

**MINUTE BOOK 26, PAGE 132
CITY OF STATESVILLE PRE-AGENDA MEETING – August 15, 2016
CITY HALL – 227 S. CENTER STREET, STATESVILLE, NC – 6:00 P.M.
STATESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Mayor Costi Kutteh presiding:

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

Council Absent: Phifer

Staff Present: Pressley, Fugett, Gaines, Davis, Smyth, Currier, Staley, Styers, Slocum, Ferguson, Ashley, Onley, Chipman, Gregory, Shelton, Cornelius, Barone, Allen

Media Present Nina Mastandrea-Statesville Record & Landmark, Heather Barfield-Statesville Free News

Others Marin Tomlin-DSDC, Jeff Kirby-Parrish & Partners, John Marek-SRD

I Call to Order

Mayor Kutteh called the meeting to order and advised there will be an Executive Session following the pre-agenda meeting to discuss two economic development matters. Mr. Gaines will give an update on Davis Hospital at the Council meeting.

II Invocation (Only at Council Meeting)

III Pledge of Allegiance (Only at Council Meeting)

IV Consent Agenda – Mayor Kutteh briefly reviewed the Consent Agenda items.

A. Consider approving the August 01, 2016 Pre-Agenda and City Council meeting minutes.

B. Consider approving 2nd reading of an ordinance to establish a no parking zone on the east side of South Mulberry St between Walnut St and West Broad St.

C. Consider authorizing the rollover of outstanding purchase orders and other encumbrances and approve Budget Amendment #04.
Ralph Staley stated this is the annual action to authorize the rollover of outstanding purchase orders and incomplete capital projects as of June 30, 2016 and to amend the 2016-2017 budgets accordingly.

D. Consider approving 2nd reading of an ordinance to annex the Venture Properties VII, LLC property (Publix) located at 134 Venture Lane.

E. Consider the purchase of an automated garbage collection truck.
Council member M. Johnson stated that Council member Schlesinger would like to have a discussion on the merits of purchasing a garbage collection truck versus a fire truck. Mayor Kutteh pointed out that the fire truck purchase has already been approved in the budget. Council member Schlesinger said he did not agree with that during the budget discussions and did not recall the purchase of a garbage truck being included in this budget. Mayor Kutteh stated that a discussion regarding the purchase of a fire truck will be added to the next meeting agenda.

At the request of Council member Schlesinger this item was moved to the Regular Agenda.

Mayor Kutteh advised there is one addition to the agenda and will be number XIII as follows: City Maintenance and Repair of Private Property.

REGULAR AGENDA

VI Presentation of a plaque identifying the location of the former Fire Station and the resting place of Sammy the Fire Dog.

- VII ABC Board update from Michelle Rokes.**
Mayor Kutteh advised that this item has been removed from the agenda at the request of the ABC Board.
- VIII Receive an update on the Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study.**
- IX Consider approving the Airport Market Study.**
- X Conduct a public hearing and consider approving a Resolution to Close, a 10' alley adjacent to Harrill Street.**
Mayor Kutteh said this is behind Dr. Milan's optometry office and is a piece that needs to be closed due to the jail expansion.
- XI Consider approving a sketch plan for Pine Forrest II Sketch Plan (Located off Amity Hill Road); Tax Map 4742-58-9712.**
Mayor Kutteh advised that Council member M. Johnson will recuse himself from this item.
- XII Consider approving expanding the Police Departments "Take Home Vehicle Policy" and hiring of non-sworn personnel under a "Police Recruit" program.**
Assistant Police Chief David Onley explained that staff is requesting that all officers with 25 months of satisfactory service who reside within a 22 mile radius of Statesville City Hall be authorized to take part in the take home vehicle plan. The 22 mile radius is based on the farthest point in Iredell County from City Hall. Under the current practice 26 officers take vehicles home and under the new plan this number would expand to 48 officers or 66% of the current staff. This would increase to 60 officers or 83% of the current staff if all officers remain. In the 2016-2017 Statesville Police Department operating budget, the agency received \$275,000 to be utilized to improve officer retention and recruitment. These funds were set aside in order for the agency to design an approved vehicle policy that would permit additional staff to obtain take home vehicles. The agency is requesting to utilize these funds to purchase and equip 11 administrative style vehicles. This purchase would allow patrol vehicles to be cycled back to the patrol division for use by those personnel. The Police Department is also requesting approval to reactivate the hiring of non-sworn (civilians) under a "Police Recruit" program. Selected applicants would be hired and sent through the Basic Law Enforcement Training program by the agency. Applicants would be hired as a Police Recruit, at a reduced rate which would off-set the costs associated with the training academy.

Council member J. Johnson asked what if an officer lived 22 ½ miles away. Onley replied the officer would not be eligible.

In response to a question from Council member Schlesinger, Onley explained that the vehicles used by administrative personnel would still be equipped with lights and sirens.

- ADD Consider City maintenance and repair of drainage on private property.**
Scott Harrell stated that prior to 1995; the Public Works Department would provide labor and equipment to perform storm drainage projects on private property, if the property owner provided the materials. This practice was discontinued by Council adoption of Resolution 21-95 on August 21, 1995, which states the "policy of providing labor and equipment concerning storm drains, creeks, ditches, etc. on private property is hereby discontinued." There are approximately 75 miles of waterways within the City limits. Staff frequently considers requests from residents to address storm drainage issues such as eroded creek banks, damaged pipes and drain structures, sinkholes, downed trees in creeks, etc. In keeping with the August 1995 resolution, these requests are addressed to the extent possible without entering private property. If there is an impact, or potential impact, to a City-maintained street, storm drainage structure, sewer line, water line, electric facility, etc., City forces will work from within the right-of-way or easement in question to protect City infrastructure. Staff recently received a request from a resident on Brandon Street to remove a downed tree and address stream bank erosion along Free Nancy Branch. There are no City-maintained streets or utilities in the vicinity of the damage, so staff declined the resident's request. Determining the level of service to be provided in these scenarios – what the City will do, and where – is one of the topics in the City's development of a Phase 2 stormwater program. Factors to consider in this discussion include:

- What level of service will be provided? Tree removal, stream bank restoration, structure repair/replacement, revegetation of affected areas, etc.
- Who pays fees for permits and/or debris disposal?
- What sort of agreement should be established with the property owner to clarify long-term maintenance and liability for the work?
- If a stormwater utility is adopted, should the cost of this service be funded by the utility?
- What, if any, costs are billed to the property owner?
- What if access is required from an otherwise uninvolved property owner?
- Will such work be performed only upon request, or will staff proactively evaluate the creeks and streams in the City?
- Will similar service be extended to residents living adjacent to utility easements, unopened street rights-of-way, or other scenarios not allowed under current policy?
- What will the priority of this work be in relation to other department responsibilities?

Council member J. Johnson said there are a lot of these types of issues in the City and could become very costly if the City gets involved.

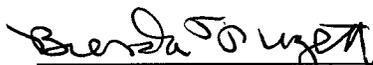
Council member M. Johnson stated that he agreed with J. Johnson and that although he definitely wants the jail to be located in the City, it will exacerbate this problem even more because it will be adding a large amount of impervious area. He asked Assistant Public Works Director Derek Slocum to calculate this basin as it stands today and use a HEC-RAS program to calculate 1, 2, 10, 25 and 100 year storms. Council members agreed to authorize staff to calculate this information and report back to Council.

Council member Williams made a motion to move to Executive Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss two economic development matters, and N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) to preserve the attorney-client privilege for all, seconded by Council member Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

Upon return to open session Mayor Kutteh advised that two economic development matters were discussed and no action was taken.

Council member Williams made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council member Watt. The motion carried unanimously.

Attest:


Brenda Fugett, City Clerk




Constantine H. Kutteh, Mayor