

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hickory was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

Tony Wood	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, Deputy City Manager Rodney Miller, Deputy City Attorney Arnita Dula, City Attorney John W. Crone, III, Deputy City Clerk Crystal B. Mundy and City Clerk Debbie D. Miller

- I. Mayor Guess called the meeting to order. All Council members were present.
- II. Invocation by Reverend Antonio Logan, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Special Presentations
 - A. Recognition of Library Assistant Deana Jones, Ridgeview Branch Library, Regarding her Selection to Join the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) Outstanding in Their Field Leadership Institute as Part of the 2021-2022 Cohort.

Mayor Guess asked Library Director Sarah Greene to the podium to recognize Library Assistant Deana Jones.

Library Director Sarah Greene announced that a member of their staff at the Ridgeview Branch Library Deana Jones had been selected as part of the Association of Rural and Small Libraries Outstanding in Their Field Leadership Institute. This was a National group of library staff who were going to participate over the next 18-months in classes of projects to help develop their management and leadership skills. She was chosen as part of a competitive application process. Nationally, only 30 library staff members were chosen, and Deana was the only participant from North Carolina in this group. They were extremely proud and excited about what she would learn and bring back to the library.

Mayor Guess commented to Ms. Deana Jones that was quite the honor. He confirmed 18-months that she would have to participate.

Ms. Greene advised it was 18-months and would be a lot of work, but she thought she was dedicated to it and excited about it.

Mayor Guess asked if it was every day.

Ms. Greene advised no.

Mayor Guess congratulated Ms. Jones and thanked her. Council would look forward to hearing back from her about her adventure after she had completed the 18-months.

Ms. Deana Jones thanked Council.

- B. Presentation of a Proclamation for National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Mayor Guess asked Hickory Police Departments Telecommunicators to the podium as well as the staff from the Hickory Police Department. Mayor Guess commented telecommunicators work behind the scenes and were confined to a space to where not only people do not see them, but you really cannot get to them because their job was so intense and so important that they have to make sure that they were isolated and that they could focus and concentrate on the job at hand, which was keeping the police officers safe and making sure that they know where they were at, at all times. Not only that of course but taking those phone calls from the public and they have to make sure that they have all the correct and accurate information. They know that they do this each and every day, 24-hours a day, seven-days a week, and they never get off. He wanted to take the opportunity during National Public Safety Telecommunications Week to not only recognize them and honor them, but to thank them for the job that they do each and every day. They appreciated them and he thanked them for that job. Mayor Guess read the Proclamation and presented it to the telecommunicators present.

Hickory Police Department Captain Bryan Adams recognized Telecommunicators Amber Severt and Summer Andrews. Ms. Andrews was currently a supervisor in the communications staff. He commented what an amazing, dedicated, passionate team of people that they had put together. He noted that not too long ago they were short staffed somewhat. They were not in that position anymore. They did not just fill positions they filled them with an amazing staff. They work together every day and provide all the items that the Mayor described in the Proclamation. They were the first line of first responders

when people call in. They were passionate and caring about all the citizens, visitors, and staff. He thanked them for all they do.

- C. Proclamation Designating April as Litter Quitter Month – Presented to Community Appearance Commission Chairman Charlie Hayes

Mayor Guess asked Community Appearance Commission Chairman Charlie Hayes and Communications and Marketing Manager Dana Kaminske to the podium. Mayor Guess mentioned that not too long ago, Council asked the Community Appearance Commission to take a look at ways that the City could reduce the litter in the City of Hickory. Everyone knew that the City was growing, and there were all kinds of projects and all kinds of things going on in the City. They could not help but notice, as with any city, that they needed to do a little bit of work and probably still do need to do a little bit of work related to litter in the community. They tasked the Community Appearance Commission with looking at some ways that they could reduce this litter. They had certainly done that. He read the Proclamation and presented it to Community Appearance Commission Chairman Charlie Hayes.

- D. Litter Reduction Program (Litter Quitter) – Presentation by Community Appearance Commission Chairman Charlie Hayes, and Staff Liaison Cal Overby.

In the Fall of 2019, Mayor Guess and City Council requested the Community Appearance Commission look into ways to reduce and prevent litter within the City. The Community Appearance Commission began discussing this matter in September of 2019. In considering the topic, the Commission heard from representatives from the City's Sanitation Division and Police Departments, as well as Keep Catawba County Beautiful. The Community Appearance Commission requests City Council review its recommendations, provide needed input, and give permission to move ahead with the Litter Quitter program.

Community Appearance Commission Chairman Charlie Hayes advised that Mayor Guess had said everything that he was going to say in the Proclamation. They were challenged by City Council in the Fall of 2019 and were delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. They had been working since with Communications, and they had the Police Chief come in and talked to them on some of the legalities. They had sanitation and other entities talk to them about what they could do to not only reduce but prevent litter within the City of Hickory. They were now starting to roll out the information and all of the items associated with the Litter Quitter Program. You could go online and decide to become a Litter Quitter. They would love to have everybody do that. He asked Ms. Kaminske to continue with the presentation.

Communications and Marketing Manager Dana Kaminske thanked Council for the Proclamation. This had been a work in progress for a while and they were super excited to present this tonight because they had been holding it for a little while for them to be able to rollout. Council was the first to see the Hickory Litter Quitter campaign. She presented a PowerPoint presentation and referred to a slide which was their logo for the campaign. She advised Council had all received a Litter Quitter sticker, and they had more of those to give to the community. She referred to the PowerPoint and advised this was their campaign. You could say not only am I a "Mayor" for example, but I am also a litter quitter. I am a litter quitter because and you could say the reason why you are a litter quitter, for example, because you are proud of our community and want to keep it clean or I am just proud to be a litter quitter. If you have no other reasons, you were just proud to be a litter quitter. She advised they were kicking this off tonight and hopefully Saturday, they would not get rained out at the Farmer's Market. They were going to present this with the Community Appearance Commission while they handout their tree seedlings. Community Appearance Commission liaison Mr. Cal Overby and Ms. Shalee Sparks from the Communication Department would be there to present their litter quitter campaign with the Growing a Green Future event at the Farmer's Market. On Monday they were going to be presenting their video competition to the community called the Hickory Litter Quitter Competition. It would be open to the public to submit their videos. Their collection would be from Monday, April 26 through Friday, May 21. They were asking them just to say why they were a little quitter. All those statements she just discussed, they were going to ask them to submit those to them and they would announce that at a future event on Monday, June 1 to the community on their social media channels. She thought that it was a great way to first get the community involved, tell people about it, and get them excited about being a litter quitter, showing them picking up litter and the things that they can do to be active. They were going to continue to put educational posts out about litter and why litter was harmful to the community, and the effects it has on the environment. They have a website that they created on their website, a page, she referred to the PowerPoint and displayed the website litter quitter page. She advised that it fell under the Community Appearance Commission, as well as other locations on the site. It had lots of reasons why litter was harmful, she pointed it out on the PowerPoint. They had lots of reasons why they should become a litter quitter, how they could become a litter quitter and to report a litterbug, which they had worked with the Hickory Police Department because they also have a way to enforce this. She

referred to the PowerPoint and displayed where the pledge could be signed. She asked everybody present to go out to this page on the website and fill out the pledge. She advised they could click on accept the litter quitter pledge and could vote and submit. They had other partners: the Hickory Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau was working with them; The Catawba Riverkeeper; Leave No Trace with North Carolina; as well as Keep Catawba County Beautiful.

Ms. Kaminske discussed marketing collateral. This was the fun part for her. Council members received a mask for the campaign. She told them to feel free to wear those around town. She noted they had a few that they were going to handout again at the Farmer's Market. She had rack card information, that way they could put this out at City Hall, the libraries, etc. She advised Council was welcome to take any of them if they wanted to give them out to people. She displayed a vest they would wear when they do litter sweeps. The vest had the litter quitter logo on it, and they could wear their mask and their vest when they were out doing litter sweeps as well. She advised they also had their Instagram frame so when people want to take their pictures. They would take this to their events and people loved this because they take pictures and then they share it on social media. Those were a few of the pieces that they had created. They thought about in the future potentially they could do T-shirts, or they could do other things. They could keep developing this year after year. She advised they were going to celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day this Saturday at the Farmer's Market. They have a booth there, hopefully it will not rain, and they could be out there doing this. They were partnering with Leave No Trace which was with North Carolina and this was where the Convention and Visitors Bureau was coming in to help them. April 10th - 24th was NC Litter Sweep which was this week. That was why they wanted to do the Proclamation for April because April ties in really well with litter collection. Visit NC with the North Carolina Outdoor Recreation Industry had created this program called Leave No Trace. It was for outdoors, mainly for parks and places outdoors. They were actually going to be working in conjunction with them, not just alone, only at the parks and outdoor, but that would be one of the places where they could work with them to do a litter sweep. They were already in the works of putting that together.

Ms. Kaminske referred to the PowerPoint and displayed the pledge. Again, they could read this online. It was an oath promising that they would refrain from contributing even the smallest piece of litter to our well-crafted community. It was a promise to take responsibility for your trash even if it flies out of your hand on a windy day or there was no trashcan nearby. Take the extra step to protect the places that we love. This was born from a desire to protect our beautiful community and they want to continue to keep it clean.

Ms. Kaminske advised they would have phase two that would come after this. She referred to the PowerPoint and advised they thought this was a funny little way to say, in 1970 leisure suits. At some point they had to quit them, walk away from the leisure suit. In 1980, the mullet and wind suits. In 1990, parachute pants. In 2000, the boy band bowl cuts that everybody had. In 2021, it was litter. They were claiming that they have to walk away from litter and stop doing litter in 2021. They want to have a little fun with this campaign because they want people to embrace it. As a litter quitter they would be at the Farmer's Market and celebrate Earth Day/Arbor Day with the Community Appearance Commission. They would have special presentations after COVID was gone at the Elks, Rotary, Kiwanis, wherever, and invite the Community Appearance Commission. She knew they would be happy to give a presentation. They would coordinate with any of the neighborhood liaisons to present at their meetings, again after COVID. They would be working with NC Leave No Trace and Hickory Young Professionals. They already have that in the works for Spring 2021 which was right now, as well as another sweep in Fall of 2021. Every Spring and Fall going forward, they were going to work on pulling together some type of litter sweep in the community. They would like everyone's participation. If anyone had an interest to do one, they would welcome them to let the Community Appearance Commission know. The next phase was to call or visit local businesses to emphasize the importance of partnerships and to get them thinking about what they could do to further the initiative as well. Then coordinate again April and September litter sweeps for each of the following years. That would be something the Community Appearance Commission would put into their work plans and continue to do year after year.

Ms. Kaminske mentioned the enforcement piece, the anti-litter enforcement, there was a zero-tolerance policy in the City of Hickory and citizens could report littering to the Hickory Police Department in several ways. They could submit a tip through their mobile app. They could click submit a tip and select other as the category. They could call Hickory Police Department at 828-328-5551 to report it. They could submit a litterbug card to report an offense and cards may be picked up at Hickory Police Department or City Hall. They did not want to leave it at just litter, they want to be able to enforce this as well. They were thankful that the Hickory Police Department was partnering with them in this, and they had been doing this long before their campaign.

Ms. Kaminske commented they were crafting for the first time ever a community of quitters. She thanked Council.

Mayor Guess commented good job. He commented from time-to-time people always ask them what they could do. This was something that everybody could do. He thought this was something, it may be one of the few things that when you bring it up or discuss it, that there will not be anybody opposed to it, or at least he hoped there would not be anybody opposed to it. The next time somebody asks you what they can do, tell them that they can help them to be a litter quitter. That was certainly something that would make the City look better and it would make everything more attractive. They appreciated all the effort that the Community Appearance Commission had made towards this and they looked forward to the continued partnership with them to reduce and eliminate litter in the City of Hickory.

Mayor Guess advised when they have an elected official that comes to the Council meeting, he always like to recognize that person. Tonight, present from the Conover City Council Mr. Bruce Eckard was present in another capacity. He was not present in that capacity, obviously, but he wanted to take the opportunity to welcome him to the Hickory City Council meeting. As everyone in this room knew, not just with Conover, but the City's relationships with other municipalities were extremely valuable. He appreciated the relationship that the City has with the City of Conover. He thanked him for being present. Mayor Guess reminded everybody, if they had not already, to please silence their phones or mobile devices.

V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard

- A. Ms. Janice Setzler, 1089 19th Avenue Place NW, Hickory, thanked Council for allowing her to express her concerns before them. She loves Hickory and enjoys driving and walking around the beautiful City, especially in the Spring when the abundant azalea, camelia and dogwood blooms make our City a showplace. She commented she used to enjoy viewing the scenery. She could not seem to do that anymore because her eyes were continuously darting here and there dodging and squeezing between parked cars on their neighborhood streets. Yard maintenance crews were also parking their wide trucks and trailers on the streets. Some of them were a little more courteous and pulled them onto the sidewalks, completely blocking pedestrians and forcing them to walk and take wheelchairs and/or scooters onto the street. A lot of this parking was done on both sides of the street, which turns it into one lane. She thought that it was time that the City studied this problem and looked for ways to improve this increasing problem. It distracts from the beauty of the City and it was dangerous for citizens and drivers. She thanked Council.

Mayor Guess asked if anyone else wished to address the Council. No one else appeared.

VI. Approval of Minutes

- A. Regular Meeting of April 6, 2021.

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Williams that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 6, 2021 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Special Meeting of April 13, 2021.

Alderman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 13, 2021 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 Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Williams that the following be reaffirmed and ratified on second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Budget Revision Number 18. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

- B. Consideration of Rezoning Petition 21-01 for Property Located at 2565 Section House Road NE, Rezoning Area Containing Approximately .48 Acres (+ or -) of a .99 Acres (+ or -) Tract from Low Density Residential (R-1) to Neighborhood Center Commercial (NC). (First Reading Vote: Unanimous).

VIII. Consent Agenda: All items below will be enacted by vote of City Council. 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 Williams requested that Item "B" of the Consent Agenda be removed.

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver approval of the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item "B". The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Acknowledged the Publication of a Notice of a Conflict of Interest Stemming from a Nonprofit's Application for Funding from the City's Community Development Block Grant Program.

Staff requests Council to acknowledge publication of notice of a conflict of interest stemming from a nonprofit's application for funding from the City's Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The City of Hickory is a participating jurisdiction in the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community CDBG program that allows funding to nonprofit organizations to undertake eligible activities. The City has received an application for funding from a nonprofit who has a current City employee who sits on its board of directors. Federal regulations governing the CDBG program require that in order for the applicant to be eligible for any benefit for Public Service Activities funding, the City, as the participating jurisdiction, must provide disclosure of the potential conflicts associated with this application. Pursuant to the CDBG Program's Conflict of Interest Regulations (24 C.F.R. §570.611), the City, as a participating jurisdiction in the CDBG Program, hereby is providing public notice of the potential conflicts of interest raised by the nonprofit's application to the City's CDBG Program. The notice is posted on the City's website, City Hall, Patrick Beaver Memorial Library and the Ridgeview Library. Staff requests Council acknowledge publication of notice of a conflict of interest stemming from a nonprofit's application for funding from the City's Community Development Block Grant Program.

- B. Removed from the Consent Agenda and Considered Under Item IX. Items Removed from Consent Agenda. Council Acknowledged the Publication of a Notice of a Conflict of Interest Stemming from a Nonprofit's Application for Funding from the City's Community Development Block Grant Program.

Staff requests Council to acknowledge publication of notice of a conflict of interest stemming from a nonprofit's application for funding from the City's Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The City of Hickory is a participating jurisdiction in the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community CDBG program that allows funding to nonprofit organizations to undertake eligible activities. The City has received an application for funding from a nonprofit who has a current a City Councilmember who sits on its board of directors. Federal regulations governing the CDBG program require that in order for the applicant to be eligible for any benefit for Public Service Activities funding, the City, as the participating jurisdiction, must provide disclosure of the potential conflicts associated with this application. Pursuant to the CDBG Program's Conflict of Interest Regulations (24 C.F.R. §570.611), the City, as a participating jurisdiction in the CDBG Program, hereby is providing public notice of the potential conflicts of interest raised by the nonprofit's application to the City's CDBG Program. The notice is posted on the City's website, City Hall, Patrick Beaver Memorial Library and the Ridgeview Library. Staff requests that Council acknowledge publication of notice of a conflict of interest stemming from a nonprofit's application for funding from the City's Community Development Block Grant Program.

- C. Approved a Resolution Authorizing the Sale of City-Owned property Located at 932 3rd Street Place SW and 335 8th Avenue Drive SW.

Staff requests Council's approval of a resolution authorizing the sale of City-owned property at 932 3rd Street Place SW and 335 8th Avenue Drive SW. In 2019 the City of Hickory received funding from the Unifour HOME Consortium to construct two houses for low- and moderate-income homeowners on City-owned property in the Ridgeview Neighborhood. The two homes were completed in the Fall of 2020. The City of Hickory has partnered with the Family Guidance Center to use funding from the NC Housing Finance Agency's Community Partners Loan Pool to help make the sale of the property more affordable. The proceeds of the sale will be used to repay the loan received from the consortium for a portion of the funds necessary to construct the home. Upon completion, the property at 932 3rd Street SW (Catawba County GIS PIN: 370210457430) was appraised for \$154,725. The property at 335 8th Avenue Drive SW (Catawba County GIS PIN: 370210457411) was appraised for \$150,100. The City has received offers on both properties for the appraised value(s). Down payment assistance funds from nonprofit housing agencies will subsidize the purchase and make the first mortgage affordable to the homebuyer. Since this home is being sold to an income eligible buyer as affordable housing, NCGS 157-9 authorizes the City to sell the property without using a competitive sale or upset bid process. The competitive sale requirement would be incompatible with the income and ownership restrictions that are necessary due to the use of US Department of Housing and Urban Development HOME funds to build the home on the property. Staff recommends City Council adopt the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents necessary to complete the sale of the properties at 932 3rd Street Place SW and 335 8th Avenue Drive SW.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-18

Resolution of Hickory City Council Authorizing the Sale of Properties Located at 932 3rd Street Place SW and 335 8th Avenue Drive SW at the Appraised Value(s).

WHEREAS, the City of Hickory received funding from the Unifour HOME Consortium to construct two houses for low- and moderate-income homeowners on City-owned property in the Ridgeview Neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hickory has partnered with the Family Guidance Center to use funding from the NC Housing Finance Agency's Community Partners Loan Pool to help make the sale of the properties more affordable; and

WHEREAS, the proceeds of the sale will be used to repay the loan(s) received from the consortium for a portion of the funds necessary to construct the home(s); and

WHEREAS, the property located at 335 8th Avenue Drive SW was appraised for \$150,100 and the property located at 932 3rd Street SW was appraised for \$154,725. Down-payment assistance funds from nonprofit housing agencies will subsidize the purchase and make the first mortgage affordable to the homebuyer. Since these homes are being sold to an income eligible buyer as affordable housing, NCGS 157-9 authorizes the City to sell the property without using a competitive sale or upset bid process. The competitive sale requirement would be incompatible with the income and ownership restrictions that are necessary due to the use of US Department of Housing and Urban Development HOME funds to the build the home(s) on the property.

WHEREAS, the City has received an offer for the appraised value of \$150,100 for the property located at 335 8th Avenue Drive SW and an offer for the appraised value of \$154,725 for the property located at 932 3rd Street SW.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Hickory, North Carolina, as follows:

- 1) City Council accepts the offer(s) of \$150,100 for the property located at 335 8th Avenue Drive SW and \$154,725 for the property located at 932 3rd Street SW.
- 2) City Council authorizes the City Manager to execute all contract(s) and any necessary documents, between the buyer(s) and the City for the sale of 335 8th Avenue Drive SW at the appraised value of \$154,725 and for the property located at 932 3rd Street SW for the appraised value of \$154,725.

The resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

- D. Approved the Issuance of a Pyrotechnic Display Permit to Starfire Pyrotechnics for a Fireworks Display at Hickory Motor Speedway on May 15, 2021 (rain date May 16, 2021).

Staff requests Council's approval to issue a pyrotechnic display permit to Starfire Pyrotechnics for a firework display at the Hickory Motor Speedway. Kevin Piercy, General Manager of the Hickory Motor Speedway, has submitted a request to obtain permission to conduct a public firework display on the following dates: Saturday, May 15, 2021, (rain date Sunday, May 16, 2021). The North Carolina Fire Code requires an operational permit for the use and handling of pyrotechnic special effects material. The Hickory Fire Department Fire & Life Safety Division shall review all required documentation for the event, including Alcohol Tobacco and Firearm's (ATF) License, Operator and Assistant Operators Permits from North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal (NCOSFM), Site Plan, and the one-million-dollar liability insurance policy. The Fire & Life Safety Division will also inspect the pyrotechnics display area before the event to ensure compliance with NCOSFM Guidelines, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) NFPA 1123 Code for Fireworks Display, and NFPA 1126 Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience (if applicable). Staff recommends approval of the above pyrotechnics displays.

- E. Approved the Issuance of a Pyrotechnic Display Permit to Starfire Pyrotechnics for a Fireworks Display at 409 8th Avenue NE, Hickory Career & Arts Magnet on April 28, 2021 (alternate rain date April 27, 2021).

Staff requests Council's approval to issue a pyrotechnic display permit to Starfire Pyrotechnics for a firework display at 409 8th Avenue NE, Hickory Career & Arts Magnet. Leah Clayton, Assistant AD for Marketing & Fan Engagement, Lenoir-Rhyne University has submitted a request to obtain permission to conduct a public firework display on the following dates: April 28, 2021, (alternate/rain date, April 27, 2021). The North Carolina Fire Code requires an operational permit for the use and handling of pyrotechnic special effects material. The Hickory Fire Department Fire & Life Safety Division shall review all required documentation for the event, including Alcohol Tobacco and Firearm's (ATF)

License, Operator and Assistant Operators Permits from North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal (NCOSFM), Site Plan, and the one-million-dollar liability insurance policy. The Fire & Life Safety Division will also inspect the pyrotechnics display area before the event to ensure compliance with NCOSFM Guidelines, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) NFPA 1123 Code for Fireworks Display, and NFPA 1126 Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience (if applicable). Staff recommends approval of the above pyrotechnics displays.

F. Approved on First Reading Budget Revision Number 19.

ORDINANCE NO. 21-11
BUDGET REVISION NUMBER 19

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, 2021.

SECTION 1. To amend the General Fund within the FY 2020-21 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
General Government	14,000	-
TOTAL	14,000	-

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Other Financing Sources	14,000	-
TOTAL	14,000	-

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SECTION 2. To amend the Water and Sewer Fund within the FY 2020-21 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures shall be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Environmental Protection	-	14,000
Other Financing Uses	14,000	-
TOTAL	14,000	14,000

SECTION 3. To amend the Transportation Fund within the FY 2020-21 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures shall be changed as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Transportation	118,620	-
TOTAL	118,620	-

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Sales and Services	118,620	-
TOTAL	118,620	-

SECTION 4. 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 – Item “B”

Alderwoman Williams advised she would need to recuse herself from the vote as she was the Council member that was on the Habitat Board which was requesting Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Mayor Guess asked City Attorney John Crone if Alderwoman Williams needed to leave the room.

City Attorney John Crone advised it was appropriate for Council to move to excuse Alderwoman Williams from voting.

Mayor Guess asked City Attorney Crone if she could stay or if she needed to leave the room.

City Attorney John Crone advised she did not need to leave.

Mayor Guess moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver to recuse Alderwoman Williams from voting on Item “B” as she was on the board for the money that was being requested for that. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Guess moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton to approve Item "B". The motion carried unanimously.

X. Informational Item

XI. New Business:

A. Public Hearings

1. Approved a Voluntary Contiguous Annexation of Property Owned by Lifestyle Investment Company, Containing Approximately .344 acres of Property, Located at 1317 Cloninger Mill Road, Hickory, Identified as PIN 3174-08-88-9113.– Presentation by Planning Manager Cal Overby.

Lifestyle Investment Company has petitioned for the voluntary contiguous annexation of 0.344 acres of property located 1317 Cloninger Mill Road. The subject property is currently located within Hickory's extraterritorial jurisdictional area (ETJ), and zoned Low Density Residential (R-1). The annexation is being requested in order to connect to the City's sewer system. Under the current zoning the property can be developed for single-family and two-family residential uses at a density of two dwelling units per acre. The subject property is currently occupied by a single-family home, which represents the maximum development potential for the subject property. The current tax value of the property is \$126,000. If annexed with its present value, the property would generate additional tax revenues of \$740. Upon analysis, staff has determined the petition meets the statutory requirements for voluntary contiguous annexation, and adequate public services are available. Staff finds the petition to be in conformity with applicable statutes and recommends approval of the petition.

This public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on April 9, 2021.

City Manager Warren Wood asked Planning Manager Cal Overby to the podium to present Council with a voluntary contiguous annexation of property owned by Lifestyle Investment Company, containing approximately .344 acres of property, located at 1317 Cloninger Mill Road.

Planning Manager Cal Overby presented a PowerPoint presentation. He advised this was an application for voluntary annexation of some property located on Cloninger Mill Road. As City Manager Warren Wood had said, they were looking at a property owned by Lifestyle Investment Company. It was a voluntary contiguous annexation and contained approximately 3/10 of an acre of property. If it were annexed into the City of Hickory, it would be in Ward 2, and was currently occupied by a single-family residence and that was the use of the property carrying forward. The annexation was being requested in order to connect to the City sewer services. He referred to the PowerPoint presentation and displayed a map. He pointed out the subject property, the intersection of Kool Park, Cloninger Mill Road and Sandy Ridge Road. He pointed out the Dollar General, Sandy Ridge Baptist Church and a development called The Falls at Cloninger Mill and the subject property. He discussed the zoning and advised it was basically all residential in this area. It was either strictly single-family residential or single-family manufactured home, duplex zoning. He pointed out the area which was shown as neighborhood commercial. He displayed an aerial photograph of the property and pointed out the newly constructed Dollar General Store, a service station, The Falls at Cloninger Mill, an existing residential subdivision which included several lots that were never built out and just to the south Sandy Ridge Baptist Church. Staff evaluated this and found that all public services necessary to serve the property, including sanitation, police, fire, water, and sewer were available in sufficient quantities and it would not fall below acceptable levels. The annexation met all the requirements legally to annex the property. Staff recommended approval. He asked for any questions.

Mayor Guess asked Council for any questions. He explained the rules for conducting the public hearing. He declared the public hearing open and asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition to the proposal. No one appeared. He asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the proposal. No one appeared. Mayor Guess closed the public hearing.

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Zagaroli approval of the voluntary contiguous annexation of the property located at 1317 Cloninger Mill Road. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NO. 465

VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION ORDINANCE (CONTIGUOUS)

LIFESTYLE INVESTMENT COMPANY

AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA, PURSUANT TO GENERAL STATUTES 160A-58.1, AS AMENDED (CONTIGUOUS)

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory desires to annex the area described herein, under G.S. 160A-58.1, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has by resolution directed the City Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of said annexation; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has certified to the sufficiency of said request, and a public hearing on the question of this annexation was held in the Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building, located at 76 North Center Street, Hickory, North Carolina, at 7:00 p.m. on the 20th day of April 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory further finds that the area described therein meets the standards of G.S. 160A-58.1(b), to wit:

- a. The nearest point on the proposed satellite corporate limits is not more than three miles from the corporate limits of the City of Hickory.
- b. No point on the proposed satellite corporate limits is closer to another city than to the City of Hickory.
- c. The areas described are so situated that the City will be able to provide services on the same basis within the proposed satellite corporate limits that it provides within the primary corporate limits.
- d. No subdivision, as defined in G.S. 160A-376, will be fragmented by this proposed annexation.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory does hereby find as a fact that said petition has been signed by all the owners of real property in the area who are required by law to sign and all other requirements of G.S. 160A-58.1, as amended have been complied with; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds that the annexation is otherwise valid, and that the public health, safety, and welfare of the City of Hickory and of the areas proposed for annexation will be best served by annexing the area herein described.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA:

Section 1. By virtue of the authority granted by G.S. 160A-58.2, as amended, the following-described contiguous territory is hereby annexed and made a part of the City of Hickory as of the 30th day of April 2021:

CONTIGUOUS ANNEXATION
OF THE PROPERTY OF
LIFESTYLE INVESTMENT COMPANY
1317 Cloninger Mill Road NE

BEGINNING at an existing 3/4" pipe in concrete on the north side of Cloninger Mill Road NE on the existing City Limits Line; said pipe also being located North 27 degrees- 37 minutes- 33 seconds West, 134.72 feet from an existing mag nail in the centerline intersection of Cloninger Mill NE and 13th Street Place NE; thence along the existing City Limits Line, North 40 degrees- 29 minutes- 10 seconds West, 100.01 feet to an existing 3/4" pipe in concrete; thence leaving the right of way of Cloninger Mill Road NE and a new City Limit Line, North 49 degrees- 57 minutes- 19 seconds East, 150.01 feet to a 3/4" pipe in concrete; thence with a City Limit Line, South 40 degrees- 28 minutes- 46 seconds East, 58.26 feet to an existing 1" pipe, a new City Limit Line; thence with a new City Limit Line, South 40 degrees- 27 minutes- 50 seconds East, 41.76 feet; thence South 49 degrees- 57 minutes- 32 seconds West, 149.98 to the place and point of BEGINNING, containing 0.344 Acre by coordinate computation as being surveyed by Donald S. Miller Surveying dated February 24, 2121 (Drawing Number H3B-5510) as recorded in Deed Book 3548, Page 535, Catawba County Registry.

Section 2. Upon and after the 30th day of April 2021, the above-described territory and its citizens and property shall be subject to all debts, laws,

ordinances, and regulations in force in the City of Hickory and shall be entitled to the same privileges and benefits as other parts of the City of Hickory. Said territory shall be subject to municipal taxes according to G.S. 160A-58.10, as amended.

Section 3. The newly-annexed territory described herein shall become part of Ward No. 2 of the City of Hickory.

Section 4. The Mayor of the City of Hickory shall cause to be recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Catawba County, and in the Office of the Secretary of State at Raleigh, North Carolina, an accurate map of the annexed territory, described in Section 1 hereof, together with duly certified copy of this Ordinance. Such a map shall also be delivered to the County Board of Elections, as required by G.S. 163-288.1.

B. Departmental Reports:

1. Trash Talk – Presentation by Communications and Marketing Manager Dana Kaminske.

The Solid Waste Division and Office of Communications have partnered to develop a fun and educational campaign to teach residents about the “do’s and don’ts” of recycling, why it is important to recycle items correctly, and important tips for trash and recycling in the City of Hickory. The Trash Talk campaign includes social media tips twice a week, Trash Talk Tuesday videos posted on social media, a feature story in the May Snippets, and a rack card will be made available in the Fall for yard waste.

Mayor Guess asked Communications and Marketing Manager Dana Kaminske to the podium for a presentation on Trash Talk.

Communications and Marketing Manager Dana Kaminske presented a PowerPoint presentation. She advised she would discuss the Trash Talk Recycling and Waste Campaign for the City of Hickory. She recognized Shalee Sparks, who was present, the Trash Talk Host. This was a new campaign and they had been doing these on Tuesdays, it was called Trash Talk Tuesdays. She presented a video of one of the Trash Talk Tuesdays episodes. She advised that was one of the few episodes that they had done, and they were going to continue to keep doing them. They were fun and they randomly just picked people in downtown and different places, and they volunteered to help them. They gave them something at the end to say thank you. They will have one that will be coming out again next week and then they also have wonderful recycling tips. She referred to the PowerPoint slide and pointed out an individual post that they put out and then they combined them all into an informational post flyer for recycling. She advised Council could go to the social media channels and see them there. They had garbage tips as well, so it was not just about recycling, they wanted to make sure people understood also what solid waste was and how to dispose of it correctly. Also, how far to put your cans apart, and where to put them. All the tips that people need to know in the community to do it correctly and help public services.

Ms. Kaminske shared that they went to the MRF facility and learned a lot. She advised it was an amazing trip and tour. She thanked Andrew Ballentine for taking them out there. They took some pictures, and it was an eye-opening experience to learn about recycling in this capacity. She referred to the PowerPoint and displayed some of the photos. She pointed out the cardboard boxes and how much they have, it was crazy for just Catawba County. She displayed a picture of cans, aluminum cans, and things like that. To watch the people on the lines having to pick through the recycling gives you a whole new experience for why you should and should not put certain things in your recycling. She knew you could not recycle the plastic bags you have to take them to the grocery store. What she did not know was the why behind it. There were machines and those things get stuck in those wheels and every night they have to shut the machine off, go underneath it, and cut those out to unwind them from those wheels. When you learn things like that, when the community starts to learn the reasons behind it, she thought they were more appreciative for understanding why they should recycle correctly and why they should do solid waste correctly. The City has a great department, and great leaf collection. Coming out in the Fall they will have recycling your yard waste rack card information with tips on how to do it correctly. Where to put your leaves, where not to put your leaves. Everyone probably rides around the community and sees the do’s and don’ts. They take pictures and make sure that people get this information. They will be doing a whole campaign in the Fall to also make sure people understand this even more. She advised that was a quick overview and all of this was on the website. Everyone could feel free to share this information,

share the tips that they put out on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They were going to keep doing that. She asked Council for any questions.

Mayor Guess asked for any questions.

Alderwoman Williams asked if cardboard boxes were a no, no, in terms of recycling.

Ms. Kaminske advised the cardboard boxes could be packed down. If it was a pizza box, with junk in it you cannot. You could rip the lid off and recycle the lid, just not the junk part. Instead of just tossing the whole thing, you could rip the lid off and recycle the lid.

Alderwoman Williams asked about paper.

Solid Waste Manager Andrew Ballentine advised they could recycle paper, not shredded paper because again it was like a tangler and it would actually contaminate other recyclables. Unfortunately, that has to be disposed of. There were other uses for that.

Alderwoman Williams confirmed that newspapers were fine.

Ms. Kaminske advised newspapers you could. And there were places where you can do the shred documents and then they take that and deal with that. She asked for any other questions.

Mayor Guess had read somewhere recently where there was another location for people that wanted to drop-off anything kind of like they do at the Crawdad's Stadium.

Ms. Kaminske commented the household hazardous waste collection was set for May 1st.

Solid Waste Manager Andrew Ballentine advised it was May 1st at the Fairgrounds.

Ms. Kaminske noted especially this past year with COVID a lot of people were cleaning out their house, so be prepared it takes a little time to go through that line. It was a great way to get rid of your electronics, paint, and aerosol type things.

Mayor Guess commented last time he took about 10 or 15 gallons of paint. He did not know why they collected so much paint. He thought they thought they were going to use it again.

Ms. Kaminske thought that a lot of people did not realize that there were other ways, even with your oils, you cannot recycle the plastic container that the oil was in because of the contaminant. Typically, you would be able to recycle a plastic container like that. The City's transfer station takes oil and also places like Advanced AutoZone, and places like that. You could take car oils, and things like that, and they would take them as well. There were all kinds of recycling information that they were going to keep sharing, keep testing people on and they have more fun ideas coming in the future, more than just the Trash Talk Tuesdays. She asked for any other questions.

City Council members thanked Ms. Kaminske.

2. Second Amendment with Scott Mitchell Design Architect for the Hickory Metro Convention Center – Presentation by City Manager Warren Wood.

Mayor Guess asked City Manager Warren Wood to the podium to present Council with the second departmental report.

City Manager Warren Wood presented a Power Point presentation. He advised Council they have proposed before them the second amendment to the contract with Scott Mitchell Design Services for an amendment to the contract to expand the Convention Center. He shared a little bit of history regarding what COVID had done in terms of changing the trajectory of where they were going. He mentioned that Ms. Mandy Hildebrand gave them a brand new two-minute video promoting the Convention Center to watch. He presented the video to Council. He commented that they were the first to see the video it was fresh off the press. He mentioned Mr. Bruce Eckard, was the Chair of the Board, Ms. Mandy Hildebrand, Executive Director of the Convention Center and Mr. Scott Mitchell, was the design Architect that they were using for this project.

City Manager Warren Wood discussed how the Convention Center operated and was funded. The Convention Center was actually owned by the City of Hickory. It was managed and operated by the Hickory Conover Tourism Development Board and staffed by the board, Mandy Hildebrand, and her staff. Their operations and capital needs were funded by a six percent hotel/motel occupancy tax applied both in Hickory and Conover. There were no general tax revenues from the City of Hickory or Conover, that go into operating the Convention Center. That was really unique as a lot of cities have to put money into those facilities to operate it, but the way they have their funding structured through the law, that allowed them to operate without having to put City tax dollars into it.

City Manager Warren Wood commented Council may recall that Hickory City Council originally entered into a contract for design services with Scott Mitchell on February 18, 2020 just before COVID. That was important. The hotel/motel occupancy tax would also pay for these design services. That contract was for a fixed fee of \$677,000 and the anticipated construction costs at that time was \$10 million dollars. At that point, they were focused on renovations mainly and a little bit of expansion. Again, this was pre-COVID. Late in the Summer of 2020 the Tourism Development Authority (TDA) Board stopped work on design due to concerns that COVID was going to have a long-term negative impact on the conventions around the country and here in Hickory and the board's original focus on renovations were not going to be the proper investment. They felt like they were getting ready to head down the road of a renovation versus an expansion that they felt like they needed now. They asked Scott Mitchell to produce an outline of a plan that would focus on expanding the Convention Center, with space that had ceiling heights that could be more multipurpose use in nature. With the ceiling heights out there now, you could do some travel sports for little kids, but they were really not as high as they needed to be to do what they need to do in terms of attracting a different type of new, non-business-related travel. That was what they started focusing on. Mr. Mitchell came up with a concept. The price tag went up. They felt like they were getting ready to spend \$10 million dollars on something that really was not going to be useful for them in post COVID world in terms of conventions. They came up with a plan to add 42,000 square feet to the facilities, 35,000 square feet of that was a large open span convention area with tall ceilings. The new construction estimate was \$13 million dollars. That was \$3 million dollars more, but they felt like this was going to be something that was really going to allow them to produce more revenue and drive more heads in beds. The goal of the Convention Center was to get overnight stays. That was what funded it. The expanded facility, with higher ceiling heights, would allow for travel sports such as basketball. They could get four basketball courts, eight volleyball courts, cheer, and gymnastics events there as well. Today they were limited. They could not do that. They felt like the travel sports and the future was going to be a big part of bringing people to Hickory and putting heads in beds. In addition to that, currently they really could not do boat shows or large truck shows and that would also give them a facility to allow for those sorts of things. It was going to be more multipurpose. You could also use it for just traditional convention space as well. With this 42,000 square foot expansion, the overall size of the Convention Center would now be larger than the Winston-Salem Convention Center. It puts them in a whole new larger bracket as well.

City Manager Warren Wood discussed the timetable on this. If approved, the design would be done by late Fall and construction would be an 18-to-24-month process. The need to continue to monitor the revenues. The revenues for the hotel/motel tax had come back, not to pre-COVID levels, but a lot better than where they were a year ago. Another advantage of this approach was that the Convention Center could stay open and operate while under construction. Under the other scenario they were going to have to close the whole thing down. Under this scenario they could keep events coming and continue to operate while construction takes place.

City Manager Warren Wood referred to the PowerPoint and displayed a drawing of the concept. He pointed out the new sections; the western side of the Convention Center; the entry, a roundabout out front. He pointed out where it currently ended and the location of Ms. Hildebrand's offices. The expansion would take place into the parking lot. They were going to lose 88 parking spaces, but they were developing a plan to account for that. They felt like the plus side of this was a lot better than losing 88 parking spaces. He referred to the PowerPoint slide and pointed out the space that was the main open clear span area of about 35,000 square feet where you could get all the basketball and volleyball and all that in there. He showed another rendering and pointed out the location of the entrances. He advised there would be some work done to it. There would be a few meeting rooms and some ancillary space and some storage. He showed a conceptual drawing and pointed out where the building

ended currently. He pointed out the new space expanded to the western side of the facility. He advised that was the recommendation and the TDA Board voted to move forward, and to recommend to City Council that this plan be approved. He advised if they did the math, the \$13 million versus the \$877,000, just less than the seven percent design fee related to construction, typically you would want to be below eight. They felt pretty good about that. Some of the work that had already been done on the original plan could still be used. As an example, on the video that they saw, the bathrooms had been renovated. That was actually the first amendment to this contract. This was the second. Some of that work could survive, but a lot of it was going to be new because it was going to be an expansion versus renovation. He referred to the PowerPoint and displayed a drawing of the building. He pointed out where the expansion would go. He asked for any questions or comments.

Mayor Guess referred to the loss of the parking spaces being somewhat of a concern. He asked if there was an immediate plan to add parking spaces or if that was something in the future.

City Manager Warren Wood advised there was parking that was not utilized the way it could be up top behind the Convention Center. You could also utilize shuttles. He thought that eventually, what the Convention Center was going to have to consider was another parking deck. They had an idea of where that might go, but again, all that would be funded. If this plan were successful the revenues should increase and as some debt drops off, they could consider another parking deck.

Mayor Guess asked how much additional land was there.

City Manager Warren Wood commented for expansion, unless you close the road, this was going to be it. He advised they could close the road on the east side or reroute it and potentially do some more on that side.

Mayor Guess commented for a parking deck they would have to go up probably.

City Manager Warren Wood advised they had identified a spot for it on the back side.

Alderman Zagaroli asked if they could add to the existing parking deck.

City Manager Warren Wood advised no it was not built that way.

Alderman Wood referred to the activities that Mr. Wood had discussed, basketball, cheer, those type of things. It was going to require equipment, facilities, and seating. He asked if there was ample storage in close proximity where you were going to be able to put all of this stuff.

City Manager Warren Wood advised they would lease all of that, the floors, and all the stuff that goes along with volleyball, and depending on what sport it was, they would lease it and they would come in and set it up so they would not have to have storage.

Alderman Williams asked if they were planning on having the removable doors and partitions to be able to adjust.

City Manager Warren Wood advised not in the new space.

Alderman Williams replied it will be just one large open space.

City Manager Warren Wood responded that he guessed they could put some sort of partition up, but it is not going to be a permanent sort of structure that they could open and close.

Alderman Williams asked about the air conditioning system.

City Manager Warren Wood advised they were aware of that. He did not think that was technically part of this, but they were going to have to fix that. That was a maintenance issue.

Mr. Scott Mitchell advised the new section's air conditioning would be a lot quieter.

City Manager Warren Wood advised this would require action from Council as it was the second amendment to the original contract.

Mayor Guess asked if there were any other questions from Council. Mayor Guess moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton approval of the second amendment to the design architect that City Manager Warren Wood described to them at Hickory Metro Convention Center. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
At-Large (Outside City but within HRP) (Council Appoints) VACANT

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT
Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT

Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT
Differently-abled and is African-American or Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT

HICKORY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms With Unlimited Appointments)
(Appointed by City Council)
Brookford (Mayor Appoints with Recommendation from Brookford) VACANT

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

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

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 5-Year Terms) (Appointed by the Mayor)
Position 3 (Mayor Appoints) VACANT
Position 9 (Mayor Appoints) (Unexpired Term of Rebecca Clements) VACANT

YOUTH COUNCIL

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 1-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Youth Council Applicant Review Committee Recommends the Following Appointments:

FTF VACANT
HCAM VACANT
HHS VACANT
Homeschool VACANT

C. Presentation of Petitions and Requests

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

City Manager Warren Wood advised that Alderwoman Patton had requested an update on House Bill 401.

Mayor Guess moved, seconded by Alderwoman Patton to add an update on House Bill 401 to the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Warren Wood advised this was related to House Bill 401 and Senate Bill 349, the Sister Bill to that, titled "Increasing Housing Opportunities". He explained what this Bill does. The State would mandate to all local governments that have single-family zoning, that they would have to allow duplexes, triplexes, and quadruplexes. No language related to the design standards you would have to allow those through the State mandate in your single-family zoning districts. He met with the members of the City's legislative delegation last week and they were opposed to it. One of those members had talked to one of the Bill sponsors and that individual said that this Bill was not going anywhere. He asked him again yesterday, and he said again, this Bill was not going anywhere. Sarah Prencipe in the City Manager's Office keeps track of all these Bills that are hostile to local governments and she says that at the pace that it was moving it was not going anywhere before the session ends. Some cities are doing resolutions opposing. He advised Council if they wanted to consider one of those, they could come up with some language that was already out there opposing this, assuming that they do want to oppose it. They had not had a conversation about that. The League of Municipalities was opposing it. That was Council's pleasure on what they would like in terms of that. It did not look like anything was going to happen within its current form this session.

Mayor Guess reiterated that he had conversations with folks from the League of Municipalities and also the City's State Representatives and they have told him the same thing privately that they do not see that this was going anywhere. At this time, he did not know that it would do them much good to come up with a resolution. His recommendation would be that they continue to

allow staff to monitor this. Of course, they each have contacts with the representatives, and he thought they would hear if this thing moved forward. He thought they would know about it way in advance. At this time, he recommended they wait and see where it goes, if it goes anywhere. He asked Council for any further comments on that or any discussion. He thanked City Manager Wood for the update.

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

Alderman Wood mentioned along with the theme of a cleaner community and litter, several months ago the City reached out to the YMCA about litter in their parking lot and things like that. He recognized them for an incredible job that they had done of cleaning up that campus and keeping the litter picked up. It had really made a difference. He thanked the YMCA and their leadership.

XIV. Closed Session Per NC General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(1)(6) to consult with the attorneys regarding the following: (Action on these items, if any, will occur in Open Session)

Mayor Guess moved that Council go into closed session to consult with the attorneys to discuss the items below, seconded by Alderwoman Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of January 19, 2021 - NCGS §143-318.11(a)(1)
2. Personnel Matter - NCGS §143-318.11(a)(6)

Council convened to closed session at approximately 7:57 p.m.

Council reconvened to open session at approximately 8:59 p.m.

No action was taken upon return to open session.

XV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk