

**MINUTE BOOK 25, PAGE 145
CITY OF STATESVILLE PRE-AGENDA MEETING – January 09, 2014
CITY HALL – 227 S. CENTER STREET, STATESVILLE, NC – 4:30 P.M.
STATESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Mayor Costi Kutteh presiding:

Council Present: J. Johnson, West, M. Johnson, Huggins, Morgan, Watt

Council Absent: Phifer, Schlesinger

Staff Present: Fugett, Pressley, Gaines, Davis, Triplett, Watts, Anderson, Miglin, Currier, Ashley, Harrell, Smyth, Hutchens, Cornelison, Houpe

Others: John Marek, Mike Smith

Media Present: Dave Veiser-Charlotte Observer, John Hamlin-Statesville Record & Landmark

Mayor Kutteh called the meeting to order and advised that an Executive Session would be held following the meeting to discuss an economic development matter, a land acquisition matter and to preserve the attorney-client privilege for both.

Consent Agenda – All items below are considered to be routine by City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered with the other items listed in the Regular Agenda.

A. Approve the minutes of the Pre-agenda meeting of December 12, 2013, and the City Council meeting of December 16, 2013.

B. Consider granting permission to the Statesville Police Department to pursue a grant via the US Department of Justice's Office on Violence against Women (OVW) to support the department's Domestic Violence Initiative, and authorize Sergeant Daniel Miglin to manage the process on behalf of the City of Statesville.

Sergeant Dan Miglin stated the City of Statesville is eligible to pursue a grant via the US Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women to support its domestic violence initiative. Grant funds will be used for: (1) overtime expenses of select members from each law enforcement agency in Iredell County assigned to hold sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking offenders accountable via arrest warrant service, enforcement of protection and release orders, follow up investigations, and victim advocacy services. These members will also facilitate the education of other members in the law enforcement community throughout Iredell County on current laws, protocols, and response tactics related to domestic violence. (2) To develop and install a Windows-based, inter-operable record management system at the Statesville Police Department to ensure the efficient collection & tracking of data and communication between the agencies involved. Members funded under this grant will operate off of a current mutual agreement and grant management will be clearly outlined in a signed memorandum of understanding among the agency heads. The grant solicitation requires that the City of Statesville, not specifically the Statesville Police Department, be fiscal agent and applicant however the Police Department may assume responsibility for the development and implementation of the project. Total value of the proposal is \$300,000 over a 36 month period. No match is required by any agency. If awarded, the grant goes into effect on October 1, 2014. Grant funds would be reimbursed by the DOJ / OVW upon request with supporting documentation. Continuation funding is contingent upon performance.

C. Consider granting permission to the Statesville Police Department to apply for a grant from the NC Governor's Crime Commission for \$60,000 and authorize Sergeant Daniel Miglin to manage the project on behalf of the City of Statesville.

Sergeant Miglin said the Statesville Police Department is eligible to apply for a grant from the NC Governor's Crime Commission to enhance & overhaul our records management system. The department seeks to improve our data

collection efficiency and interoperability, as well as our information sharing capability with other law enforcement systems. The application is due to the GCC on January 31, 2014. The total award we are eligible to receive is \$60,000. A match waiver is also included in the application. Notification of grant awards is expected by Spring, 2014

D. Consider approving the transfer of \$17,421 from the Police Department Drug Seizure Fund for the purchase of cameras and accessories, and approval of Budget Amendment #27.

Chief Tom Anderson said the Statesville Police Department requests approval to purchase 25 point-of-view body cameras and related accessories. These small, high-resolution cameras will be used by officers in the field to provide a unique, point-of-view perspective of citizen encounters. Use of video is essential in modern law enforcement as a means of collecting objective evidence for court purposes, ensuring officer safety and professionalism, and reducing the number of frivolous / false accusations against officers and the City of Statesville. This purchase will greatly benefit the Department and community at no cost to the citizens. Law enforcement training and equipment is a permissible use of equitably shared property by the US Department of Justice

E. Consider approval of appropriating insurance funds in the amount of \$27,307 for damages to police vehicle #105 to the Police Department Capital Outlay Equipment account and approve Budget Amendment #29.

Chief Anderson stated this request is to appropriate insurance money in the amount of \$27,307 for damages to police vehicle #105 a 2013 Dodge Charger, to be placed in the Police Department's Capital Outlay Equipment account. If granted, combining the reimbursement amount with the Capital Outlay Equipment account will enable the Police Department the opportunity to purchase a new Police vehicle along with other Police equipment damaged as a result of the crash, not to exceed \$27,307. The insurance payment of \$27,307 is for a traffic crash that occurred on October 15, 2013. Vehicle #105 had stopped on Elm Street at its intersection with Broad Street. Vehicle #105 then began to proceed north on Elm Street and was struck by a passenger vehicle traveling west on Broad Street. Insurance determined vehicle #105 a total loss. Vehicle #105 will not be retained for salvage purposes.

Council member Watt asked if the equipment inside the car is salvaged and transferred to another car. Chief Anderson replied that unless the equipment is damaged it is transferred.

Council member West asked what the consequences are when the driver is at fault in a wreck. Chief Anderson said there are always consequences for violating policy and is handled administratively or if it is a Chapter 20 violation it is dealt with criminally as well. Chief Anderson said even though in this case the at-fault accident was not a Chapter 20 violation; there will still be certain sanctions.

F. Consider appointing Walt Wynne to the Historic Preservation Commission.

David Currier stated the Historic Preservation Commission member Brian Long was appointed to serve on the City of Statesville Planning Board during the December Council appointments. Since that time his resignation has been filed; therefore Mr. Long will no longer be serving on the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). Mr. Long's HPC term began on 01/01/2013 and would have expired on 01/01/2016. The newly appointment member would serve the unexpired term until 01/01/2016. There is one new volunteer application on file, Mr. Walt Wynne a resident of the Mitchell College Historic District.

G. Receive the Statesville's Convention and Visitor Bureau's Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013.

Gene Triplett said as required by state statute, an independent audit of the Statesville's Convention and Visitor Bureau's financial records for fiscal year ended June 30, 2013 was conducted by the public accounting firm Potter & Company, P.A. of Mooresville, NC. The auditor issued a clean audit opinion. This report has been presented and accepted by the Board of Directors of the SCVB.

Regular Agenda

- III Receive a report from Robb Collier regarding the Carolina BalloonFest.**
Robb Collier will give this report at the City Council meeting.

- IV Consider approving a Police Department capital purchase of two rooftop heating and air units (units 10 and 11). This item was budgeted for in the 2013-2014 Police Department budget.**

Sergeant Miglin stated the Statesville Police Department currently utilizes to maintain interior comfort fifteen (15) heating and air units throughout the building. Unique to the Police Department and the resources that serve us, is that we are a twenty-four hour, seven day a week service provider that requires constant use of our facility and its resources. Whereas many agencies throughout the City operate on an 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. schedule, utilizing building resources for nine to ten hours per day demanding less of their heating and air units, the Police Department like many emergency service agencies use our building resources every hour of every day thereby placing additional strains on our HVAC system not experienced by other departments throughout the City. Since January of 2009 staff has historically requested \$5,000 or more in budgetary funds for HVAC related issues. Each and every year, those funds have been exhausted repairing HVAC units throughout the Police Department. An analysis of the fifteen heating and air units has identified two units with a high failure rate. HVAC units 10 and 11 have had major hardware failures since 2009, and are in need of replacement. Staff requests the complete replacement of HVAC units 10 and 11 which have been in service since approximately 2001-2002, and are nearing their service life expectancy of 10-15 years. Unit 11 currently is out of service with a compressor replacement needed. The approximated associated cost of compressor replacement would be \$3,000. The total cost to replace the units is \$16,718. New HVAC units will provide:

- Energy and cost efficient heating and air units
- Spare parts for existing units
- An estimated service life on heat exchangers of 10-12 years
- An estimated service life on compressors of 10-15 years
- The replacement of unit coils that have reached their service life expectancy
- New warranties
- Combining unit replacements (10 and 11) reduce overall replacement expenses

- V Consider approving the design of the Way Finding Signs and authorizing a prototype to be erected in the Downtown.**

Sherry Ashley reminded Council that Mr. Buzz Bizzell was hired by City Council in September 2013 to enhance the general design of potential way finding signs for the City of Statesville. He presented three options to the Downtown Master Plan Committee and the committee narrowed it down to one. Staff is pleased to provide the preferred design; overwhelming recommended by the Downtown Master Plan. The design combines the Victorian shape of the homes in the historic districts, the arch of the City Hall and the predominate colors represented in the downtown buildings. The sign is aluminum covered with reflective material. The back of the sign is black and the bloom can have a more dimensional look with the use of a vacuum formed mold. In addition, to requesting approval of the design, the committee is also recommending that a prototype be constructed and erected on an existing pole in the downtown. The cost of the prototype would be approximately \$3,000 (plus a one-time \$500 charge for vacuum mold die) for a total of \$3,500 and could be installed in around 6 weeks. Therefore, the Downtown Master Plan Committee recommends considering approval of the design and installation of a prototype.

Mayor Kutteh asked why the prototype is being installed downtown when the purpose of the way-finding signs is to get people to the downtown. Mrs. Ashley explained that it is only one prototype and will be used to see realistically how it will look and to make sure this is what we want before we move to Phase II and spend a lot of money, because there are a lot of signs and locations to take into consideration.

Mayor Kutteh asked if Phase II would be to take the same design and install them out at the interstates. Mrs. Ashley replied yes except that the sign size and pole size may vary. Mayor Kutteh asked if the Committee will decide on which destinations will be on the signs in Phase II. Mrs. Ashley said the Committee would like for Mr. Bizzell to give a cost

estimate for a Phase II where he could help with the language and the destinations for the signs.

Council member West mentioned that the billboards proposed by the Statesville Convention & Visitors Bureau have been installed on the interstates.

Council member J. Johnson made a motion to move to Executive Session in accordance with N.C.G.S 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss an economic development item, N.C.G.S 143-318.11(a)(5) a land acquisition matter and N.C.G.S 143-318.11(a)(3) to preserve the attorney-client privilege for both. The motion was seconded by Council member Morgan and carried unanimously.

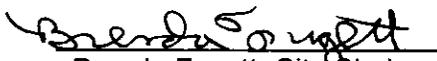
Upon return to Open Session Mayor Kutteh stated that while in Executive Session Council discussed an economic development item, a land acquisition matter, preserved the attorney-client privilege for both and no action was taken.

Council member West made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council member Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.



Attest:


Constantine H. Kutteh, Mayor


Brenda Fugett, City Clerk