

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hickory was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., with the following members present:

Tony Wood	Hank Guess	Anthony Freeman
Charlotte C. Williams	Aldermen	David P. Zagaroli
Danny Seaver		Jill Patton

A quorum was present.

Also present were City Manager Warren Wood, Deputy City Manager Rodney Miller, Assistant City Manager Rick Beasley, 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 Cliff Moone, Retired Clergy

Mayor Guess mentioned it was Reverend Cliff Moone's granddaughter Ava's 10th birthday. She attends Council meetings from time to time but was unable to be in attendance as she was out with her father for her birthday. He recognized Ava on her 10th birthday.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Guess recognized two individuals from Boy Scout Troop 383 out of Conover, Boy Scout Leader, Graham Thick and his son Boy Scout Lance Thick. Lance was going to be a freshman coming up at St. Stephen's this year. He was in attendance on behalf of the Boy Scouts to get one of his badges. They were glad to have both of them present.

IV. Special Presentations

A. Recognition of City Attorney John Crone

Mayor Guess commented that it was a very special, bittersweet moment this evening. He thought a lot of the audience was present to recognize and thank, most of all, thank John Crone for his many years of service. It had already been said 28 years of service as the City Attorney to the City Council. He asked City Attorney John Crone to join him at the podium. He advised he had a few words more to say and some special presentations that they would like to give him. He wanted to say some things personally on behalf of John. First of all, it was no secret to everybody that John had been the City Attorney for quite some time. Not only had he been the City Attorney, but for him personally, he had been a tremendous mentor and a friend for longer than the 28 years that he served here. He had known John for quite some time, from his time on the police department. He commented from first-hand experience this man had helped him in ways that he could not talk about or could not say. He had helped him tremendously in different times of his life and he had been a tremendous example to him, not only personally but as they lead in the City government. He wanted to tell John how much he appreciated him. He loved this man and he wanted to especially say on behalf of the City Council how much they appreciated all his many years of service. He commented that John made the decision on his own back in December of last year. He let Council and staff know that this day was forthcoming and today it was here, and it was a bittersweet moment. John had several family members, friends, and people that he wanted to recognize that were present for this special day as well. Mayor Guess advised they had a couple things that they would present to him for his many years of service.

Mayor Guess advised he was going to give them the short version. The short version of a key to the city was this. He was not sure when it all came about, he thought it was around the early 1800s, maybe even before that, cities were surrounded by walls and they had to do that in order to keep folks out that might cause harm to them, and animals, and all kinds of different predators and things like that. Cities were surrounded by walls, and they had lookouts and guards, and things of that sort, so they could see when the enemy was coming. Along with those walls, there were tremendous gates and at a certain point during the day or the evening, those gates would be shut and locked to keep the people inside safe and to keep animals and predators out. There were a few select people during those times that were actually given a key to that gate to be able to allow them to enter that city at will. Only the most trusted and the most respected of the people were allowed to have that key. That was a little bit of the history behind the key to the city. It was only appropriate today to give one of their most loyal, one of their most trusted and one of their most respected citizens, a key to the City of Hickory. Unlike those keys back in that day, this key does not actually open anything, but it does symbolize as he already said, the respect and the loyalty and the dedication that John Crone had given to this City, not only for the 28 years that he served on this Council, but for many years prior to that, and he could only imagine for many years in the future. On behalf of the City of Hickory, on behalf of the City Council and himself, he presented John with a key to the city.

City Attorney John Crone thanked Mayor Guess. He commented that a lot of people said do not let the door hit you on your way out.

Mayor Guess commented it had long been a tradition in the City of Hickory when a Council person retires or leaves the City Council to also give that person a rocking chair. He knew that he was not completely retiring, but this was from the Council. On behalf of Council, he presented John with a chair with a City seal on it. Hopefully he would make room for that somewhere in his office at home or down the street. He knew he had some grandchildren here. Hopefully they would find their way in his lap on that chair.

City Attorney John Crone thanked Mayor Guess.

Mayor Guess asked him if he was going to introduce his family and friends.

City Attorney John Crone advised he had been practicing this and had it down to a precise one hour and 32 minutes. He thanked his family first of all for being present. He introduced his son Chase; his oldest son Will; his wife Beth; his daughter-in-law Laurie; his brother-in-law Joey; his sister Anne and her husband Mark; his middle son Andrew; and his oldest grandson Cason; and the patriarch of the family Mr. Mitchell his father-in-law and one of the finest gentlemen he had ever met. He had never heard him say a bad word. He was just a very special person, and it was such an honor to have him present. He appreciated it very much. He did not have a lot to say, but he wanted to take a moment to tell them what an honor it was to have these people and the City as his clients for the last 28 years. What a great place Hickory was. Everything he had come from the City of Hickory, his wife, his children, his occupation, his church, his barber, everything in his life came from the City of Hickory. He was born and raised here at Richard Baker Hospital, lived a few blocks from here, grew up and had a Tom Sawyer childhood, literally. Back in those days things were peaceful, and serene. They would get up at the crack of dawn and they would not see them as kids until they came home. They would be out bat hunting, playing kick the can. They would play on an acre, big old red mud place they called Red Hill, their parents called it Red Hell. It was just a very enjoyable place. About every weekend they would camp out and the rumble of the railroad and the train rolling through Hickory was very comforting, when they were out laying in the tent, after they had done whatever mischief, they had done or were getting ready to do. He tells people that he grew up three houses from what was now the Foundation Center and three houses from the Catholic Church. He grew up Catholic and ever since he could remember, he either wanted to be a Catholic priest or a lawyer. When he learned what celibacy was, he decided he wanted to be a lawyer. Ever since then, he had fulfilled that dream and had the dream client that he had, which was the City of Hickory. When he was growing up, he had a Presbyterian Minister across the street, a Methodist Minister diagonally across the street, and a Rabbi two houses down. It could not have been a better neighborhood, and God blessed him with a neighborhood where parenthetically years ago, back in the early mid-fifties, one of the Shuford patriarchs in Hickory was over in France or Italy or somewhere, and he bought a zoo and had it shipped over from overseas to Hickory. It was down next to the tennis courts at the YMCA right now. Every morning, his alarm clock was the roar of Leo, the lion who woke him up. Another comforting thing. Back in those days they would run behind the bug truck when it was emitting its fumes. A lot of people say that was what was wrong with him now. He concurred to a certain extent. Growing up in Hickory was so pleasant and right now things in Hickory are pleasant. Go downtown. He used to work for the City in the 1970s. They put brick down uptown. It was just a pile of bricks. Go up there now and see the families that are pushing strollers, see people on bikes, see people communicating together, see movies that they were showing at night on weekends, see music. That was the same kind of harmony and peaceful environment he grew up with. It made him feel good. The reason for that was because of these people, referring to City Council, people do not understand the number of hours they put into doing their job. They think, well, they just show up at meetings and read the agenda. He had seen things from inside and out and he could tell them every one of these individuals worked hard and did their best for the City of Hickory. He commented that Alderwoman Patton was one of the most passionate Council people for her constituents that he had ever seen. If there was a pothole in her neighborhood it was going to be fixed by the next morning. Alderman Zagaroli brings his wisdom as a renowned furniture designer and the person who moved to Hickory in the mid to late 60s and had really adopted the City of Hickory as his home place. Alderman Freeman, he was talking to him earlier, and he had not gotten to know him that well, but he had talked to him, and he heard him at the meetings, and he brings an impact of diversity to the Council and the comments that he had made and getting up to speed on what was going on in the City had been amazing. One of his comments all the time was that what they were talking about right now, is that for the good of all of the citizens here. Not just northwest but was that good for all of the citizens of Hickory. He was so pleased that he was on the Council and doing what he was doing. Of course, Alderman Seaver had been on Council for 24 years and his attention to detail was almost as minute as Alderman Tony Woods. He had enjoyed having him around and he was very common sense when they started talking business stuff. Alderwoman Williams, he commented there had been some things that came before Council where this place was packed and most everybody lived in her ward, and they wanted something and she had the guts enough, the guts enough, to vote against it because she felt like that was in the best interest of the City. Those were things that he did not forget. Alderman Tony Wood

never met a spreadsheet they he did not want to strictly scrutinize. He was one of the only people that called him up when he sent a memo out and told him there was a typo in it. City Manager Warren Wood was just a fascinating, hardworking person. Hickory was the first form of City Council/Manager form of government, a way to run a city. It was run like a business, and he had a knack for hiring the best people who all worked together and seemed to like each other. They were just customer friendly. When they were out on the street, they do a good job and everywhere from the firemen to the police chief to everybody. City Manager Warren Wood does such a good job as the glue holding all that together. If they think about what had happened in the last 5 to 10 years in this City, with this group and especially with Brad Lail sitting right there, how in the world could you imagine pushing through a \$40 million Bond Referendum. People they do not even know that were sitting in their office, you know what they were doing, they were getting \$50 million dollars in grant money on top of that \$40 million and all that was spent downtown, the City Walk, out at Trivium. He could remember one of his idols, lawyer, Charlie Dixon said, build a spec building. Through his efforts and through Mr. Lail's and others. He went back to his childhood when he went downtown because it was just so calm and peaceful, and it was just the way things ought to be. He could remember back when it used to be not quite like that. Years and years ago, they used to have the railroad tracks that was the line of demarcation between black and white and that line of demarcation was eroding somewhat. They were blessed to have a city where police officers were appreciated. Knock on wood. They keep it that way. It was because of their citizens and because of their Council members and because of the people that work for the City of Hickory, and he appreciated it very much.

City Attorney John Crone advised his successor Tim Swanson was in the office today and was in the audience today. He was going to be his successor. He practiced in his law firm, and he stayed out of anything that had anything to do with him being hired as the next City lawyer. He told them he was going to do great. He grew up in Hickory. He coaches his kids in sports. He went to Lenoir-Rhyne and graduated. He was a star quarterback at Hickory High. When he went to Lenoir-Rhyne his claim to fame was he as a 7th string quarterback and decided maybe he would rather go be a lawyer than pursue a professional football career. He was going to do a great job. He told him the other day, he said you know, Tim, it had taken him 28 years to guide the City to be number one and all this stuff, he said, do not mess it up when you take over. You do not have anywhere else to go but sideways. He probably left out people, but if he did, they knew, he loved them, and he appreciated it very much. His friends and his family that were in attendance. It was the greatest honor he would ever have as a lawyer because he loved having the City as his client and he appreciated it very much. A standing ovation was given to Mr. Crone.

V. Persons Requesting to Be Heard

VI. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Meeting of June 6, 2023

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderman Seaver that the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 6, 2023 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.

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

A. Budget Revision Number 23. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

B. City Manager's FY2023-2024 Recommended Budget. (First Reading Vote: Unanimous)

C. Rezoning Petition Number 23-02 for Property Owned by Kincade Properties, LLC, located on 22nd Avenue NE between North Center Street and 1st Street NE. (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.

Alderwoman Patton moved, seconded by Alderwoman Williams approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Approved a Resolution to Cancel the Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting on July 4, 2023.

RESOLUTION NO. 23-34

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Hickory that the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting for July 4, 2023 be cancelled.

- B. Approved a Lease Agreement with the Catawba County Council on Aging for City-Owned Property located at 400 17th Street SW.

Staff requests approval of a lease agreement with the Catawba County Council on Aging to lease property owned by the City of Hickory, located at 400 17th Street SW. The property at 400 17th Street SW has been leased to the Catawba County Council of Aging for several decades. Their current lease expires June 30, 2023. The Council on Aging provides services to senior citizens throughout Catawba County at their current location. The term of the proposed lease is five years for the nominal amount of \$10. The lessee will continue to be responsible for all utilities and routine maintenance and repairs of the property. The lessee will continue to be responsible for the first \$1,000 in repairs to the plumbing, mechanical, and electrical systems each year. The City will continue to be responsible for maintenance of the roof and exterior of the building and additional repairs in excess of \$1,000 to the building systems. Leases greater than one year require public notice prior to approval. The public notice of the lease was advertised in the Hickory Daily Record on May 15, 2023. Staff recommends City Council's approval of the lease with the Catawba County Council on Aging.

The public notice was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on May 15, 2023.

- C. Approved the Citizens' Advisory Committee's Recommendation for Assistance through the City of Hickory's Housing Programs.

The following applicant was considered by the Citizens' Advisory Committee at their regular meeting on June 1, 2023:

- John and Mary Eskridge located at 1217 7th Avenue SW, Hickory was recommended for approval of up to \$12,000 under the City of Hickory's 2022 Urgent Repair Program.

Funds are budgeted for this item through the City of Hickory's former Housing Rehabilitation Program income received in FY 2022 and/or program income received through the City of Hickory's Community Development Block Grant Program. The Citizens' Advisory Committee recommends approval of the aforementioned request for assistance through the City of Hickory's housing assistance programs.

- D. Approved the Community Development Block Grant Funding Agreement with Exodus Outreach Foundation, Inc. in the Amount of \$8,000.

Approval of the agreement between the City of Hickory and Exodus Outreach Foundation, Inc. for FY 2023-2024 funding through the City's Community Development Block Grant Program. In February 2023, the City of Hickory Community Development Division requested applications from local nonprofit organizations for funding under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Citizen's Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended funding for these applications as part of the City's Consolidated and Annual Action Plan. The Annual Action Plan was approved following a public hearing on May 2, 2023. The CDBG funding agreement describes the requirements for the City and Exodus Outreach Foundation to ensure that all applicable Federal regulations are met. Funds will be used to provide salary support to the employment services coordinator at Exodus Homes, which provides support to homeless and previously incarcerated persons with substance abuse issues. Exodus Outreach Foundation has requested and been approved for funding in the amount of \$8,000 through the City of Hickory's Community Development Block Grant program. Staff recommends approval of the CDBG funding agreement between the City of Hickory, North Carolina and Exodus Outreach Foundation, Inc.

- E. Approved the Community Development Block Grant Funding Agreement with Family Care Center in the Amount of \$6,500.

Approval of the agreement between the City of Hickory and Family Care Center for FY 2023-2024 funding through the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. In February 2023, the City of Hickory Community Development Division requested applications from local nonprofit organizations for funding under the Community Development Block Grant Program. The Citizen's Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended funding for these applications as part of the City's Consolidated and Annual Action Plan. The Annual Action Plan was approved following a public hearing on May 2, 2023. The CDBG funding agreement describes the requirements for the City and Family Care Center to ensure that all applicable Federal

regulations are met. Funds will be used to provide salary support to social work staff for their operation of "A Hand Up for the Homeless". The objective of the program is transitional housing and support services as families work to bring themselves out of homelessness. This program also provides transportation, help finding employment and/or further education as the families work to end generational poverty. Family Care Center has requested and been approved for funding in the amount of \$6,500 through the City of Hickory's Community Development Block Grant program. Approval of the Agreement will allow them to continue to provide housing and financial counseling for low to moderate income individuals. Staff recommends approval of the CDBG funding agreement between the City of Hickory, North Carolina, and Family Care Center.

- F. Approved the Community Development Block Grant Funding Agreement with Hickory Soup Kitchen, Inc. in the Amount of \$8,000.

Approval of an agreement between the City of Hickory and Hickory Soup Kitchen, Inc. for FY 2023-2024 funding through the City's Community Development Block Grant Program. In February 2023, the City of Hickory Community Development Division requested applications from local nonprofit organizations for funding under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Citizen's Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended funding for these applications as part of the City's Consolidated and Annual Action Plan. The Annual Action Plan was approved following a public hearing on May 2, 2023. The CDBG funding agreement describes the requirements for the City and the Hickory Soup Kitchen to ensure that all applicable Federal regulations are met. Funds will be used to provide salary support for kitchen staff at the Soup Kitchen to ensure that they are able to provide hot meals and food pantry services to those in need. The Hickory Soup Kitchen has requested and been approved for funding in the amount of \$8,000 through the City of Hickory's Community Development Block Grant program. Approval of the attached Agreement will allow them to continue to provide much needed nutritional services to the City of Hickory's homeless and/or low-income community. Staff recommends approval of the CDBG funding agreement between the City of Hickory, North Carolina and Hickory Soup Kitchen, Inc.

- G. Approved the Community Development Block Grant Funding Agreement with Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club in the Amount of \$8,000.

Approval of an agreement between the City of Hickory and Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club for FY 2023-2024 funding through the City's Community Development Block Grant Program. In February 2023, the City of Hickory Community Development Division requested applications from local nonprofit organizations for funding under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Citizen's Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended funding for these applications as part of the City's Consolidated and Annual Action Plan. The Annual Action Plan was approved following a public hearing on May 2, 2023. The CDBG funding agreement describes the requirements for the City and the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club to ensure that all applicable Federal regulations are met. Funds will be used to provide salary support for staff that run the summer day camp and after school program to low income and at-risk youth. The Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club has requested and been approved for funding in the amount of \$8,000 through the City of Hickory's Community Development Block Grant program. Approval of the Agreement will allow them to continue to provide much needed youth services to the City of Hickory's low income and at-risk youth in the community. Staff recommends approval of the CDBG funding agreement between the City of Hickory, North Carolina, and Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club.

- H. Approved the Community Development Block Grant Funding Agreement with AIDS Leadership Foothills-Area Alliance, Inc. in the Amount of \$10,000.

Approval of an agreement between the City of Hickory and AIDS Leadership Foothills-Area Alliance, Inc. for FY 2023-2024 funding through the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. In February 2023, the City of Hickory Community Development Division requested applications from local nonprofit organizations for funding under the Community Development Block Grant Program. The Citizen's Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended funding for these applications as part of the Consolidated and Annual Action Plan. The Annual Action Plan was approved following a public hearing on May 2, 2023. The CDBG funding agreement describes the requirements for the City and AIDS Leadership Foothills-Area Alliance to ensure that all applicable Federal regulations are met. Funds will be used to provide support for a medical case manager position, which will assist people living with HIV and AIDS to ensure that they remain in medical care and also receive other services as they are available. AIDS Leadership Foothills-Area Alliance has requested and been approved for funding in the amount of \$10,000 through the City of Hickory's Community Development Block Grant program. Approval of the Agreement will allow them to continue to provide much needed medical case management services to persons living with HIV and AIDS. Staff recommends approval of the CDBG funding agreement between the City of Hickory, North Carolina, and AIDS Leadership Foothills-Area Alliance, Inc.

- I. Approved the Community Development Block Grant Funding Agreement with Catawba Science Center in the Amount of \$8,000.

Approval of an agreement between the City of Hickory and Catawba Science Center for FY2023-2024 funding through the City's Community Development Block Grant Program. In February 2023, the City of Hickory Community Development Division requested applications from local nonprofit organizations for funding under the Community Development Block Grant Program. The Citizen's Advisory Committee reviewed and recommended funding for these applications as part of the City's Consolidated and Annual Action Plan. The Annual Action Plan was approved following a public hearing on May 2, 2023. The CDBG funding agreement describes the requirements for the City and the Catawba Science Center to ensure that all applicable Federal regulations are met. Funds will be used to provide support to staff at the Catawba Science Center to ensure that they are able to provide educational opportunities to low- and moderate-income children and families. The Catawba Science Center has requested and been approved for funding in the amount of \$8,000 through the City of Hickory's Community Development Block Grant program. Approval of the attached agreement will allow them to continue to provide much needed educational services to the City of Hickory's homeless and/or low-income community. Staff recommends approval of the CDBG funding agreement between the City of Hickory, North Carolina, and the Catawba Science Center.

- J. Approved the Retiring Canine Agreement with Master Police Officer Chris Berry to Adopt Retired Canine Zip.

The Hickory Police Department requests approval to allow Master Police Officer Chris Berry to adopt his retired canine partner Zip. The Hickory Police Department will retire canine Zip on June 12, 2023. With the specialized training of Zip, he will not be safe for public adoption. MPO Chris Berry is the handler of Zip and is willing to provide care for him after retirement. Full care and liability for retired canine Zip will be the legal responsibility of MPO Chris Berry. It is common to allow the handler to adopt his canine when it is retired from service. Canine Zip has worked for the police department for almost four years and is eight and a half years old. Due to recent court decisions surrounding police canines alerting on legalized hemp, canine Zip can no longer be fully utilized as a drug detecting canine. Zip is trained to alert on cannabis and therefore will alert on legalized hemp. MPO Chris Berry will sign an agreement and take full responsibility for Zip if the adoption is approved by City Council. Hickory Police Department recommends approval to retire canine Zip on June 12, 2023 and allow MPO Chris Berry to adopt and take full responsibility for him.

- K. Approved a Cemetery Deed Transfer from Steven E. Bowman, and Eugene P. Bowman to Steven E. Bowman and wife, Vicki Vasgaard Bowman and Eugene P. Bowman and wife, Mary Todd Bowman, (Oakwood Cemetery, Section 19, Lot 6) (Prepared by Kevin C. McIntosh, Attorney).

- L. Approved Staff to Apply for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant in the Amount of \$50,000.

Staff requests Council's approval to apply for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant. The City is in the process of purchasing the .016-acre parcel at 204 11th Street NW (PIN 370317006666). This location has been a rental property under the current ownership since 2010, but the property has been vacant since at least August 2019, when the last water service was active. Since that time the property has fallen into disrepair. This property has most recently been a haven for recreational drug use and has become a property that is negatively impacting the area to the extent that it was recently condemned. In order to renovate this parcel and make it functional for the citizens of Hickory, staff wishes to apply for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant in the amount of \$50,000. This grant will fund the asbestos removal and demolition of the two structures on this property as well as the construction of a mini trailhead for the City Walk to which it is adjacent. Since this property is very small and current setbacks prevent the building of another properly zoned structure, the City would like to construct a mini trailhead as an access point to City Walk and all trails associated with it (Riverwalk and OLLE Art Walk). This trailhead will include several parking spaces along with a green space with picnic tables and areas of rest along the 10 plus miles of multi-modal trail. The City Walk mini trailhead will tie together a number of ongoing trail projects and the broader Hickory Trail will provide bicycle and pedestrian safety while connecting popular destinations and amenities. The trail, along with the City's culture of providing an atmosphere for dynamic growth and robust development, will be a major asset in the community's effort to craft a strong economy, provide good jobs, and create a desirable quality of life for residents. Staff recommends Council's approval of the City's application for T-Mobile Hometown Grant in the amount of \$50,000.

- M. Approved Staff to Apply for a Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant in the Amount of \$200,000 to Create a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan.

Staff requests Council's approval to apply for Safe Streets for All Grant. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) established the new Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program, with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over 5 years, 2022-2026. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. The SS4A program supports the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Roadway Safety Strategy and the goal of zero roadway deaths. Planning and Demonstration Grants provide Federal funds to develop, complete, or supplement a comprehensive safety action plan. The goal of an Action Plan is to develop a holistic, well-defined strategy to prevent roadway fatalities and serious injuries in a locality. Planning and Demonstration Grants also fund supplemental planning and/or demonstration activities that inform the development of a new or existing Action Plan. Communities can use Planning and Demonstration Grants to develop or complete an Action Plan. The comprehensive safety action plan that a Safe Streets and Roads for All grant funds includes key components such as goal setting, safety analysis, equity, and engagement and collaboration. Once the City of Hickory has a comprehensive safety action plan, it may then apply for the Safe Streets for All funding for implementation activities to make improvements for safety on roadways and at intersections. Staff would like to apply for funding to create a comprehensive safety action plan in the amount of \$200,000 with an 80/20 Federal match. Staff recommends Council's approval of the City's application for the Safe Streets for All Comprehensive Safety Action Plan in the amount of \$200,000 with an 80/20 Federal match.

- N. Approved a Partial Assignment of the Joint Economic Development Agreement between SEIS FBP, LLC and SEIS FBP SPEC, LLC.

Staff requests Council's approval of SEIS FBP, LLC's partial assignment of the Joint Economic Development Agreement to SEIS FBP SPEC, LLC. On October 4, 2022, Council approved a Joint Economic Development Agreement (EDA) with SEIS, LLC. The primary term of the EDA is the sale of 16.61 acres located at 2084 Fairgrove Church Road SE and 20th Avenue SE to SEIS, LLC to develop two industrial buildings on the site. After Council approved the EDA, SEIS, LLC created a new corporation, SEIS FBP, LLC. SEIS, LLC intends for the new corporation to hold title to the 16.61 acres per the purchase agreement and also the EDA and any rights and privileges it creates for SEIS, LLC. This agreement was assigned to SEIS FBP, in December 2022. SEIS FBP wishes to assign the portion of the agreement that pertains to Parcel 2 of the Economic Development Agreement to SEIS FBP SPEC, LLC. The developer wishes to have a separate entity hold title to each building constructed. Section III, Paragraph 21 of the EDA states that the EDA may only assign the agreement with the prior written approval of the City. The EDA states the City will not unreasonably withhold its approval of the requested assignment. Staff recommends City Council's approval of the Partial Assignment of the Joint Economic Development Agreement.

- O. Called for a Public Hearing – Consideration of Closing a Portion of Southgate Corporate Parkway SW. (Authorized Public Hearing for July 18, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building).

RESOLUTION NO. 23-35
RESOLUTION OF INTENT

A Resolution Declaring the Intention of the City Council of the City of Hickory
to Consider the Closing of a Portion of Southgate Corporate Parkway SW

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-299 authorizes the City Council of the City of Hickory to close public streets and alleys; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory considers it advisable to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of giving consideration to the closing of a portion of Southgate Corporate Parkway SW, Hickory.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Hickory that:

1. A Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on the 18th day of July, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building at 76 North Center Street, Hickory, North Carolina to consider a resolution closing a portion of Southgate Corporate Parkway SW.
2. The City Clerk is hereby directed to publish this Resolution of Intent once a week for four successive weeks in the *Hickory Daily Record*.
3. The City Clerk is further directed to transmit by registered or certified mail to each owner of property abutting upon that portion of said street a copy of this Resolution of Intent.

4. The City Clerk is further directed to cause adequate notices of this Resolution of Intent and the scheduled public hearing to be posted as required by G.S. 160A-299.

- P. Approved the Acceptance of Change Order Number 2 to the Contract with JS Haren in the Amount of \$4,312 for the Lyle Creek Sewer Pump Station Project.

Staff requests Council's approval of change order number 2 to the contract with JS Haren in the amount of \$4,312 for the Lyle Creek sewer pump station project. In October 2022, Council approved the contract for construction of the Lyle Creek sewer pump station to JS Haren for \$1,679,000. Change order number two reflects a change to accommodate the size of the magnetic flow measuring device from its original size. The change in vault size will better fit the installation and have a more serviceable future for staff. Staff recommends Council's approval of change order number 2 with JS Haren in the amount of \$4,312 for the Lyle Creek sewer pump station project.

- Q. Approved a Professional Services Agreement with McGill Associates, P.A. Funded by Catawba County ARPA Funds, in the Amount of \$1,400,000 for the Hickory-Catawba Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion, Engineering, and Design Project.

Staff requests Council's approval of a Professional Services Agreement with McGill Associates, P.A. for the Hickory-Catawba Wastewater Treatment Facility expansion, engineering, and design project in the amount of \$1,400,000. The City of Hickory is in partnership with Catawba County to operate and maintain a wastewater treatment facility (WWTF). This project will be funded through an ARPA appropriation from Catawba County. Council approved an agreement with Catawba County for the Hickory-Catawba WWTF expansion project on February 21, 2023. Public Utilities Division Staff posted solicitations for Request for Qualifications in January 2023, and advertised for this project. Qualifications were received on February 3, 2023, with two engineering firms responding to the request: KCI Associates of NC, PA, and McGill Associates, Inc. Staff reviewed the qualifications packages from each firm and determined that each firm was responsive to the required elements of the RFQ. McGill Associates, P.A. was selected as the firm to complete the design of the Hickory-Catawba WWTF Expansion Project due to their vast experience and knowledge of both the project and City of Hickory Public Utilities Infrastructure. Staff recommends Council's approval of a Professional Services Agreement with McGill Associates, P.A. for the Hickory-Catawba Wastewater Treatment Facility expansion, engineering, and design project in the amount of \$1,400,000.

- R. Approved the Write-Off of Uncollectible Accounts Totaling \$137,283.88 in Accordance with North Carolina General Statutes.

Staff requests City Council's approval to write off uncollectible accounts totaling \$137,283.88. In accordance with the North Carolina General Statutes, a list of accounts to be written off is submitted for Council approval each year, in conjunction with the annual audit. North Carolina General Statutes establish that all street assessments, demolitions, nuisance violations, and property taxes that are over ten years old are no longer collectible and should be written off in conjunction with the annual audit. For the current fiscal year 2022-2023, there are \$66,025.41 in unpaid property taxes which exceed the ten-year limitation. The City of Hickory's Accounting Division requires all other accounts that are over eighteen months in arrears be written off to comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in order to represent financial assets of the City more fairly on the balance sheet. For the current fiscal year, this amount is \$71,258.47. Current fiscal year write-offs total \$137,283.88, compared to \$146,296.62 for FY 2021-2022. Even though these accounts will be written off, the Finance Department will continue to pursue collection of the debts. All eligible accounts over \$50 are submitted to the North Carolina Debt Setoff Program for collection. As of May 16, 2023, the City of Hickory has collected \$28,454.69 from the garnishment of North Carolina State income tax refunds and North Carolina State lottery winnings during this current fiscal year. Staff recommends approval to write-off uncollectible accounts for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

- S. Approved the Delco Partners, LLC Assignment of the Joint Economic Development Agreement and Purchase Agreement to One Eleven Main, LLC.

Staff requests City Council's consideration of the approval of Delco Partners, LLC's assignment of a Joint Economic Development Agreement and Purchase Agreement to One Eleven Main, LLC. On January 3, 2023, Council approved a Joint Economic Development Agreement with Delco Partners, LLC. The primary term of the EDA is the sale of 1.6 acres located at 111 Main Avenue NE and 131 Main Avenue NE to develop a mixed-use apartment building and additional commercial space on the sites. After Council approved the EDA, Delco Partners, LLC created a new corporation, One Eleven Main, LLC. Delco Partners, LLC intends for the new corporation to hold title to the 1.6 acres and the EDA; along with any rights, privileges, and responsibilities it creates for the entity. Section 18 of the EDA states that the agreement may only be modified by written

agreement of the parties. Staff recommends City Council’s approval of the Assignment of Joint Economic Development Agreement and Purchase Agreement.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 23-17
BUDGET REVISION NUMBER 24

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, 2023, and for the duration of the Project Ordinance noted herein.

SECTION 1. To amend the General Fund within the FY 2022-23 Budget Ordinance, the expenditures shall be amended as follows:

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Economic Development	500,000	-
TOTAL	500,000	

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

FUNCTIONAL AREA	INCREASE	DECREASE
Miscellaneous	500,000	-
TOTAL		-

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

1. Approved the Voluntary Contiguous Annexation of Property Owned by LPA N. Hickory Land, LLC, Located at 4331 and 4405 North Center Street Hickory, PIN 3715-18-30-6570, Containing Approximately 19.413-Acres - Presented by Planning Director Brian Frazier.

Staff requests Council’s consideration of the voluntary contiguous annexation of 19.413 acres of property located at 4331 and 4405 North Center Street. This property is identified as PIN 371518306570. The property is currently located within the City’s extra territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) and zoned Planned Development (PD). The planned development was approved as Rezoning Petition 22-03 on April 5, 2022. The master plan for the development contains 210 residential dwelling units which consist of a mixture of apartments, townhomes, and cottages. The property owners/developers are tied to this master plan, and any major modification would require Planning Commission’s review and City Council’s approval. The annexation is being requested so the approved development can be started and completed in the way it was previously approved. In order for the development to occur as approved, the property would need to be served by City services, including sanitary sewer. City policy requires properties be annexed in order to connect to the City’s sanitary system. The annexation of the property and subsequent development of the property represents a significant private investment in the City’s housing inventory, and an increase in the City’s overall population. Surrounding properties are zoned R-2 Residential, Neighborhood Commercial (NC), and Planned Development (PD). The current tax value of the property is \$774,500. Tax revenue generated by annexation of the property would be \$4,860. Upon completion of the development previously outlined, tax values and revenues would increase significantly. Upon analysis, staff 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.

The public hearing was advertised in a newspaper having general circulation in the Hickory area on June 8, 2023.

City Manager Warren Wood asked Planning Director Brian Frazier to the podium to discuss the voluntary contiguous annexation of the property owned by LPA N.

Hickory Land LLC, located at 4331 and 4405 North Center Street, Hickory, containing approximately 19.41 acres.

Planning Director Brian Frazier gave a PowerPoint presentation. He advised the acreage was just under 20 acres, located in Ward 2. The current development was a barn and pasture. The future development which was already rezoned and approved was 210 potential future residential units. The annexation was being sought to gain access to public sewer and public water. He referred to the PowerPoint slide and displayed a map, he pointed out the property in question, the Hickory ETJ (extra territorial jurisdiction), the Catawba River and Lake Hickory and the area located within the City limits proper. He displayed another map and pointed out the area of proposed annexation, the areas classified as planned development, R-2 medium density residential, NC, R-1 low density residential. He displayed the latest Aerial map of the property and pointed out the property in question, and Highway 127 heading north. The voluntary annexation petition complied with all applicable annexation statutes of the State of North Carolina. Adequate public services were available in sufficient quantities and the annexation of the property would not cause available public services to fall below acceptable levels. Based on these findings staff respectfully recommended approval of the requested annexation petition. He asked for any questions.

Mayor Guess asked for any questions from Council. 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. Mayor Guess 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 Alderwoman Williams approval of the voluntary contiguous annexation of property owned by LPA N. Hickory Land, LLC. The motion carried unanimously.

ANNEXATION ORDINANCE NO. 489
VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION ORDINANCE (CONTIGUOUS)
LPA N. Hickory Land, LLC

AN ORDINANCE TO EXTEND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA, PURSUANT TO GENERAL STATUTES 160A-31, AS AMENDED (CONTIGUOUS)

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Hickory has been petitioned under G.S. 160A-31, as amended, to annex the area herein described; and

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

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has certified the sufficiency of said petition and a public hearing on the question of this annexation was held in the Council Chambers of the Julian G. Whitener Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. on the 20th day of June, 2023, after due notice by publication on June 8, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City Council does find as a fact that said petition meets the requirements of G.S. 160A-31, as amended.

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-31, as amended, the following-described territory is hereby annexed and made a part of the City of Hickory as of June 20, 2023.

CONTIGUOUS ANNEXATION
DESCRIPTION FOR
LPA N. HICKORY LAND, LLC

Commencing at NCGS Monument "Killian AZMK", said monument having NCGS Coordinates of N: 750,046.35 E: 1,319,837.42, thence N 49°23'14"E – 1,749.17' to NCGS Monument "Killian", said monument having NCGS Coordinates of N: 751,18489 E: 1,321,165.18, thence N 88°43'43" W – 6,155.34 to the Point of Beginning, said point of beginning being an existing 1" Pipe, said point of beginning also being located at the intersection of Oak Tree Lane (60' private Right of way recorded at plat book 74 page 115) and 1st Street Northwest, said existing 1" pipe also being located on the common corner of Arthur Tab Williams Jr (Deed 1618 Page 42), thence with the common line of Williams S 50° 29' 35"

W for a distance of 179.34 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being located at a common corner with Arthur Tab Williams Jr (Plat Book 82 Page 136), thence with the common line of Williams S 50° 14' 46" W for a distance of 56.82 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar also being located at a common corner of Arthur Tab Williams Jr (Deed 1618 Page 42), thence with the common line of Williams S 50° 29' 23" W for a distance of 216.61 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said corner being a common corner of Arthur Tab Williams JR (Deed 2148 Page 1044), thence with the common line of Williams the following two courses S 60° 43' 27" W for a distance of 50.00 feet to an existing #4 rebar, thence, S 28° 59' 31" E for a distance of 250.74 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being located on the Northern Margin of North Center Street (Hwy 127), North Center Street Right of Way Varies, thence with the Northern Margin of the North Center Street Right of Way the following four courses, with a curve having a radius of 1522.62 feet, and whose long chord bears S 65° 18' 00" W for a distance of 208.09 feet to an existing #4 rebar, thence S 69° 05' 18" W for a distance of 273.32 feet to the beginning of an existing #4 rebar, thence with a curve having a radius of 2261.68 feet, and whose long chord bears S 60° 47' 31" W for a distance of 654.44 feet to a set #4 rebar, thence S 52° 26' 43" W for a distance of 257.66 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being located at the intersection 42nd Avenue Drive NW and North Center Street (Hwy 127), thence with the Eastern Margin of the Right of Way of 42nd Avenue Drive NW the following four courses, following a curve having a radius of 30.00 feet, and whose long chord bears N 82° 24' 31" W for a distance of 42.53 feet to an existing #4 rebar, thence N 37° 12' 43" W for a distance of 364.17 feet to a set #4 rebar, thence following a curve having a radius of 1016.67 feet, and whose long chord bears N 43° 01' 42" W for a distance of 203.78 feet to a set #4 rebar, thence N 39° 36' 37" W for a distance of 28.36 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being a common corner with Evelyn S. Sigmon (Deed 853 Page 1963), thence leaving the right of way and following a common with of Sigmon the following two courses N 30° 18' 46" E for a distance of 147.29 feet to an existing bent #4 rebar, thence S 80° 09' 29" E for a distance of 102.51 feet to an existing 1" square iron, said iron being a common corner with Townhomes at Moores Ferry Home Owners Association (Deed 2243 Page 1086), thence with the common line of the Home Owners Association N 87° 57' 35" E for a distance of 104.99 feet to an existing 4 rebar, Said rebar being a common corner with Townhomes at Moores Ferry Home Owners Association (Deed 2169 Page 495) thence with the common line of the Home Owners Association N 87° 57' 42" E for a distance of 104.95 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said iron being a common corner with Townhomes at Moores Ferry Home Owners Association (Deed 3664 Page 1567 and Deed 2222 Page 705), thence with the common line of the Home Owners Association N 87° 55' 13" E for a distance of 334.02 feet to a bent existing #4 rebar, said line also following a common line with David Gotchy (Deed 3395 Page 494), thence with a common line of Gotchy N 68° 52' 38" E for a distance of 125.82 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being a common corner with David Gotchy (Deed 3558 Page 860), thence with the common line of Gotchy N 53° 25' 04" E for a distance of 125.54 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being a common corner with Nayan Patel (Deed 3396 Page 1987), thence with the common line of Patel and the common lines of Townhomes at Moores Ferry Home Owners Association (Deed 2676 Page 780), and the common lines of Townhomes at Moores Ferry Home Owners Association (Deed 2573 Page 001), N 39° 01' 49" E for a distance of 340.86 to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being a common corner of Steven Jordan Beane (Deed 3657 Page 1668), thence with the common line of Beane N 49° 03' 16" E for a distance of 64.13 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being a common corner with Billy T Henderson (Deed 3373 Page 678), thence with the common line of Henderson N 71° 00' 34" E for a distance of 138.95 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being a common corner with Edward K Nieves (Deed 3562 Page 441), thence with the common line of Nieves the following two courses N 70° 52' 00" E for a distance of 123.28 feet to an existing #4 rebar, thence N 28° 53' 08" W for a distance of 181.28 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being a common corner with Debra L. Flournoy (Deed 3424 Page 151), N 28° 54' 52" W for a distance of 195.78 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being a common corner with Diane Titus Pozniko (Deed 3416 Page 1882), thence with the common line of N 29° 06' 56" W for a distance of 105.25 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being a common corner of Byron Dechellis (Deed 3653 Page 1473), thence with the common line of Dechellis N 63° 57' 17" E for a distance of 242.93 feet to an existing #4 rebar, said rebar being located on the Western Margin of Oak Tree Lane, a 60' Private Right of Way (Plat Book 74 Page 115), thence with the western margin of the right of way of Oak Tree Lane the following three courses, S 12° 20' 09" E for a distance of 93.25 feet to an existing #4 rebar, thence continuing and following a curve having a radius of 443.21 feet, and whose long chord bears S 48° 23' 59" E for a distance of 521.77 feet to an existing #4 rebar, thence S 84° 27' 39" E a distance of 67.96 feet to the point of beginning, containing 19.413 Acres±.

Section 2. Upon and after the 20th day of June, 2023, 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. Said territory shall be subject to municipal taxes according to G.S. 160A-31 (e), as amended.

Section 3. That the newly annexed territory described hereinabove shall become a 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 a duly certified copy of this Ordinance.

Section 5. That all ordinances and clauses of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the 20th day of June, 2023.

B. Departmental Reports:

1. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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

At-Large (Council Appoints) VACANT

At-Large (Council Appoints) VACANT

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

At-Large (Council Appoints) VACANT

At-Large (Council Appoints) Steven Kiger

Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again

Small Cities Project Area (Council Appoints) Mark Huggins

Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again

Alderman Freeman appointed Wesley Christopher as an At-Large Representative on the Citizens Advisory Committee.

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION

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

Ward 1 (Wood Appoints) VACANT

Ward 2 (Williams Appoints) Cliff Moone

Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again

At-Large (Outside City but within HRP) (Council Appoints) VACANT

Alderman Williams reappointed Cliff Moone as Ward 2 Representative on the Community Appearance Commission.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL

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

African American (Council Appoints) VACANT

African American (Council Appoints) Daria Jackson

Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again

Caucasian (Council Appoints) VACANT

Other Minority (Council Appoints) Leslie Mancilla

Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again

Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT

Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT

Other Minority (Council Appoints) VACANT

Differently Abled (Council Appoints) VACANT

Alderman Seaver reappointed Daria Jackson, as an African American Representative on the Community Relations Council.

Alderman Freeman appointed George Rhinehardt as a Differently Abled Representative on the Community Relations Council.

HICKORY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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

Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) Junior Hedrick

Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again

Ward 5 (Zagaroli Appoints) Rev. Wallace Johnson
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again
Burke County Representative (Mayor Appoints with Recommendation from Burke County) VACANT

Alderman Seaver reappointed Junior Hedrick as Ward 3 Representative on the Hickory Regional Planning Commission.

Alderman Zagaroli reappointed Rev. Wallace Johnson as Ward 5 Representative on the Hickory Regional Planning Commission.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Historic Properties Owner VACANT
Building Trades Profession Simon Lucas
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) VACANT
Ward 4 (Freeman Appoints) Allison Little
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again
Ward 5 (Zagaroli Appoints) Dianne Straley
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again
At-Large (1) (Mayor Appoints) VACANT
At Large (2) (Mayor Appoints) Michael McLamb
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again

Alderman Zagaroli reappointed Dianne Straley as Ward 5 Representative on the Library Advisory Board.

PARKS RECREATION AND SPORTS TOURISM

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) Grover Linebarger
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again
Ward 4 (Freeman Appoints) Timothy Shuford
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again
At-Large (1) Council Appoints Elaine Seaver
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again
At-Large (4) Council Appoints VACANT

Mayor Guess appointed Douglas Locascio as the At-Large(4) Representative on the Parks Recreation and Sports Tourism Board.

Alderman Seaver reappointed Grover Linebarger as Ward 3 Representative, and Elaine Seaver as an At-Large (1) Representative on the Parks Recreation and Sports Tourism Board.

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) VACANT
Ward 4 (Freeman Appoints) Wesley Christopher
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again
Ward 5 (Zagaroli Appoints) Brittany Marinelli
Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again
Ward 6 (Patton Appoints) VACANT

Alderman Zagaroli reappointed Brittany Marinelli as Ward 5 Representative on the Public Art Commission.

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 5-Year Terms) (Appointed by Mayor)
Position (4) Dr. Michael Wimberly Eligible for Reappointment
Tenant Representative Velecia Wynette Hackett Eligible for Reappointment

RECYCLING ADVISORY BOARD

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 3-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)
Ward 3 (Seaver Appoints) Elaine Seaver Eligible for Reappointment
Ward 4 (Freeman Appoints) Deborah Hollingsworth Eligible for Reappointment
Ward 6 (Patton Appoints) VACANT
At-Large (Council Appoints) William Bost Eligible for Reappointment
At-Large (Council Appoints) Tawana Thomas Eligible for Reappointment
At-Large (Council Appoints) Bill Garrard Resigned Effective 7-1-2023 VACANT

Alderman Seaver reappointed Elaine Seaver as Ward 3 Representative on the Recycling Advisory Board.

UNIVERSITY CITY COMMISSION

(Terms Expiring 6-30; 2-Year Terms) (Appointed by City Council)

City of Hickory Appointments:

- At-Large (Not Including ETJ) Initial Term 2-Years –
Constance Snyder Eligible for Appointment
- At-Large (Not Including ETJ) Initial Term 2-Years –
Eric Trent Wood Eligible for Appointment
- At-Large (Not Including ETJ) Initial Term 1-Year –
Taylor Newton Eligible for Appointment

Alderman Wood appointed Constance Snyder, Eric Trent Wood, and Taylor Newton as At-Large Representatives on the University City Commission.

YOUTH COUNCIL

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

Youth Council Applicant Review Committee Recommends the Following Appointments:

Addison Cox	St. Stephens High School Representative
Joel Barham	At-Large Representative
Britnee Bensinger	At-Large Representative
Sam Bridges	At-Large Representative
Lucas Packard	Hickory High School Representative
Samuel Pitts	Hickory High School Representative
Emma Pitts	Hickory High School Representative
Addison Duke	At-Large Representative
Mebane White	Hickory High School Representative
Evelyn Gerrard	At-Large Representative
Anna Gscheidmeier	At-Large Representative
Kimberly Garcia	Fred T. Foard High School Representative
Micaela Pope	Hickory Career & Arts Magnet Representative
Kathleen Bridges	Hickory High School Representative
Aliza Kaplan	At-Large Representative
Emma Sparks	At-Large Representative
Harper White	At-Large Representative
Miriam Wood	At-Large Representative
Harley Buff	Challenger High School Representative
Clint Powers	Hickory High School Representative
Draven Haedorens	Homeschool Representative
Caroline Sprinkle	Private School Representative
Arianna James	Hickory High School Representative
Tucker Bland	St. Stephens High School Representative
Cooper Meadlock	Private School Representative
Mallory Bond	St. Stephens High School Representative
Lauren Ly	St. Stephens High School Representative
Samantha Midea	St. Stephens High School Representative
Riley Caudle	St. Stephens High School Representative
Sarah Starr	St. Stephens High School Representative

Mayor Guess appointed all of the above-named recommended Representatives for the Youth Council.

CATAWBA COUNTY EDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR HICKORY

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

- Hickory Representative
Jeff Cline Eligible for Reappointment/Willing to Serve Again

Mayor Guess reappointed Jeff Cline to the Catawba County EDC Board of Directors for Hickory, Hickory Representative.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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

- Demonstrates Interest VACANT

TRIVIUM CORPORATE CENTER BOARD

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

- Hickory City Council Member David Zagaroli Eligible for Reappointment

Mayor Guess reappointed Alderman David Zagaroli as a Hickory City Council Representative on the Trivium Corporate Center Board.

Mayor Guess moved seconded by Alderman Seaver approval of the above nominations. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Alderwoman Patton commented that she had known City Attorney John Crone, she thought her whole life. They grew up a block away. She always appreciated his insight, and she appreciated his service all these years. As he always ends his emails to them, "Peace".

City Attorney John Crone thanked Alderwoman Patton.

Alderman Zagaroli commented his wife mentioned that City Attorney John Crone was the best lifeguard at Lake Hickory Country Club.

City Attorney John Crone commented that was because his wife was the best-looking lady.

Alderman Zagaroli commented they were going to miss him.

City Attorney John Crone thanked Alderman Zagaroli.

Alderwoman Williams thanked City Attorney John Crone as well. They had not worked with each other very long, but his reputation and standing in the community and some of her sons knew Mr. Crone's kids. They were going to miss him. She thanked him for his wonderful heartfelt words too.

Alderman Wood commented that he and City Attorney John Crone knew each other before he came on Council. He had been on Council the least amount of time, but they knew each other, and he helped him before he was even on Council, but he was extremely helpful when he was trying to get up to speed on what all this stuff means, and he was still trying to do that, and he was still helpful. He thanked him for not only being here but for his friendship and hopefully he would not need his services in the future.

Mayor Guess commented there would be a charge if he needed them.

City Attorney John Crone commented to Mayor Guess that he loved him. He praised everybody up there but him. He was going to come back and talk about him. He had never seen anybody that enjoys being Mayor more than he did. He does a good job of bonding everybody together. They have a lot of diverse personalities here and people think everybody votes the same. Well, that was not how the sausage gets made. He thanked him for doing what he did. Just one pet peeve of his, every time he says, "How are you doing?" Mayor Guess says, "better than I deserve", for the love of Pete, can you find something else?

Mayor Guess commented that it was always true.

City Attorney John Crone thanked Mayor Guess for his service.

Alderman Seaver mentioned that he thought he got to know him when his sons were in his class at Hickory High over the years. He really got to know him pretty well when they got snowed in, in Washington DC. He thought it was the largest snow that ever happened in DC. It shut everything down in no time. The cab drivers were not even driving. They were lucky to find a hotel that wasn't open, but they opened it. They opened it for them to have a place to stay.

City Attorney John Crone thanked the caterer for the food. He commented that he had asked City Manager Warren Wood if they could get Le Bec-Fin to cater the meal. That was not going to happen. He asked them to raise their hand if they understood that.

Alderman Seaver commented that was one of his first duties, to come up with a way the Council could afford to eat somewhere, and it was going to be at Le Bec-Fin.

City Attorney John Crone commented that good things happen from situations and Council was awesome.

Mayor Guess commented better than we deserve.

Alderman Freeman mentioned to Attorney Crone, they certainly had a good conversation out there in the foyer, and to hear that he was in a community where he grew up with a methodist preacher, a rabbi, and a Catholic priest, let him know that he was surrounded by God's grace, and he prayed that he continued on bestowing that upon him in his next phase of life.

City Attorney John Crone commented that meant more than he would ever know. He appreciated that very much.

City Manager Warren Wood commented that he worked with City Attorney John Crone for all those 28 years. He predated his tenure by two years. His hair has not turned white like his had during that time for some reason. There was never a time that he called John about a question or a challenge that he would not find a way that they could achieve what they wanted to achieve. He had always been very measured, calm, and always a way to find, yes, in developing, City Policy. He only hung up on him once in 28 years. That was a pretty good record. He had a great demeanor, great to work with, very responsive and they were going to miss him up here, but he was still going to be around, and he was going to be involved in some City stuff anyway.

Mayor Guess commented that now that he had a key to the City, he could get in.

XIV. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk