



Minutes of the Roanoke Rapids City Council

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids was held on **Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Council Chambers at the Lloyd Andrews City Meeting Hall.

Present: Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor
Carl Ferebee, Mayor Pro Tem
Ernest C. Bobbitt)
Sandra W. Bryant)
Suetta S. Scarbrough)
Wayne Smith)

Council Members

Joseph Scherer, MPA, MS, City Manager
Geoffrey Davis, City Attorney
Traci Storey, City Clerk
Leigh Etheridge, Finance Director
Kathy Kearney, Deputy City Clerk/Human Resources Manager *
Bobby Martin, Police Chief
Christina Caudle, Main Street Director
Kelly Trayham, Planning & Development Director
Jason Patrick, Fire Chief

Absent: John Simeon, Parks & Recreation Director
Larry Chalker, Public Works Director

*Denotes joining the meeting via Zoom.

Mayor Doughtie called the meeting to order and opened with an invocation.

Adoption of Business Agenda

Mayor Doughtie asked Council members if there were any known conflicts of interest with respect to the matters before them this evening.

There being no conflicts, a motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilwoman Scarbrough and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda as presented.

Approval of City Council Minutes

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bryant, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to approve the March 16, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting and April 6, 2021 Work Session minutes as drafted.

Public Hearing

Proposed Amendments to the City of Roanoke Rapids Land Use Ordinance (Cemeteries)

Planning & Development Director Traynham presented the following report:

MEMORANDUM

To: Joseph Scherer, City Manager

From: Kelly Traynham, Planning & Development Director

Re: **Proposed Amendments to the City of Roanoke Rapids Land Use Ordinance to include Article X Permissible Uses, Section 151-149 Table of Permitted Uses to consider the use designations in the Zoning Districts as a Permitted or Conditional Use for Cemetery (21.100) in selected residential and commercial zoning districts: R-40; R-20, R-12, R-8, R-6, B-3, B-4; and Article II: Basic Definitions and Interpretations to consider adding a definition “cemetery”**

Date: April 12, 2021

Background

The location of cemeteries is most frequently controlled through the zoning ordinance. Generally, the location is either controlled broadly, that is, the cemetery is permitted to go anywhere within certain zones; or it is controlled specifically — the specific location of any new cemetery is passed on by a local appointed or elected board. The Table of Permissible Uses within the City of Roanoke Rapids Land Use Ordinance sets forth the specific land uses that are allowed in various zoning districts.

Currently, the “**cemetery**” use of land (table code 21.100) is listed as a special, or conditional use, requiring City Council approval within the **R-20 and R-40 Residential Districts**. There are two cemeteries within the City’s planning & zoning jurisdiction, *Cedarwood Cemetery* and *Crestview Memorial Cemetery*.

The city-operated *Cedarwood Cemetery* is located within the **R-6 and R-8 Residential Districts**, which is a **legal, non-conforming use** based on current zoning codes. The city’s ongoing expansions of *Cedarwood Cemetery* in recent years represents a possible **illegal expansion of a non-conforming use** since cemeteries are not permissible in the R-6 and R-8 Districts.

The privately-operated *Crestview Cemetery* is a **legal, conforming use** within the **R-40** Residential District. Ms. Sandra Showalter, representative owner of Tavlowe, Inc., which does business as *Crestview Memorial Cemetery*, is attempting a business expansion and the only viable option for expansion of the current business is to acquire additional land adjacent or contiguous to the existing cemetery.

During 2015, City Council approved a request from Tavlowe, Inc. for about 11-acres of contiguous property to the southside, but significant environmental conditions precluded the use of the property as a cemetery. Then in 2018, Tavlowe, Inc. submitted a request for a zoning map amendment to rezone about eight (8) acres, located on the opposite site of Smith Church Road and along Anna Louise Lane, from B-3 Commercial to R-40 Residential. Following a public hearing, the rezoning request was ultimately denied by City Council with a 2-3 vote.

Intent

The application of current zoning regulations restricts the expansion of cemeteries, including *Cedarwood and Crestview* to land that is zoned R-20 or R-40. Adoption of the proposed text amendments would accomplish lawful, land use conformity for the City’s *Cedarwood Cemetery* and an opportunity for a minor expansion of *Crestview Cemetery*.

Requested Ordinance Text Amendments

The Table of Permissible Uses establishes the permitting process as either Special Conditional Uses “C” (authorized by City Council) and Permissible Zoning Uses “P” (authorized by the Land Use Administrator) for land use categories by zoning district.

Proposed revisions to Table of Permissible Uses are shown in **highlighted** below:

ARTICLE 10: PERMISSIBLE USES

Excerpts of Section 151-149 Table of Permissible Uses.

	R-40	R-20	R-12	R-8	R-6	R-5	R-3	B-1	B-2	B-3	B-4	B-5	I-1	I-2	PUD	Reference
21.100 CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM																
21.100 Cemetery	C	C								P	P					
21.200 Crematorium														C		

Article 2: BASIC DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

A definition for consideration and inclusion in the Land Use Ordinance,

Cemetery. A place dedicated to and used, or intended to be used, for permanent interment of human remains. A cemetery may contain land or earth interments; mausoleum, a vault, crypt interments; a columbarium or other structure or place used or intended to be used for the interment of cremated human remains; or any combination of one or more of such structures or places.

Analysis

Based on the recent history of inquiries, permitting processes and several planning studies, Staff has examined existing uses of property as a Cemetery (Land Use Code 21.100) and found inconsistencies that need to be reconsidered. The City Council may amend the ordinance to permit cemeteries anywhere in certain districts.

Despite the locations allowed by zoning districts, the State of North Carolina's Cemetery Commission is responsible for the permitting and regulatory functions of all cemeteries across the state. The State requires a minimum of 30-acres for all new cemetery locations.

The expansions of *Cedarwood* and *Crestview* are considered exempt from the 30-acre minimum if the expansions are to adjacent properties (including the right-of-way). Therefore, Planning Staff does not anticipate much of an increase in applications for cemetery land uses throughout the City.

The Roanoke Rapids City Code of Ordinance sets forth regulations pertaining to *Cedarwood Cemetery* within the City under Chapter 92.

The "screening" between a cemetery land use and adjacent residential property remains as a requirement. The screening may be a privacy fence or combination of evergreen landscaping intended to provide complete separation between uses.

Staff Recommendation

Planning Staff recommends that the Table of Permitted Uses be revised to change the cemetery permitting process from Conditional Uses to Permissible Uses and expand the uses into other zoning districts to bring existing cemetery properties into compliance. Staff believes this will streamline the permitting process to make the permitting process consistent for all businesses. A definition included in the Land Use Ordinance will provide clarification of the use.

Planning Board Recommendation

On March 18, 2021, the Roanoke Rapids Area Planning Board reviewed the proposed amendments and passed a motion to forward a favorable recommendation to City Council for adoption.

Planning & Development Director Traynham reported the public hearing has been advertised as required and the Planning Board meeting was advertised not just in the

newspaper, but through the City website and other postings. They have not received any calls or comments concerning the request.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee clarified if this request had been before City Council before. Planning & Development Director Traynham replied in a different way. The property owner requested rezoning before. He confirmed that City Council denied that request. She said that was correct.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee questioned adding cemeteries to additional residential zoning districts. She replied they were trying to achieve consistency because the City's cemetery is located in an R-6 and R-8 zoning district. The cemetery has been expanding for years is an unlawful expansion so they are trying to achieve code compliance through this action. Alternatively, they could rezone the property to an R-20 or R-40 but this is probably the best route since it is already an existing use. It is procedurally in the best interest to change the Table of Uses to make it allowed in those districts. She restated that they do not expect to see cemeteries popping up all over town because brand new cemeteries required a 30 acre minimum and there are no lots that big within the City limits.

Councilwoman Bryant reported she rode out to the Crestview Cemetery area today and there is just a fence where it backs up to someone's back door. She was surprised some people have not complained about that.

Planning & Development Director Traynham stated currently they do not have permission to develop a cemetery on that property because it is not allowed under the current zoning. If these proposed changes are approved, they would have to install privacy fencing or screening/vegetation to be a visual buffer between that property and the adjacent housing. Although the fence does not meet that requirement they would have to comply with the code beforehand. The property is owned by Crestview but cannot be used at this time under current zoning classifications.

Councilwoman Bryant said it would definitely need some type of vegetation or barrier. Planning & Development Director Traynham stated they would have to meet the existing code requirements which requires a minimum six foot barrier in between.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked how much land was over there because he had a homeowner talk to him about their concerns. She replied approximately 10 acres. He noted that it appeared that one acre or so was cleared and wondered if they were running into the problem of wetlands like they did on the other side.

Crestview property owner, Sandra Showalter, said there was 10 acres there with

about 8 acres that would be useful because they know the creek is back there. They would not put people where they would be covered by water later.

Planning & Development Director Traynham stated they were looking at the zoning districts and the uses that would be allowed in those districts. They are trying to achieve compliance for the City as well as provide opportunities for the existing business to expand.

Mayor Doughtie said with the State requirement of 30 acres minimum, it would take quite an act to create a new cemetery within the City limits. A cemetery is a business and during his lifetime he has seen Cedarwood expand. They will need to continue to make a place for cemeteries.

Mayor Doughtie opened the public hearing.

Sandra Showalter, owner of Crestview Cemetery, stated she would like the City treat them like they are treating themselves. They have been trying to get this property rezoned so they could expand. They have been here since 1960. She came before City Council before and the request was denied. She put up a ten foot fence as required and has started putting the shrubbery up already. She had other shrubbery she paid \$1,800 for that died before she could get it in the ground waiting for this. She has purchased more. The shrubbery is what they use at the zoo in Asheboro. It grows 10-12 feet tall and 4 foot deep so it is no way anyone would come through there; it will block all that. When they first started this and they sent out notices/letters, she found out why they were against it. They had a lot of their stuff on her property. She had to go through a lot of expense and found out a majority of the people don't own the property, they are renters. The actual property owners did know a lot about it. They had to move their dog pens and brick barbecues off of her property. She got it done and started clearing it off. It cost her \$50,000 because she had to pay to have the stuff hauled off and special people to take the trees down along the power lines. This has been a real trip. She has been a loyal member and active person in this community. She feels she is being discriminated against because she wants to expand her business and a few people say they do not want it in their backyard. She said they cannot believe the items they find over there such as discarded needles and condoms. She does not feel like they will continue to do stuff like that once they develop the property. She still has the expense of having the cemetery laid off and putting a road in. They complied with not going onto Anna Louise Lane, they can go straight across entrance now. There is a turning lane that goes into Southgate and into the doctor's offices so there would not be a blockage of cars keeping people from getting into doctor's offices. As many funerals they've had out there they have never blocked the first ambulance or police car. She did not know what they wanted from

her because she had done everything to try and comply. She stated if they did not approve this that means the City's cemetery is not lawfully compliant. She asked if that is not compliant then why they were allowing it. She feels like she should be treated fairly.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked Ms. Showalter why she spent money before City Council approved it. Ms. Showalter replied because she has hope the City would come to its senses and let a business that has been here for 60 years expand. She said they could put a Dollar General right next to a funeral home here in the city and that's okay. She doesn't see what the problem is; they are conforming to everything that was requested. A ten foot fence and the vegetation that will grow 7 foot high the first year.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked how far from the fence was she planning to start the cemetery. She replied they have the fence 2 feet on her side of the property. The buffer they are putting up will be 3-4 feet from the fence out.

Councilman Smith asked if she allowed anybody to be buried in the existing Crestview Cemetery. She replied anybody that needs a burial site can come to them and they will take care of it.

Councilman Smith asked why she hauled the timber off instead of burning it. She called Fire Department and the Fire Marshal looked at it and said she couldn't. Then she found out the City was burning their stuff in the middle of the lot. She had a place to burn but out of the \$50,000, \$25,000 went to hauling it away. Councilman Smith said he did not understand why the Fire Marshal would tell her that and the City does not have a burning ordinance in the City of Roanoke Rapids. Ms. Showalter said she found out she could go through the Forest Service to get a permit and you can burn.

Councilman Smith asked Chief Patrick why the Fire Marshal would tell someone they could not burn in the City of Roanoke Rapids. Chief Patrick replied he could not speak to exactly why; he would have to refer that to the Fire Marshal. The only thing he could think was because of the proximity of residential houses and the smoke affecting the residents. He would look into to find out why. They do discourage burning in the City limits for things like yard waste because the City does provide for leaf and limb pick up. Ms. Showalter stated she wished the City would have picked her stuff up because she lives in the City limits and pays taxes.

Mayor Doughtie stated they needed to be discussing information that was pertinent to whether or not to approve this.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked how far would she be starting the cemetery from the fence. Ms. Showalter the cemetery will start from the fence over but they will have vegetation and put a road through there. She believes right now it is five feet from the fence. Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if the road was going on her side of the fence and give more of a buffer. She replied yes.

Mayor Doughtie asked if people could pick where they want to be interred such as being in the back of property as opposed to being near the highway. Ms. Showalter replied yes if they have the area developed. He stated his reason for asking that was because if they had the shrub growing, it would have time to mature if they did not open that part of that business initially. She said they did not have any idea how this has to be done. She has to get a company to come plot it out, she has to put roads in, has to shrubbery in. If this is approved tonight, she cannot start it tomorrow it's going to be a while. The reason she went with buffer she did was because it should be about 7 feet tall by next year.

Mayor Doughtie asked Attorney Davis if he would like to share any comments about the current zoning and expansion of the City cemetery. Attorney Davis stated Cedarwood Cemetery already existing when the Land Use Plan was adopted. It would have been a prior non-conforming use. Generally, prior non-confirming uses can be continued but usually not supposed to be expanded. Over the years since the City had a Land Use Ordinance, the cemetery has expanded into some of these other residential classifications where it would not be appropriately zoned. That does create a non-conforming use.

Planning & Development Director Traynham said to further answer Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee's question about why Ms. Showalter would continue to move ahead. That is a risk that she takes, but generally in Land Use law you cannot reconsider the same zoning request again. The City's ordinance states they have to wait at least one year. In 2018, City Council denied the rezoning request because the request was to change the B-3 zoning to R-40. The Land Use law and case studies show there has to be some substantial change to the property or circumstances to warrant a second hearing or request for consideration. The actions taken were done voluntarily by Ms. Showalter but also were demonstrating an effort for change. By putting up a fence to define where property boundaries exist people could start to see what it could potentially be like other than looking like a wooded lot. When Ms. Showalter came to talk with her this past January to ask about applying for another rezoning and thinking along those lines, she suggested trying this first to make the City's cemetery legal and conforming as well as her cemetery.

Councilman Smith asked Attorney Davis if they did not approve the amendment

would the City have to shut the cemetery down. Attorney Davis replied he did not believe they would have to shut it down, but there may be some questions if the City tried to expand it any further. It would presumably be expanding into zoning districts that would not be zoned for that, such as some of the lower density residential use districts.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if there were homes within 1-4 feet of Cedarwood Cemetery. Planning & Development Director Traynham replied yes. She understands the question about the fence, but they are not really into the development details here on this. The backside of the homes at Southgate are not right up on the property line. There is 20 or more feet between the property line and the back of a home. Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said the fence was right up against the back of the homes.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee stated if someone was going to make motion for this that they would give it a set footage away from the homes. He would not want to walk out of his house right into a cemetery. Ms. Showalter said that is why she put up the 10 foot fence and foliage the City wants. He said he was not going to get into the fence she has up, but it is not a barrier. Ms. Showalter stated she had already started planting the barrier. He would like to have the specific barrier in the recommendation if they decide to do that.

Planning & Development Director Traynham said they could not do that because the City already has in the code what the separation distance/barrier has to be. Generally if they use vegetation and mixture (depending on species) that at maturity it would be a certain distance. She said they would have to have a separate hearing to change that section of the code. It gives options on different methods of required screening. The setbacks for that district would predicate they have some separation there. Nobody would be able to walk from their backyard into the cemetery in this case. In other places throughout the city cemeteries back right up to residential property in the backyards of many homes and some in the front yards.

Mayor Doughtie asked what kind of fence did she put up. Ms. Showalter said it was a chain-link fence and the rest of it was called deer fence. When the vegetation will be over 7 feet tall the first year. She encouraged everyone to look up the zoo in Asheboro and shrubbery at their entrance is what she got.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked how far was the barrier planted from the fence. Ms. Showalter said she was not exactly sure. Planning & Development Director Traynham explained that if this was approved then the next step in the development process would be for Ms. Showalter to submit a site plan where the department would review it like they do all the other development request. They will have to do their screening,

the new road/driveway access along with NCDOT review. They cannot issue them a permit to start burials until that screening is established.

Mayor Doughtie closed the public hearing.

Adoption of Statement of Consistency

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt to adopt the Statement of Consistency. Councilman Smith, Councilman Bobbitt and Councilwoman Scarbrough voted in favor; Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee and Councilwoman Bryant voted against. Motion carried 3-2 in favor of adopting the Statement of Consistency.

Final Decision

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt to adopt the text amendments to the Land Use Ordinance. Councilman Smith, Councilman Bobbitt and Councilwoman Scarbrough voted in favor; Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee and Councilwoman Bryant voted against. Motion carried 3-2 in favor of adopting the text amendments to the Land Use Ordinance.

New Business

Adoption of Policies, Resolutions and Plans for 2020 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization Program

Planning & Development Director Traynham reminded City Council she reviewed and summarized the plans and policies required by U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that will govern fiscal management, efficient operation and maintenance, and program compliance with them at the April 6, 2021 Work Session. She stated all fourteen documents can be approved in one resolution.

Planning & Development Director Traynham said she had the answer to a question asked previously concerning repayment of funds through the reimbursement method. She said if the City has the request in by 12 noon on Thursday they are generally deposited into the City's account within one week. The turnaround time is pretty quick and in the past ten years the City has had no issues with reimbursement and requisition requests utilizing the reimbursement method. Their audits have come back clean in many years before that and she feels confident that there should not be any issues that would negatively impact the City.

She presented Resolution No. 2021.03:

Resolution No. 2021.03
CITY OF ROANOKE RAPIDS
CDBG NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION (CDBG-NR) PROGRAM
Approving Administrative Guidelines and Policies

WHEREAS, the City of Roanoke Rapids wishes to carry out its Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR) Program in accordance with established state and federal administrative guidelines.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Roanoke Rapids City Council hereby collectively adopts the following resolutions, guidelines, plans and policies, and resolves that they be utilized during the administration of the City of Roanoke Rapids CDBG-NR Program:

1. Project Budget Ordinance
2. Financial Management Resolution
3. Housing Assistance Policy
4. Housing Construction Contract Award Policy
5. Citizen Participation Plan
6. Residential Anti-displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan
7. Local Jobs Initiative (Section 3) Plan
8. Temporary Relocation Policy
9. Code of Conduct
10. Fair Housing Policy
11. Excessive Force Policy
12. Procurement Standards
13. Equal Opportunity Plan
14. Language Assistance Plan (Providing Meaningful Communication with Persons with Limited English Proficiency)

Adopted this 20th day of April 2021.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

ATTEST:

Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Scarbrough and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution No. 2021.03 collectively adopting the resolutions, guidelines, plans and policies for utilization during the administration of the CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization program.

Mayor Doughtie said although he was pleased the City was getting these funds and the ability to make improvements to eight homes, but expressed his concern that it would take quite a bit of time from her and the Planning Department.

Planning & Development Director Traynham said that is why they contracted with the Administrative Consultant for that workload aspect of it. There will be minimal interruption to the department's daily routines.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Scherer gave the following report:

With the lifting of COVID restrictions and the return of warmer weather, we have more people traveling in and through the city. I have directed the Police Department to increase their efforts on traffic enforcement, especially speeding in targeted areas as well as speeding by tractor trailers in town.

The new owner of Becker Village Mall and his representative were here last week. They toured the mall with the Fire Marshal and a member of the Inspections Department to review needed code repairs and other issues. They hope to begin roof repair/replacement in the next few weeks. They are in the process of recruitment of retail and logistical/industrial businesses as tenants. They have been painting outside sections of the mall to determine the right color they want to repaint it.

Fire Department: Hydrant Testing is completed, very few problems noted.

No bids were received for the sale of the old Fire Station #2 by the closing date of yesterday at noon.

Nothing new on American Rescue Plan information or guidance. Hope to hear something by May 11th. Funds need to come through the State to us, maybe sometime in mid-June.

Public Works has finished work on plumbing and other issues at the Police Department Training Center at our weapons firing range. The building has been out of use for years but now the Police Department can conduct training there as well as have the use of indoor facilities. One of the local school shooting teams will be hosting their state level competition there this weekend.

Our local businesses have American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds available to them through several business loan programs, please contact Ms. Christina Caudle for

questions about them. Also, many small businesses are having trouble either hiring people to come to work for them or getting inventory to sell.

All donated funds for the Centennial Clock repair and enhancements have been collected. The Parks & Recreation will begin issuing purchase orders and arranging for the contractor to arrive on site. The Canal Commission has arranged for the donation of 225,000 tons of crush and run for the Canal Trail. It is comprised of pulverized stone, stone dust and the crushed stones feature jagged and irregular edges, which enable the aggregate pieces to better bind together, and the stone dust particles work to fill any voids. The material was donated from Vulcan Materials Company in Skippers, VA.

The Upper Coastal Plains Council of Government (UCPCOG) has issued additional grant funding to continue the GIS mapping of our stormwater infrastructure system. The contractor will begin work on it the middle of next month in case citizens see workers and vehicles looking in stormwater manholes that are not City vehicles and workers. Brownfields environmental work also continues at the old Westpoint Stevens mill site by the engineering firm funded by the UCPCOG through a Federal grant. We anticipate they will be done in the next couple of months, so that the site can be marketed for industrial use.

Councilman Smith asked what work had to be done to old Fire Station #2. City Manager Scherer replied primarily some roof repairs, especially to one corner. Some of the soffit needs to be repaired also.

Councilman Smith said during the Budget Work Session Fire Chief Patrick had requested a new shed to put the new smoke house in and asked if there any way they could find out what it would cost to get the building back into shape so the City could continue to use it. City Manager Scherer replied they would come up with a repair estimate. Mayor Doughtie added that it currently has a flat roof on it and he would like to see an estimate on getting trusses and get rid of the flat roof.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked since the City did not receive any bids would it be sent back out for bids or would they be doing what they were just talking about. City Manager Scherer said from the comments, it sounds like they would get some repair estimates and improve its condition for the City's use.

Councilman Smith said the reason he asked for estimates is because the request from the Fire Department for a new shed to store the new smoke house was approximately \$12,000. He thought if they could utilize what they already have for less cost. The building needs to be cleaned up.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked if the roof leaked. Councilman Smith said yes so there has to be some repair done to it.

Mayor Doughtie asked if City Council would agree to get some estimates for bringing the building back up and then decide if they should rebid it again.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said he would consider that in the event the cost is out of line they could look at rebidding it and getting rid of it.

City Manager Scherer said they would have estimates within 30 days.

Finance Director's Report

Finance Director Etheridge presented the March 2021 Financial Report. General Fund year to date receipts totaled \$13,146,738. (The percentage of actual money collected of adopted budgeted figures is 83.4%). General Fund year to date expenditures totaled \$11,058,799. (The percentage of actual monies expended of adopted budgeted figures is 70.1%). After the month of March, 75% of the budget year has been completed. As a result, Year-To-Date Revenues exceeded Expenditures by \$2,087,939.

She said the collection of revenues and cash flow during the month of March:

- Ad Valorem Tax Revenue for February collections
- Sales & Use Tax Revenue (January Sales)
- Motor Vehicle Tax Revenue

Finance Director Etheridge noted the City's Ad Valorem tax revenue is beginning to decrease from a monthly collection standpoint, although our collections are exceeding budget overall. This is due to tax discoveries that were added to our tax levy after our budgets were configured during a revaluation tax year. Even with our YTD surplus, the City still has May theatre bond payments, administrative, and operational requirements for the next quarter.

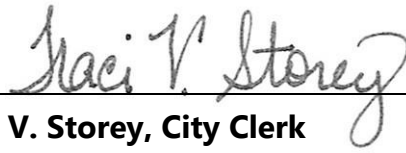
Councilman Smith confirmed the Theatre payment is \$313,000.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked Finance Director Etheridge at this point where she felt they were in relation to expected. She replied expected, knowing they have one more quarter, they still have numerous administrative payments. They will still have to watch month by month to make sure expenditures do not exceed their revenues. She stated they were looking better with Ad Valorem and Sales & Use Tax revenue.

Councilman Smith asked how much Sales & Use Tax did the City received this past quarter. She replied approximately \$900,000. He said he noticed they were up 6% above last year.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Approved by Council Action on: May 18, 2021