

**MINUTE BOOK 24, PAGE 495  
CITY OF STATESVILLE COUNCIL MEETING – October 01, 2012  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 7:00 P.M.  
STATESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

**Mayor Costi Kutteh presiding:**

**Council Present:** J. Johnson, Gregory, West, M. Johnson, Matthews, Huggins, Stallard

**Council Absent:** Eisele

**Staff Present:** Pressley, Fugett, Cornelison, Salmon, Harrell, Hutchens, Ashley, Smyth, Miglin, Davis, Gaines, Currier, Windsor

**Media Present:** Jim McNally-Record & Landmark, Dave Veiser-Charlotte Observer

**Others:** 5

**Call to Order**

Mayor Kutteh called the meeting to order.

**Invocation**

The Invocation was given by the City Clerk.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Kutteh.

Mayor Kutteh advised that Item VIII on the Regular Agenda has been removed for further review by Council members. He instructed the City Clerk to put this item on the next Council meeting agenda.

Mayor Kutteh reviewed the Consent Agenda as follows:

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approve the minutes of the Pre-Agenda meeting of September 13, 2012 and the City Council meeting of September 17, 2012.**
- B. Consider approving 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of TA12-02 filed by the City of Statesville to amend Article 4, Non-Conforming Situations, Section 4.03, Non-Conforming Occupied Lots or Buildings.**
- C. Consider approving a formal request that the City of Statesville be an official co-sponsor of the 2012 Statesville Pumpkin Fest, providing in-kind services as listed below.**
- D. Consider a request from United as One Fellowship to close Monroe Street, between Rickert Street and Clay Street on Saturday, October 6, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to hold their "Giving Back To The Community" church function.**
- E. Consider approving a non-capital purchase in the Fire Department of turnout gear for 14 firefighters.**
- F. Approve Budget Amendment #10 in the General Fund to transfer \$250,000 from the General Capital Reserve Fund for acquisition of the Bustle property.**
- G. Receive a report of an emergency non-depreciable capital purchase in the Electric Utilities Department.**

Mayor Kutteh gave an update on the presentation of the first "Community Champion Award" presented by Chief Tom Anderson to Tara's Trace resident, Andres Gonzaga. He explained that this is a new program initiated by the Police Department designed to encourage citizens of Statesville to invest in their communities and to acknowledge community problem-solving excellence by recognizing "Champions", who have demonstrated a community commitment. The Statesville Police Department, in partnership with the local community watch programs, will sponsor and facilitate this program recognizing excellence.

David Currier presented to City Council the 2012 Marvin Collins Outstanding Planning Award received for the Statesville Downtown and NC-115 Streetscape and Land Use Plan. He gave a brief background of the award and advised that these awards are the highest recognition given for good Planning and good Planning Implementation in the state of North Carolina.

Sherry Ashley reported there are usually only three or four applications for this award and this year there were seven. Out of these seven applications, Statesville was chosen and as stated by the Awards Committee "was extremely noteworthy and an excellent approach to revitalization in the Downtown and NC-115 corridor". Mrs. Ashley advised that the plan was created within a 10 month time frame, which is a very aggressive program for a revitalization plan, with two public meetings and two public hearings held. The plan comprised of forty-eight recommendations and the City of Statesville implemented twenty-four of those within three years of the adoption date. Recovery bonds were used to fund implementation of the plan. Mrs. Ashley stated that the most recognizable part of the plan is the Downtown Streetscape. She reviewed the Downtown Streetscape Plan and photos of the plan after implementation. Staff feels there has been significant investment in the downtown and there have been seventeen new businesses located in downtown since the Downtown Streetscape Project in addition to the beautification. She stated that as part of this, it was not only the Downtown Streetscape and NC-115 corridor plans that were considered, but also the revisions to regulations, signs, land use, zoning, architectural controls, upgrades to water, sewer and fire lines, increased density to support the vision of a walk-able downtown and NC-115 master plan. Mayor Kutteh accepted the award on behalf of City Council from Mr. Currier and Mrs. Ashley.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

- V Consider a request from Mitchell Community College to use the area within Newtonville Park south of the creek to relocate their Police Officer's Physical Abilities Test Course (POPAT) and designate that section of the park as a "Police Training Area".**

Brent Cornelison stated that since construction of the Work Force Development Building, Mitchell Community College BLET program has used the Fraternal Order of Police firing range in Troutman as the site for their POPAT course. This location is a 15 minute drive from campus and restricts the typical BLET class to only a couple of practice opportunities. BLET instructors met with City staff to inquire about possible locations closer to the main campus. The area identified as the best option was the section of Newtonville Park south of the creek. This area of the park is rarely used and there are only two access points that make it easy to secure to the general public. Mitchell Community College will pay for and install all necessary fencing and gates to secure the area. They will also pay for and install appropriate signage designating the area as a "Police Training Area". Maintenance and upkeep of all POPAT equipment will also be the responsibility of Mitchell Community College. Grounds maintenance will continue to be the responsibility of the Recreation and Parks Department.

Council member Stallard asked if this is an open ended agreement. Mr. Cornelison replied that it is. City Attorney Edmund Gaines confirmed an open ended agreement is allowed.

Council member Gregory asked if there will be a lot of noise or gun shots from this. Mr. Cornelison replied there would not be any gun shots. Tina Fleming, BLET Director with Mitchell Community College, further explained that the only noise will be shouts of encouragement from instructors and there would be no use of the area after 7:00 p.m.

Council member Huggins asked if there is still playground equipment located at the site. Mr. Cornelison replied the playground, shelter and the greenway would not be affected because they are on the other side of the creek. Mr. Cornelison stated the Police presence will be a positive influence for the neighborhood.

**Council member Matthews made a motion to approve the request from Mitchell Community College to use the area within Newtonville Park south of the creek to relocate their Police Officer's Physical Abilities Test Course (POPAT) and designate that section of the park as a "Police Training Area", seconded by Council member J. Johnson and Huggins. The motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor Kutteh stated he thought this is an excellent example of the partnership between the City of Statesville and Mitchell Community College.

**V Consider approving a contract with Healthways for the Fitness and Activity Center to be included in their network of facilities for the Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue 365 wellness plan.**

Mr. Cornelison stated Healthways is the management company for Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS). By becoming a facility in their network, BCBS will pay the City \$3.50 per visit, up to \$30 per month for their Blue 365 policy holders that choose to use our center. The Blue 365 plan primarily targets federal and state employees. Recreation Center current daily rates are \$3 for City residents and \$5 for non-residents. Current monthly rates are \$20 for City residents and \$30 for non-residents. Healthways will provide all necessary equipment. A card swipe machine will be used to track participant usage and that information is downloaded directly to Healthways. Payment will be received from Healthways at the end of each month. Internally, staff will set up those individuals in our software system to insure accountability in tracking and to insure that proper payments are received. Persons using this program will be considered a daily fee paying patron. Mr. Gaines has reviewed and approved the contract.

**Council member West made a motion to approve a contract with Healthways for the Fitness and Activity Center to be included in their network of facilities for the Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue 365 wellness plan, seconded by Council member J. Johnson. The motion carried unanimously.**

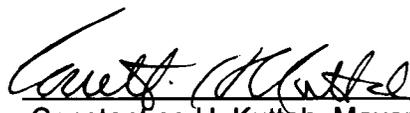
**VI Accept a grant award of \$5,000 from the National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators (NADDI) to be used towards purchase of illegally diverted prescription drugs, and approve Budget Amendment #09.**

Sergeant Dan Miglin reported that on September 7, 2012, the Statesville Police Department was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the NADDI, sponsored by Purdue Pharma that requires no match by the City. These funds will be used by our Narcotics Investigators to purchase evidence used to prosecute offenders for the illegal diversion of prescription drugs that is increasingly plaguing Statesville.

**Council member Gregory made a motion to accept a grant award of \$5,000 from the National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators (NADDI) to be used towards purchase of illegally diverted prescription drugs, and approve Budget Amendment #09, seconded by Council member West and Matthews. The motion carried unanimously.**

**There being no other business, Council member Matthews made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council member Gregory. The motion carried unanimously.**



  
Constantine H. Kutteh, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Brenda Fugett, City Clerk