

**MINUTE BOOK 26, PAGE 075
CITY OF STATESVILLE COUNCIL MEETING –May 2, 2016
CITY HALL – 227 S. CENTER STREET, STATESVILLE, NC – 7:00 P.M.
STATESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Mayor Costi Kutteh presiding:

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

Council Absent: None

Staff Present: Pressley, Fugett, Gaines, Davis, Currier, Ferguson, Barone, Harrell, Staley, Smyth

Media Present Amy Fuhrman-Statesville Free News, Nina Mastandrea – Statesville Record and Landmark

Others: 4

I Call to Order

Mayor Kutteh called the meeting to order.

II Invocation

The Invocation was given by City Clerk Fugett.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Kutteh led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV 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 City Council March 7, 2016 Pre-Agenda and Council meetings.**
- B. Receive and concur with the financial report of the Statesville Convention and Visitor Bureau as of March 31, 2016**
- C. Consider approving a 10 year lease with Victory Air to lease 29,573 square feet of land at the Airport for vehicle parking.**
- D. Consider approving 2nd reading of an ordinance to amend Section 13.2 – Nuisances Enumerated, of the Statesville City Code, to add (5) the accumulation of friable asbestos, hazardous conditions, or environmentally unsafe conditions as an enumerated nuisance.**
- E. Consider approving a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a grant agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the design of Taxiway A Lighting, Rehabilitation and Guidance Signs and Replacement of the PAPI's, REILS, and Windssocks and also consider approval of Budget Amendment #18.**
- F. Receive proposals for management services for the Downtown Statesville Municipal Service District and consider a motion recommending a private agency to carry out those services.**

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.

Upon a motion by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member J. Johnson, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA

Mayor Kutteh stated that no, the mural was not permitted but was given permission by the owner. He asked that DRC, DSDC and the Arts Council work together to do an annual permit to allow spontaneous art on this wall with oversight.

V Receive a report on the Airport Safety Mark of Distinction Award received by the Statesville Regional Airport.

John Ferguson recognized J. Johnson, Todd Bodell and David Alexander, He stated that the DOA created this award because of all the safety items that Council has implemented.

VI This item was moved to the Consent Agenda.

VII Receive a report regarding parking at the Vance Hotel.

Jim Prosser reported on the parking deck study and advised they are making steady progress on the Preliminary Development Program.

Doug Chapman of McGill & Associates gave a power point presentation of Vance Hotel parking options. He presented several options.

Rehab existing deck and adding lower parking including shell building around the area. This is projected to cost \$ 2.1 million for a total of 61 spaces.

Council member M. Johnson reasoned that a minimum of 78 spaces will be needed.

Add a parking lot over Meeting St. lot for \$ 2 million.

This option includes footprint of the existing deck and the shell building with new 2-level parking.

This is projected to cost \$ 2.1 million for a total of 83 spaces. This adds a parking deck over the Meeting Street lot.

The last option is to leave everything as it is and make structural repairs to the existing deck.

This is projected to cost \$ 250,000 and provide 37 spaces.

Council reached a consensus to direct McGill to bring back a proposal to run parking all the way out from the building to Meeting Street and all the way back from Meeting Street on the bottom side which would come closer to the 200 total space footprint that is needed. The option might incorporate county parking if feasible.

Mr. Chapman agreed to come back to the June 6th meeting. Mr. Prosser agreed that would work with the Preliminary Development Agreement timeline.

VIII Receive the 2016-17 budget proposal from the City Manager and staff and set a public hearing on the budget for May 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

City Manager Pressley presented the budget message. Highlights of the budget included a 3 cent property tax increase; implementation of a municipal vehicle tax in the amount of \$30 per vehicle; and 3% increase in water/sewer rates. There is a 3.5% SPPI pay increase proposed in this budget. There may be further changes to that after Council discusses how to implement the pay study.

A tentative meeting was scheduled for May 10 at 5:30 to receive the pay study. The Budget Meetings were scheduled for May 18 and 19 at 5:30.

IX Request approval for the purchase of portable EF Johnson radios to replace existing portable radios no longer being manufactured, SRT ballistic vests that have expired, and rooftop HVAC unit replacement that are failing. The funds requested for these projects and purchases will total \$226,117.

Police Chief Barone presented the following information:

- The City of Statesville currently owns and operates an EFJohnson 800MHz P25 interoperable communication system. This system is currently utilized by all city departments in order to meet their department's individual communication needs.
- The city currently has 208 EFJohnson 51SL radios distributed throughout the City of Statesville's various departments. The police and fire department hold the largest inventory of 51SL radios at 95 for police, and 77 for fire.
- The 51SL has been manufactured by EFJohnson for close to 7 (2007 to 2014) years. In November of 2014, EFJohnson had ceased the production of the 51SL handheld radio.
- Parts and service on the discontinued 51SL are estimated to be available to the City of Statesville till November 25th, 2019.
- With the cessation of production on the 51SL and replacement parts, an incremental replacement plan to replace the EFJohnson 51SL with the EFJohnson Viking VP400 single band and VP900 dual band is requested.
- The purchase of 56 EFJohnson radios and the other requested items will come from using lapsed salary in the current year Police Department budget. The radios purchased through lapsed salaries in 2016 will be distributed throughout the various city departments based on need.
- The total price associated with the replacement portable radio project for 2016 would be \$165,317.00.
- The police department currently has 14 allotted members of the Special Response Team. These members respond to critical incidents where specialized training and equipment would be required. Currently we have four ballistic entry vests that have exceeded the manufacturer's expiration date, with ten more set to expire in 2016/2017. We request that we be allowed to purchase 14 SRT ballistic vests at an individual cost of \$2,400.00 for a total expenditure of \$33,600.00.
- The police department currently utilizes the heating and air units that were installed when the building had been refurbished and expanded. Many of the various heating and air units still in use are in dire need of replacement. Starting back in the 2013/2014 budget, we had planned to replace two heating and air units each budget year till all of the HVAC units had been replaced. A considerable amount of our building maintenance budget is spent each budget year on replacing the major parts to the older HVAC units. The two HVAC units would cost \$13,600.00 each for a total expenditure of \$27,200.00.

Upon a motion by Council member Morgan, seconded by Council member Watt, the purchase of portable EF Johnson radios to replace existing portable radios no longer being manufactured, SRT ballistic vests that have expired, and rooftop HVAC unit replacement that are failing was approved. The funds requested for these projects and purchases will total \$226,117. The motion was unanimously approved.

X Consider a request from Statesville Christian School for a water tap to serve 533 Gaither Road.

Public Works Director Harrell advised the approximately 10.4 acre parcel is located at the intersection of Radio Road and Gaither Road, and is adjacent to Statesville's existing corporate limits. Statesville Christian School has constructed an athletic field on the property and desires a water tap for irrigation purposes.

The staff recommendation is to approve a water connection subject to inside rates and System Development Fees, contingent on receipt of a petition for voluntary annexation.

Upon a motion by Council member J. Johnson, seconded by Council member Phifer, the request from Statesville Christian School for a water tap to serve 533 Gaither Road was unanimously approved.

- XI Consider appropriating \$3,669,438 to provide for the remaining five years of Streetscape debt service and approve Budget Amendment #19.

Finance Director Stated noted that this request is to set aside in the General Capital Reserve Fund sufficient funds, \$3,669,438, to provide for the Streetscape future debt payments. If approved, both commercial loans, City Hall, Fire Station #4, and Streetscape, will be fully funded for future debt payments.

Upon a motion by Council member M. Johnson, seconded by Council member J. Johnson, \$3,669,438 was appropriated to provide for the remaining five years of Streetscape debt service and Budget Amendment #19 was unanimously approved.

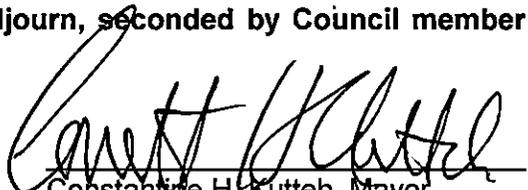
There being no further business, Mayor Kutteh asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

Attest:


Brenda Fugett, City Clerk




Constantine H. Kutteh, Mayor