council Appoints)	VACANT
<u>PUBLIC ART COMMISSION</u>	
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)	
Ward 1 (Lail Appoints)	VACANT
Ward 4 (D. Williams Appoints)	VACANT
<u>RECYCLING ADVISORY BOARD</u>	
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)	
Ward 4 (D. Williams Appoints)	VACANT
<u>YOUTH COUNCIL</u>	
(Terms Expiring 6-30; 1-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)	

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

At-Large Representative	VACANT
At-Large Representative	VACANT
Fred T. Foard Representative	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 Guess mentioned that this was Fire Chief Fred Hollar's last City Council meeting as a City employee. There would be a public reception at City Hall in the Lobby before the next City Council meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. He commented there would be plenty of time for congratulating Chief Hollar for his 50 years of dedicated service. He encouraged everyone to congratulate Chief Hollar and to listen to his stories.

City Manager Warren Wood advised that Deputy Chief Steve Moore would serve as the Interim Fire Chief.

Mayor Guess commented there was an extensive search going on for Fire Chief. Until that time we would have Interim Chief Moore and capable hands handling the Fire Department. The City appreciated Interim Chief Moore stepping up and doing that as well.

Alderman Lail commented the City was so fortunate to have such a wonderful Fire Department, notwithstanding the great Police Department that we have too, and public services, etc. He commented he did hear a lot about what great Firefighters that the City has and how helpful they are.

Mayor Guess referred to Hurricane Florence and commented a lot of other cities are having to endure things, and go through things right now, that he can't imagine having to go through here in Hickory. We were prepared had we had to go through some of those things.

City Manager Warren Wood advised that Fire, Police and Public Services and others were prepared, and we really did "dodge a bullet". He advised the City would offer assistance as needed to folks' down east and maybe to other folks in our region and look at sending either Police, Fire, and/or Public Services resources down there to help out with cleanup and recovery.

Mayor Guess advised a State of Emergency was declared (September 14<sup>th</sup>) and had been terminated (September 17<sup>th</sup>). The City was as prepared as we could have been.

Alderwoman Patton mentioned the City of Hickory was also very welcoming. She heard on the radio about a family that was running away from it. They stayed here in Hickory and said that the people of Hickory could not have been nicer and she complimented the Science Center and said it was just a wonderful place and everyone was just wonderful.

Alderwoman Williams commented now they are not going to leave.

Mayor Guess commented that is good.

XIV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

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Mayor

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City Clerk