



Minutes of the Roanoke Rapids City Council

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Roanoke Rapids was held on **Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at 5:15 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)
Suetta S. Scarbrough)
Carol H. Cowen)
Wayne Smith)

Council Members

Joseph Scherer, MPA, MS, City Manager
Gilbert Chichester, City Attorney
Traci Storey, City Clerk
Kathy Kearney, Deputy City Clerk/Human Resources Manager
Leigh Etheridge, Finance Director
Chuck Hasty, Police Chief
John Simeon, Parks & Recreation Director
Larry Chalker, Public Works Director
Stacy Coggins, Fire Chief
Kelly Lasky, Planning & Development Director
Christina Caudle, Main Street Director

Mayor Doughtie called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer.

Adoption of Business Agenda

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

There being no conflicts, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilwoman Scarbrough and unanimously carried to adopt the business agenda for August 15, 2017 with the addition of a Closed Session to discuss Legal Matters as allowed by NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3).

Special Recognitions

Police and Fire Department Recognitions

Police Chief Hasty introduced new hire Elliott Johnson and welcomed him to the Police Department. He said Mr. Johnson was a graduate of Roanoke Rapids High School, Class of 2000 and received his Bachelor of Science Degree from NC A&T State University in Greensboro where he majored in Liberal Studies with a concentration in Pre-Law and Criminal Justice. He has worked as a Correctional Officer with the Virginia Department of Correction for approximately 12 years and is currently a Staff Sergeant with the NC Army National Guard assigned to the 139th Regiment Training Institute as a Motor Transport Instructor. He joined us as a lateral transfer from the Durham Police Department where he served for 2-1/2 years. He resides in Gaston with his wife, Stephanie and their four children.

Approval of Council Minutes

Motion was made by Councilwoman Cowen, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee and unanimously carried to approve the August 1, 2017 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as written.

City Appointments/Reappointments

Beautification Committee

City Clerk Storey stated Sandra Bryant and Brie Butler have applied for appointment to the Beautification Committee. Currently, there are two vacancies on the committee.

She said copies of the appointment applications and a list of the current membership were included in their packet for their review.

City Clerk Storey reported a ballot vote was taken earlier and both appointees received a unanimous vote and requested a motion be made to appoint Sandra Bryant and Brie Butler to the Beautification Committee.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee, seconded by Councilwoman Cowen and unanimously carried to appoint Sandra Bryant and Brie Butler to the Beautification Committee.

Old Business

Chaloner Pool Update

Parks & Recreation Director Simeon reminded City Council that in the last meeting he reported that he and the City Manager would be meeting with G.K. Butterfield's Office and Recreation Resources to seek grant opportunities for the Chaloner Pool project.

He said G.K. Butterfield's Office suggested the possibility of a low interest loan from the USDA or the Rural Center, but did not have any recommendations regarding grant opportunities. He said they also met with Recreation Resources and they suggested PARTF (Park & Recreation Trust Fund) and K.B. Reynolds, but after discussion it was determined the Chaloner Pool Project would not score enough points for the PARTF grant and as discussed before, K.B. Reynolds does not fund pools. He said they could not recommend any grant or funding opportunities from Recreation Resources.

Parks & Recreation Director Simeon stated that with City Administration seeking both State and Federal opportunities, he feels they have researched their opportunities and unfortunately cannot find any grants or additional funding for this project at this point.

Councilman Smith stated he did not have any questions, but would like to make a motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee added he had a statement he would like to make prior to Councilman Smith's motion.

Attorney Chichester stated under the Rules of Procedure if there was a motion to be made and if it was seconded, that would then be the point in which discussion would take place.

Councilman Smith stated in light of the information from Parks & Recreation Director Simeon on the lack of additional funds for the construction of the new pool at the Chaloner Recreation Center, he made a motion for the City Council to direct the City Manager and his staff to proceed with the implementation of the 158 Master Plan; seconded by Councilwoman Scarbrough.

Mayor Pro Tem stated the discussion at this point was he would like to get back with the community to inform them on where the City was with this segment. He said it sounds like they were saying let's forget about the pool and move forward. He said he understands that they were saying they could not get any funds from G.K. Butterfield's Office or anybody else, but there was also a second or third possibility out there. He said the size of the pool and the changes of the pool, it was a different dollar value that was originally planned. Prior to making the motion and moving on and sounding like disregarding the idea of the pool altogether, he would like to get back with the community and get back with Council.

Councilman Smith stated he was not willing to withdraw his motion.

Councilwoman Scarbrough stated they had discussed this for months, they have been waiting from meeting to meeting to get the facts on what it would cost. She said they found out what the cost would be to replace the pool and she thought it was time for Council to make a decision on what they were going to do. She said she thought the motion she seconded was proper at this time because they know all the facts.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said there are some other additional items out there that they may not be aware of and he would at least like to make that known to the community the same way they started this with a meeting with the community and then get back with Council. He said it should not take a long period of time. He requested Council allow him to do that and get back with them, if not at the next meeting then definitely at the next meeting after that.

Mayor Doughtie asked Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee if he was asking for a City meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee replied the City can definitely participate, but he was asking for a community meeting. He said when they started this project, he, the Mayor, the City Manager and Parks & Recreation Director Simeon met with the community to talk about the pool and different processes. He said if they were going to look at moving forward, he would like to have a meeting with the community again and offer that same invitation if they did want to attend, if not, he will hold it himself. He said he would like that opportunity prior to making this motion. He said there were some other things out there that they could talk about and bring up prior to that as well that they may or may not be aware of.

Councilwoman Scarbrough asked why Council had not been told about this before tonight. Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee replied this was an update on the pool, he was not aware they were going to make a motion to end the project.

Councilwoman Scarbrough stated they knew they had been looking for funding for it and asked Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee if he was saying there was a possibility of other funding for it that he knows about.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee said there was always that possibility and there was also the possibility the pricing could be a little different than what it is. He said again he was asking for at least one more meeting to meet with the community and get back with the Council prior to discarding the project totally.

Mayor Doughtie stated he thought Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee was asking for a meeting with a group of people that have a vested interest in the project to explain to them that they were not able to secure funding. He understands from Parks & Recreation Director Simeon that there would be at least two more public meetings with the master plan to get more input on how that would proceed.

Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee asked for a community meeting prior to this vote.

Councilman Smith stated Council had been going over this for about fifteen months and he was ready to bring it to a head. He said if there was some other way for this to be done then fine, but he thinks they need to go ahead with the 158 Master Plan that they had been working on for about two years. He said it was time for Council to make a decision and proceed with what they think is best. He stated he would not withdraw his motion.

Mayor Doughtie stated there was a motion and a second on the floor and called for a vote. Councilman Smith, Councilman Bobbitt and Councilwoman Scarbrough voted in favor of the motion; Mayor Pro Tem Ferebee and Councilwoman Cowen voted against. Motion carried by 3-2 vote.

New Business

Consideration of Resolution Approving Surplus Items in Accordance with NCGS 160A-270 (c) – Electronic Auction

Public Works Director Chalker presented the following Resolution No. 2017.06 for Council's consideration approving surplus items in accordance with NCGS 160A-270 (c) for electronic auction:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017.06

Resolution Approving Surplus Items

In accordance with NCGS 160A-270(c) – Electronic Auction

WHEREAS, the Roanoke Rapids City Council desires to dispose of certain surplus property of the City; and

WHEREAS, the following items have been identified as being surplus to the needs of the City:

<i>Vehicle #</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Serial/Vin #</i>
402	1997 Chevy Lumina 4-DR, 3.1L V6 OHV 12V	2G1WL52M7V9240585
702	2001 Dodge Ram Wagon B3500 Maxi Multi-Purpose Van 4-DR, 5.9L V8 OHV 16V	2B5WB35201K556458
225	1998 Ford F700 Dump Truck (Wire Harness/HYD Brakes Caught Fire) 8CYDS, 216 HP, 7.L, V8 / 71,284 Miles	1FDNF70J8WVA12734
352	2006 Sterling Trash Truck / LT7500 Tandem, 7.2L L6 Diesel	2FZHATDC06AV06059
1406	2000 Ford Crown Vic Police Interceptor 4-DR, 4.6L, V8 SOHC, 16V / No passenger-front window	2FAFP71W9YX137054
P-120	2006 Ford Crown Vic / Parts Car Only	2FAHP71W16X119038
513	1995 Ford Ranger / 130HP, 6CYL / 110,170 Miles	1FTCR10U0SUB99588
FD141	1980 Ford/Pierce Pumper Truck / 72,702 Miles	D80UVGG6213
600	2002 Ford Crown Vic / 4 DR Blue/Gray Sedan / 124,924 Miles Police Interceptor Sedan 4-DR, 4.6L V8 SOHC 16V	2FAFP71W12X118246
605	1999 John Deere Bunker Rake	
610	1999 Dodge Ram Pickup Truck / Quad Cab Short Bed 4WD Extended Cab Pickup 4-DR, 5.2L V8 OHV 16V	3B7HF13Y9XM594541

WHEREAS, the Roanoke Rapids City Council, at a Regular Meeting on December 13, 2011, adopted Resolution No. 2011.25 authorizing the use of electronic auction services to dispose of surplus property; and

WHEREAS, the necessary agreements with GovDeals, Inc. are in place to utilize the company's electronic auction service to dispose of surplus items;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Roanoke Rapids City Council hereby declares the foregoing list of property to be surplus to the needs of the City, and authorizes disposal of these items by electronic auction (specifically by website: www.govdeals.com) in accordance with NCGS 160A-270(c).

ADOPTED this 15th day of August, 2017.

Emery G. Doughtie, Mayor

ATTEST:

Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

He stated the City has done this a couple times before. He said some years back they changed their format for auctions for surplus equipment; it puts them online on a site called GovDeals.com which gives much more visibility for these items and the end result is they receive a little bit more money for these items than if they were sold locally.

Public Work Director Chalker reported there was a small change to the original list. He said they removed unit 601 which was a Dodge Dakota truck and replaced it with unit 605 (John Deere Bunker Rake).

Motion was made by Councilwoman Scarbrough, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution No. 2017.06 to officially declare the items listed as surplus and authorize the sale by electronic auction.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Scherer stated they continue to have dialogue with interested parties regarding the sale of the Roanoke Rapids Theatre, but so far no formal proposals have been submitted to us. Mr. Simeon continues to schedule upcoming shows and events through the end of the calendar year, which he will highlight for you in his report.

He said the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued the scheduled update for its 2017 hurricane season outlook. Forecasters are now predicting a higher likelihood of an above-normal season, and they increased the predicted number of named storms and major hurricanes. The season has the potential to be extremely active, and could be the most active since 2010. Forecasters now say there is a 60-percent chance of an above-normal season (compared to the May prediction of 45 percent chance), with 14-19 named storms (increased from the May predicted range of 11-17) and 2-5 major hurricanes (increased from the May predicted range of 2-4). A prediction for 5-9 hurricanes remains unchanged from the initial May outlook. Currently, Hurricane Gert is predicted to move out into the Atlantic Ocean with no impact to our coast. All departments are prepared to respond to whatever emergencies the City may experience from major storms in the future.

City Manager Scherer reported he recently met with the new manager of the Kapstone plant and discussed several issues with him that affects both of us. He is interested in working with the City and local civic groups to help better the City and our residents. I've invited him to come to a Council meeting in the near future and highlight what developments have occurred or are being considered at the plant.

He announced at this point, I do not anticipate any legislation or issues needed to come before Council for the next meeting on September 5th, so I would like to recommend to Council for you to consider the cancellation of that meeting, with the next scheduled meeting being on September 19th.

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to cancel the September 5, 2017 City Council meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Bobbitt and unanimously carried to have the Financial Report then excuse the other departmental reports due to the Closed Session on the agenda.

Finance Director's Report

Finance Director Etheridge presented the July 2017 Finance Report. She reported July was a low revenue month which was not uncommon for this time of the fiscal year. There was an excess in expenditures of \$1 million. It is important to note that at this same time last year, the deficit was \$2.1 million due to the 2007 Series Bond

Principal payment. As they move in to the next quarter, they expect to offset this years' July deficit with receipt of Ad Valorem Tax revenue this Fall.

She stated the General Fund year to date receipts total \$55,147. The percentage of actual money collected of adopted budgeted figures stand at 0.4%. General Fund year to date expenditures totaled \$1,150,798. At this time, the percentage of actual monies expended of adopted budgeted figures stands at 7.4% where 8.34% of the budget year has been completed.

She announced year end close is underway as staff continues to prepare for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 audit. The auditors will be on site the week of August 28th. During this time, Greg Redman and his team will be performing field work standards as required by NCGS 159-34.

The required annual Sales & Use Refund Tax report has been submitted to the NC Department of Revenue. We hope to expedite the reimbursement process for our revenue collection efforts. The amount due to the City for FY 2016-2017 is \$79,722.

Other Business

Motion was made by Councilwoman Scarbrough, seconded by Councilman Smith and unanimously carried to go into Closed Session to discuss Legal Matters as allowed by NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3).

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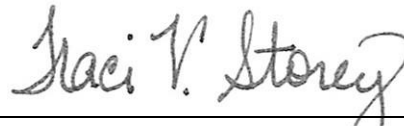
Minute Book Pages 18835 - 18840 contain Minutes and General Account of a Closed Session which have been sealed until such time as public inspection of those minutes would not frustrate the purpose of the Closed Session.

Open Session

City Council returned to Open Session and Mayor Doughtie called the meeting to order.

City Council discussed a legal matter in closed session. No action was taken.

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Scarbrough and unanimously carried to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.



Traci V. Storey, City Clerk

Approved by Council Action on: September 19, 2017