

**MINUTE BOOK 25, PAGE 263
CITY OF STATESVILLE COUNCIL MEETING – July 14, 2014
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS– 7:00 P.M.
STATESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Mayor Costi Kutteh presiding:

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

Council Absent: 0

Staff Present: Pressley, Fugett, Gaines, Davis, Cornelison, Watts, Harrell, Hutchens, Smyth, Salmon, Styers

Visitors: 23

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

I Call to Order

Mayor Kutteh called the meeting to order.

II Invocation

The Invocation was given by the City Clerk.

III Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Kutteh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV Public Comment - During the second meeting of each month citizens are invited to speak about matters not on the current agenda.

There were no speakers.

V 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. Consider approving the minutes of the May 29th and June 12th 2014 Pre-Agenda Meetings, the June 2nd and June 16th 2014 City Council meetings and the June 30, 2014 Called City Council meeting.**
- B. Consider granting approval to the Recreation & Parks Department to apply for a Carolina Thread Trail grant in the amount of \$41,000 to upgrade and add additional parking at the greenway trailhead located on E. Broad St.**
- C. Consider approving a request to appropriate \$21,000 in the Police Department's budget for the replacement of a Police vehicle and to approve Budget Amendment #01.**
- D. Consider approving 2nd reading of an ordinance establishing a two way stop intersection at south Mulberry Street and Steele Street.**
- E. Consider approving 2nd reading of ZC14-03 filed by 4G1C Properties, LLC for the property located at 204 Island Ford Road; Tax Map 4725-40-3580 from B-1 Conditional Use (CU) to B-2 Condition Use (CU).**
- F. Consider approving a modification to the municipal agreement between NC Department of Transportation and the City of Statesville to provide sewer service to the proposed I-77 Rest Area.**
- G. Consider approval of an encroachment agreement for JPS Composite Materials to install a segmented precast concrete pipe chase by open cut across the 500 block of Connor Street.**

- H. **Consider approving a request from Statesville Flying Service to continue a lease of additional property at Statesville Regional Airport.**
- I. **Consider approving a request from Fifth Street Ministries to close the City parking lot at the intersection of west Front Street & south Meeting Street on Saturday, July 20, 2014, between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to hold the annual "Christmas in July" lunch and silent auction.**

Mayor Kutteh asked if there were any items on the Consent Agenda that Council wished to be moved to the Regular Agenda. There being none, he asked for a motion.

Council member J. Johnson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council member Schlesinger. The motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

- VI **Consider changes to the \$2 per person fee for all running, walking and biking events held on any City street or greenway not sponsored or co-sponsored by the City.**

Mayor Kutteh advised that Brent Cornelison would first give the staff report. He explained that even though this is not a public hearing he will allow Cindy Adkins to speak on behalf of the runners that she represents.

Mr. Cornelison stated a new fee was adopted in the 2014-2015 budget that added \$2.00 per person for all running, walking and biking events that were held on City streets and greenways. Based on the negative feedback that staff and Council has received regarding this fee staff has brought it to Council to reconsider.

Mr. Cornelison briefly described his research before including this fee in the budget. He said he learned from a colleague with the City of Winston-Salem that they had developed a Capital Reserve Fund and all the fees charged for road races were saved in this account for future expansion and development of the greenway. Mr. Cornelison stated that after learning about this he consulted with the Finance Director about setting up the same type of program at the City of Statesville and she said it was possible. He then discussed the program with Police Department Chief Tom Anderson and Assistant Chief Mike Watts and also Scott McLelland, who runs the majority of the races held on our greenways. Mr. McLelland was in favor of the fee and felt that the runners would be as well as long as the money was being used for greenway development. Mr. Cornelison stated he spoke with other organizers throughout the winter and the spring to get additional feedback. He said that Cindy Adkins expressed concern about the fee from the beginning, but up to that point that was the only negative feedback he had received. Staff knew there would be some negative feedback, which is typical when a new or increased fee is proposed, but with the small amount that had been received at that point staff felt it was worth proposing the fee in their budget. However, at this point several citizens have expressed concern and disagreement with the new fee and its potential impact on local charities and non-profit organizations that use running, walking and biking events as fund raisers.

Mr. Cornelison stated it is the goal of the Recreation & Parks Department to promote health and wellness and the intent of the fee was to help foster backing from the community for greenway development and certainly not to make people mad or keep them from holding running events on the greenway or streets in the City and he apologizes if that has happened.

Mr. Cornelison advised that Scott McLelland has said that regardless of the decision that Council makes regarding the fee he would still like to have the opportunity to organize a race, at least quarterly, that utilizes the greenway or streets in the City and donate those proceeds to the Greenway Capital Reserve Fund account.

Cindy Adkins thanked Council member Watt for his attention to this. She stated that most of the people that she has spoken with are opposed to this because most participate in the charity walk/run events to support various charities with funds that are vitally important to them. Ms. Adkins read a list of charities that receive funding from the walk/run events. She said that other events could be held to specifically fund the greenway development and gave several examples of this from surrounding cities. Ms. Adkins advised that if the fee remains in effect, some events may be moved to outside the City so the maximum amount of the proceeds from the event will go to charity and the fee will not have to be paid. She said in her opinion it is a double standard that events co-sponsored by the City will be exempt from this fee because they will be using the same City resources. Ms. Adkins asked that City Council reconsider the fee and repeal it and that Council pursue other avenues of funding for greenway preservation and expansion. She thanked those in attendance in support of her.

Mayor Kutteh asked those in the audience in support of Ms. Adkins to stand and be recognized. The City Clerk noted 17 stood in support.

Council member West said he is sympathetic to Ms. Adkins cause and has always been a big supporter of the greenway and in fact initiated a new parking lot at the greenway entrance on E. Broad Street, but with that being said, he is curious as to why those that enjoy the greenway begrudge a small fee to help the City develop the greenway into something better than it is. He pointed out that those who use the soccer fields, the picnic shelters and the softball fields pay a fee for their use. Ms. Adkins stated that she has no problem with funding for the greenway but she thinks there is probably a better way to do it, which is holding events for the greenway itself as opposed to in her opinion penalizing the charities that we are trying to raise money for. She advised that the majority of the events that she has participated in this year have been on City streets and not on the greenway. Council member West pointed out that Winston-Salem built a seven mile route around Salem Lake using funds similar to this. Ms. Adkins stated she would love to see our greenway improved but her issue still is taking funding away from charities that so desperately need it and that there are other ways to fund the greenway without doing that. Council member West said he would hope that the impact of the fee would be minimal on the charities. Ms. Adkins stated she is still considering where she will hold her next event because of this and has already talked to Mooresville and Troutman because this fee will cut into the proceeds that she can give to her charity.

Council member M. Johnson asked Ms. Adkins if she is a professional event coordinator. Ms. Adkins replied she is not, that she has assisted with the planning of runs as a volunteer.

Council member Schlesinger stated that he admires that Mr. Cornelison has given the forethought to look and find a way to support and expand our greenway which a great resource for the City. He stated he understands Ms. Adkins point but the City does need to find ways to support and expand the greenway.

Council member Watt stated that each charity on the list affects everyone either directly or indirectly in some way. He said that some of these charities depend on these funds for their yearly budget and that Council should look at other alternatives for greenway maintenance and development.

Council member Morgan reminded those in opposition of the fee that this was included in the 2014-2015 budget, which was available for review prior to the budget being approved and the opportunity to speak for or against items in the budget was afforded. He thanked those in attendance for their concern and encouraged them to review future budgets for items that will affect the City and take a proactive stance rather than a reactive stance.

Council member J. Johnson made a motion to withdraw the \$2.00 per person fee for all running, walking and biking events held on any City street or greenway not sponsored or co-sponsored by the City, seconded by Council member Watt.

Council member West said he thinks there may be other avenues to generate this money and what Mr. Cornelison did with the grant for the proposed parking lot on E. Broad Street is a perfect example of that. He said he felt Council does need to change direction and focus more on getting grants instead of fees at this time.

Upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

VII Consider approving first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 12, Article V, Division 1, of the City of Statesville Municipal Code to prohibit parking at all times in the 200 block of south Mulberry Street.

Chief Watts stated that Traffic Safety Director made a study of the traffic conditions on Mulberry Street and has determined that parking should be prohibited in the 200 block of Mulberry Street. It was found that the average vehicle measures 7.5 to 8.0 feet in width driver side mirror to passenger side mirror. This configuration alone facilitates the hazard of east and westbound traffic crossing the center line in order to avoid parked vehicles. It is the opinion of the Traffic Safety Director that the prohibition of parking in the 200 block of Mulberry Street will facilitate traffic flow, sight distance, and will allow traffic to safely travel east and west and provide sufficient access for school buses, emergency vehicles, and larger vehicles traveling in the 200 block Walnut Street. Chief Watts advised that a total of five parking spaces would be lost.

Council member Watt made a motion to approve first reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 12, Article V, Division 1, of the City of Statesville Municipal Code to prohibit parking at all times in the 200 block of south Mulberry Street, seconded by Council member J. Johnson. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII Consider approval of sidewalk construction in the Radio Road area and approval of Budget Amendment #02.

Mr. Harrell stated the 2013-14 budget included \$65,000 for construction of a sidewalk along Fulton Drive from Carolina Avenue North to the YMCA facility on Wesley Drive. The sidewalk was completed in November 2013 at a cost of \$21,400; substantial savings were realized by completing this project with City forces. Staff has identified two additional sidewalk segments in the vicinity of Fulton Drive that, if constructed, would improve connectivity in this area. The first segment is on Wesley Drive, connecting the existing sidewalk at the YMCA to Hartness Road. The second segment is on Radio Road, connecting Hartness Road to the newly constructed Radio Road bridge over I-40. This NC DOT bridge project included sidewalk across the bridge and for a short distance north and south of the interstate. Constructing these sidewalk segments would improve pedestrian access and safety around the YMCA as well as provide pedestrian access to the north side of I-40. The Radio Road segment would also coordinate with the Carolina Thread Trail route, which is proposed to connect to Lakewood Park and the greenway north of I-40. The cost of constructing these two segments with City forces is estimated to be \$24,500. Staff recommends approval of the additional sidewalk construction and approval of Budget Amendment #02.

Council member Schlesinger asked if staff will be looking at other areas to build sidewalks specifically to connect east Statesville with the rest of the City. Mr. Harrell replied yes and that staff will present Council with a Sidewalk Master Plan and a ranking list in the near future.

Council member West asked if the budget number is based on using outside contractors or doing it in house. Mr. Harrell explained.

Council member Huggins recalled that previously Council had planned to install sidewalks on major thoroughfares and it seems that plan has been deviated from. Mr. Harrell stated the Sidewalk Master Plan and ranking list will take all areas into consideration and will be presented to Council in the near future. Council member Huggins said he thought Council had already decided that major thoroughfares would be done before any side streets. Mayor Kutteh asked the Clerk to research the minutes regarding what instruction Council has given staff to date.

Mayor Kutteh asked if there are similar criteria for sidewalks as there is for paved and unpaved roads. Mr. Harrell replied the ranking for unpaved streets is based on a DOT formula but there is no DOT formula for sidewalks so Public Works, Planning and Recreation & Parks staff are working together to develop a method based on existing features, facilities and obvious gaps.

Council member Schlesinger commented that a sidewalk needs to be installed clear out Davie Avenue. Council member M. Johnson said he did not think that is feasible due to the grade.

Council member Huggins said he has been pushing for sidewalks and connectivity to downtown since he has been on Council and he thought that a Sidewalk Master Plan had already been done.

Mayor Kutteh said this is what Mr. Harrell is saying staff will present to Council.

Council member M. Johnson made a motion to approve sidewalk construction in the Radio Road area and approval of Budget Amendment #02, seconded by Council member Huggins. The motion carried unanimously.

IX Consider approving the purchase of an automated recycling truck and approval of Budget Amendment #03.

Mr. Harrell stated staff plans to begin an online signup and phone sign up for the single stream recycling on August 01, 2014 for two months. Staff is expecting 4,000 to 5,000 citizens to sign up for this based on the current use of the red recycle boxes. The first cart order will be placed October 01, 2014 and the expected delivery time for the carts is thirty days. Staff hopes to begin the single stream recycling program in November or early December.

Council member Schlesinger asked why people that already use the red boxes need to sign up for the single stream program. Mr. Harrell replied that efficient routes can be established with the sign up information so the truck will not be driving down streets that do not have any customers.

Mr. Harrell stated that under G.S. 143-129(e)(3), local governments may make purchases from suppliers who are selected through a group purchasing program that is a "formally organized program that offers competitively obtained purchasing services at discount prices to two or more public agencies." The City of Statesville has a membership with the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA), a group purchasing program that meets the statute's requirements. Staff has obtained a quote from Carolina Environmental Systems, Inc. (Kernersville, NC) for a Heil Freedom Style HalfPack 40 yard fully automated truck in the amount of \$290,740. Carolina Environmental participates in the NJPA. This fully automated truck is a demo model; it utilizes a front-mounted apparatus to empty carts at street level, resulting in a quicker tipping cycle than side-loading automated trucks. The front-mounted operation also results in improved ergonomics, vehicle maneuverability and visibility for the operator. Its specifications were confirmed to meet City of Statesville requirements by Sanitation Superintendent Fred Morrison and Fleet Manager Thom Mahala. The unit includes a one-year body warranty and a 3-year warranty on the engine and transmission. Delivery is approximately 7 – 10 days. Purchasing Agent Sheila Poole has confirmed that this purchase is permissible under G.S. 143-129(e)(3). The amount budgeted for this vehicle is \$275,000; additional funds in the amount of \$16,751 (\$15,740 for vehicle purchase and \$1,011 road use tax and tag fee) will be taken from the General Capital Reserve Fund. Staff recommends purchase of the automated recycling truck from Carolina Environmental Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$290,740.00 and approval of Budget Amendment #03.

Council member Schlesinger asked if the pickup schedule will remain at every two weeks. Mr. Harrell replied it will.

Council member Schlesinger made a motion to approve the purchase of an automated recycling truck and approval of Budget Amendment #03, seconded by Council member Watt. The motion carried unanimously.

X Consider granting approval to staff to pursue the establishment of a rescue district within the City limits of Statesville and present Council with a contract at a later date that would be effective July 01, 2015.

Chief Hutchens stated that as part of the Iredell County 2014-15 budget, the Iredell County Commissioners approved a method by which all county fire departments, both volunteer and municipal, could receive funding for providing rescue services in their respective fire districts. Statesville Fire Department meets all qualifications necessary to receive this funding and is currently meeting all rescue response requirements set forth by the county. Upon final approval, funding from Iredell County would become available on July 1, 2015. Four volunteer rescue squads provide rescue services to the citizens of Iredell County with districts for each squad established by the Iredell County Board of Commissioners. In 2011 Mooresville Fire Department submitted a request to the Iredell County Commissioners to establish a rescue district encompassing the town limits of Mooresville. Upon the establishment of the agreement between Mooresville Fire and the

County, the four volunteer fire departments that surround the Town of Mooresville followed suit requesting rescue districts be established within their respective fire districts. As of this date the County has granted these requests. The establishment of these five rescue districts effectively ended the need for the Mooresville Rescue Squad and County funding has been terminated to this organization. Acting upon requests from the five southern Iredell fire departments for rescue funding, County Commissioners developed the Iredell County Rescue Funding Formula, included in the 2014-15 county budget, which allows any fire department in Iredell County to receive funding upon the establishment of a rescue district in their respective fire district. The plan includes a formula based on area and population that establishes the amount of funding available to these fire departments.

To receive rescue funding, a fire department must meet the following criteria:

- Mutual Aid agreement with another rescue squad.
- District map
- ECOM protocol
- Verification from NCRSA certifications
- Verification from the NCRSA of the mutual aid's squad certifications.

The Statesville Fire Department meets all criteria established by the County to provide rescue services and is eligible to receive county funding for these services. The course of action includes approval from the Statesville City Council to apply for the establishment of a Statesville Fire rescue district, declare our intent to County Commissioners that we intend to pursue and provide these services, and receive approval from County elected officials. Upon approval, funding to Statesville Fire would become available July 1, 2015.

Preliminary discussions on funding available to Statesville Fire indicate the department would receive approximately \$49,000 as its share of the rescue funding. A Rescue Equipment Fund is included in the funding formula as well and is based on a percentage of each fire districts' awarded funding. The County Commissioners establish the percentage figure each year during the budget process with equipment funds being held by the County and dispersed upon request. Any unused department funds remain available to the fire department in the succeeding budget year. It should also be noted that funding provided to the Iredell County Rescue Squad by the City of Statesville as part of a mutual aid agreement would no longer be necessary. The amount included in the 2014-2015 Statesville Fire Department budget for Iredell County Rescue Squad funding is \$6,500 per year for their services inside the City limits, so the total amount of the change in the budget from this would be just under \$60,000. However, a small amount may be needed to establish a heavy rescue agreement with either Troutman Rescue or Iredell County Rescue. Chief Hutchens said he discussed this with the Chief of Troutman Rescue and the Chief of Iredell County Rescue and both are willing to negotiate this. This is a service that the Statesville Fire Department is already providing and this proposal does not imply in any way that the Iredell County Rescue Squad is not doing a good job for the City. Statesville Fire Department personnel are trained, have all the equipment and certifications needed so there would be no new expenditures. There would be very little impact on current responses and contracts would be established with the County and volunteer departments for mutual aid. Staff would come back to Council for final approval of the contract. Staff is seeking approval from Council to proceed with this process.

Mayor Kutteh pointed out that the current Chief of the Iredell County Rescue Squad, the former Chief of the Iredell County Rescue Squad and a citizen whose family has been involved with the Rescue Squad for many years are in the audience. He stated that he had explained to them that Chief Hutchens is simply requesting permission to pursue this and that there would be plenty of opportunities for the three of them and their squad to participate in those discussions as this goes forward. Mayor Kutteh stated he had explained to them that this is similar to Mr. Cornelison requesting permission to simply apply for a grant and that Council is not implementing any system tonight and in fact Chief Hutchens has said it would be around November before Council would present something to the County Commissioners if we went forward with this. Chief Hutchens stated that is correct, the County Commissioners want to include it in their next budget process and contracts would not take effect until July 01, 2015.

Council member J. Johnson said he talked to Mr. Sherrill today and told him he would ask the Mayor to let him speak if he wished. Council member J. Johnson said he feels Mr. Sherrill should speak because Iredell County Rescue Squad has been in existence since 1961 and has answered every call faithfully plus they can transport a patient which the Statesville Fire Department cannot. He said he did not want to lose that ability. Council member J. Johnson requested that Mr. Sherrill be allowed to explain what the Rescue Squad is about.

Mayor Kutteh said staff is simply requesting permission to pursue this and that the Iredell County Rescue Squad will have an opportunity to speak during the process in the future if Council decides to move forward with this. He said he would welcome Mr. Sherrill's and all the other members comments at the appropriate time, that he had explained to them that this is generally not how Council does business but he would allow Mr. Sherrill to speak.

Mr. Sherrill thanked Council for their past support of the Rescue Squad. He said he has been a volunteer member for the past 38 years. He stated the squad was formed in 1961 and the members have obtained and maintained many certifications including heavy rescue and agricultural rescue. The squad has a search team and also takes care of confined space and water rescues. Mr. Sherrill stated the squad has a very good first responder program and he has an AUD and oxygen in his car. The squad has three 4-wheel drive ambulances which were invaluable this past winter and as they were the only units that could respond, the EMS units were stuck in their driveways. The squad has its place providing service to the City and would like to continue to do its work in the City. The squad and the Fire Department work very well together and each has its own type of service that is needed. He thanked Council for their support and invited them to visit their facility.

Mayor Kutteh stated that if Council grants approval to staff to pursue this there will be many opportunities in the coming months for the Iredell County Rescue Squad members to participate in those discussions.

Council member Schlesinger asked if this is to directly compete with the Iredell County Rescue Squad. Chief Hutchens replied this would give the Statesville Fire Department the authority to provide rescue service inside the City limits and Iredell County Rescue Squad's share of funding from Iredell County would come to the City, basically we would be taking over the responsibility for providing rescue services in the City of Statesville.

Council member Schlesinger stated that Council member J. Johnson's point is well taken that the Fire Department does not currently have the ability to transport a patient. Chief Hutchens agreed. Schlesinger asked what staff hopes to gain with this grant if achieved and what will be done with the \$49,000 and is Troutman and Mooresville entitled to some of those funds. Chief Hutchens stated it is possible and he would expect that we would need to include some of that, but there may be other options and as we get into discussions staff would seek guidance from Council as part of the process.

Council member M. Johnson asked if when the Statesville Fire Department responds the response will be with an EMT. Chief Hutchens replied yes, that all our personnel are EMT's. Council member M. Johnson asked if the Iredell County Rescue Squad members are EMT's. Mr. Sherrill replied yes from the audience. Council members discussed what services the Fire Department can provide and what the Iredell County Rescue Squad can provide.

Mayor Kutteh stated this discussion is very important but also very preliminary and he did not feel that any of the parties involved are prepared to have the discussion tonight. Chief Hutchens said he has not had time to fully research the contract and had planned to come back before Council with a list of pros and cons and a recommendation from staff. After further discussion Mayor Kutteh asked for a motion on the item.

Council member Morgan made a motion to grant approval to staff to pursue the establishment of a rescue district within the City limits of Statesville and present Council with a contract at a later date that would be effective July 01, 2015, seconded by Council member West. The motion carried unanimously.

XI Receive a report on fire department response to emergency medical calls within the City limits.

Council member West asked if this item requires action from Council. Mayor Kutteh recalled that at the Pre-Agenda meeting it was discussed that staff needed a motion from Council to allow them to continue to gather data for an additional 60 days. Council member West asked if it would be proper to make a Motion to Table the item for 60 days. Mayor Kutteh explained that a Motion to Table cannot have a time limit and staff needs permission from Council to continue doing this to gather additional data.

Council member J. Johnson stated he would like to correct something that was in the paper. He asked Chief Hutchens if he stated at the pre-agenda meeting that out of 18 fire departments, Statesville is the only one that does not do Code 3 calls. Council member J. Johnson said the Fire Department has made 328 calls so far this year not counting the month of July. He asked who made the decision that the Department would not respond to Code 3 calls. He said there is a policy in place that directs the Department to answer every call that EMS tells us to. Chief Hutchens replied that this started when Chief Bullins was here and the Department had started its accreditation process. It originally began that the Department would respond in serious life threatening situations like heart attacks and strokes and any other time that EMS needed our services.

Mayor Kutteh asked that Chief Hutchens first give his report then Council may ask questions.

Chief Hutchens stated he would first like to clarify a statement that he made at the Pre-Agenda meeting. He said that he had misquoted information that he had received during conversation while researching this project. He said he stated that there was a five hour time period each day when EMS units were unavailable to answer calls but he should have stated that there are various multiple times during the day and night when all EMS units are busy. When this happens, other County units are moved closer to the City limits to provide coverage for the City. Chief Hutchens stated he met with Iredell EMS Director, David Cloer, to verify that information and he agreed that it is correct. Mr. Cloer advised him that the main thing is to ensure that the City of Statesville has adequate emergency medical response. Chief Hutchens apologized to City Council, County officials and EMS Services for any confusion his statements may have caused with that comments.

Chief Hutchens stated that as part of the Department's recent accreditation process the team conducting the review made a recommendation that the Department include a full emergency medical response as part of our service to the citizens of Statesville. These recommendations are based on the current standards set in Fire Service Delivery and developed by departments all across the country. In preparing a response to the accreditation agency and during discussions with Fire Department staff on how to implement these recommendations it was made clear that we have to receive City Council approval before we make any changes in our responses.

On May 5, 2014 in an effort to provide Council with the most accurate information on which to base their decision, the fire department began responding to all emergency medical calls to gather sufficient data. Chief Hutchens admitted that in hindsight he should have gotten Council guidance and approval first before proceeding with gathering data for this. He stated he want Council to be assured that staff has no intention of trying to implement a policy change in their response process without Council approval.

Chief Hutchens stated that data collected during the month of May detailing full emergency medical response by the Statesville Fire Department shows there is a need, based on call volume, for our assistance to improve the quality of life for Statesville residents by providing quick and efficient emergency medical care. Below are a summary of findings thus far:

- Personnel are trained and respond quickly to the 911 calls for service, often arriving at the scenes first
Fire department personnel are trained to EMT level and have been compensated for this training since 2005. Fire personnel are strategically stationed throughout the City to provide response to any emergency within six minutes from the citizen

dialing 911 until arrival of fire personnel on the scene. Coverage of over 90% of the city in this time frame allows for a rapid response and administration of patient care.

- Financial impact was minimal during the month of May
Total financial impact noted during the month of May showed an increase of 446 additional miles logged on four engines (cumulative) and a fuel cost increase of approximately \$540. There were no instances of adverse impact on any other services provided by the fire department during this review period.
- Citizen impact involved a CPR save and the delivery of a baby
Although a large majority of medical calls result in fire personnel providing lifting assistance, patient assessment, scene stabilization, or other assistance to EMS personnel; there are many instances where our presence is absolutely needed to administer patient care. On any medical call where fire personnel are not immediately needed they are released by EMS personnel and available for other assignments.

Chief Hutchens reviewed the data for the impact on services.

Council member J. Johnson asked Chief Hutchens to elaborate on the mileage data. Chief Hutchens explained how he arrived at the mileage figures explaining that this data is going to vary depending on what activities our personnel are involved in and the number of responses. He said the fuel data will vary based upon the number of fires the department is at and the number of times the pump is used because using the pump uses considerably more fuel. Council member J. Johnson said on the diagram that Chief Hutchens is referring to it shows that Engine 1 went 2,915 miles for five months, then Engine 2 went 2,686 miles for five months, Engine 3 went 2,014 miles for five months and Engine 4 went 2,564 for five months. These are far larger amounts than the 446 miles that is shown in the month of June. Chief Hutchens explained that the 446 miles that Council member J. Johnson is referring to is the additional miles that were driven each month compared to January through April. Council member J. Johnson asked if Chief Hutchens is saying that all these miles are for fire calls. Chief Hutchens replied this is total miles for all activities and is logged the first and last of each month.

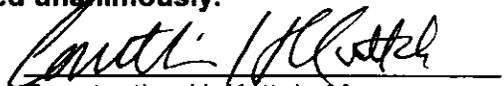
Council member Schlesinger clarified that the Department is already responding to all heart attack and stroke calls and has just started responding to all medical calls on May 5th. Chief Hutchens replied that is correct and explained that there are a lot of situations with fire calls that it is not known what is going on until the crew arrives but with medical calls if the crew arrives and EMS does not need them then they are released.

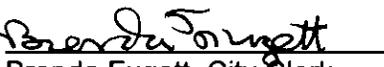
Council member M. Johnson asked what the total calls would be if the Rescue District is established. He asked if the total is six calls a day how will the Department handle it. Chief Hutchens stated as Chief he did not feel that is going to be a significant increase in call times. As far as exact numbers, staff is still working with their records management system vendor to get that data. Council member Schlesinger pointed out that the Department is already responding to all medical calls.

Council member M. Johnson made a motion to allow staff to continue responding to all emergency medical calls for 60 more days in order to accumulate additional data, seconded by Council member Watt. The motion carried unanimously.

Update on the 4th Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Grant.
Larry Pressley stated the Improvement Grant was approved in September 2012 and it was a \$4.8 million loan at 0% interest. Staff received bids on that this past Friday and the project did come in on budget. Staff is vetting the low bidder now and will present a recommendation of award to Council at the next City Council meeting.

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


Constantine H. Kutteh, Mayor

Attest:

Brenda Fugett, City Clerk

