

**HAMLET CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET NC 28345
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011
7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Governing Body Present:

Mayor	Jeff Smart
Mayor Pro Tem	Pat Preslar
Council Member	Bill Bayless
Council Member	Tony Clewis
Council Member	Abbie Covington
Council Member	Diane Honeycutt

Staff Present:

City Manager	Marchell David
City Attorney	Steve Futrell
City Clerk	Tammy Kirkley
Finance Officer	Jill Dickens
Fire Chief	David Knight
Police Chief	John Haywood
Zoning Officer	Gail Strickland
WTP Superintendent	Robert Brown

Others Present:

Kelli Easterling; Jesse McQueen; Johnathan Buie; Dewey Brower, Rev. Steve Crews

- 1. Call to Order.** Mayor Smart called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- 2. Invocation.** Rev. Steve Crews of the Hamlet Church of God of Prophecy offered invocation.
- 3. Adoption of Agenda.** The agenda was adopted as presented by motions of Council Members Preslar and Clewis. All were in favor.
- 4. Adoption of Minutes.** The October 11 and October 20, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved by motions of Council Members Bayless and Clewis.
- 5. Comments from Attendees.** There were no comments.

Old Business

- 6. Public Hearing No. 1.** Notice was given during the October 11 meeting that a public hearing would be held to discuss banning smoking and the use of tobacco products in the City's Park and Recreational facilities. Additional public notices were given as well. Mayor Smart opened the floor for the public hearing and invited questions or comments.

Councilman Clewis confirmed that the drafted ordinance is prohibiting the use of any tobacco products within the parks and not the parking lots. Mr. Clewis also confirmed that the ordinance is to prohibit the use of any tobacco products. He asked who will enforce the ordinance and stated that the Park & Recreation Director shouldn't have to do it but rather the police department. The manager said the city anticipates that a courteous request to offenders will suffice and if it continues, then it will be followed up by the police department because continuing to smoke would constitute a violation of the ordinance. The city will do due diligence in notifying the public about the amended ordinance and will post the appropriate signage at the parks. With no further comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing. Pat Preslar and Abbie Covington motioned to approve the amended ordinance as presented and the vote passed unanimously. Mayor Smart directed staff to order the appropriate signage to post at the parks and added that he would like to have signs posted in time for football this weekend.

7. **Public Hearing No. 2. Resolution to Change the Name of Lackey Street Extension.** Mayor Smart reported that Willie Baldwin presented council during the October 11 meeting and requested that the extension portion of Lackey Street be changed to "T. R. Legrand St." in honor of Rev Tommy Legrand for his work within the community. There are no homes that face this portion of the street and it would not affect any addresses.

Mayor Smart opened the floor to the public hearing and welcomed comments or questions. Councilman Clewis confirmed with staff that the group requesting the street name change will pay the costs for the new signage. There were no further questions or comments and the hearing was closed. Council Members Bayless, Honeycutt and Clewis made the motions to approve the resolution to change the name of the Lackey Street Ext. area to T.R. Legrand St. and the motion passed with a unanimous vote. Mayor Smart instructed staff to order the new street signs and to inform Rev Legrand of the matter.

Reports

Jill Dickens reported that the audit has been completed and that the auditor will present same during the December meeting.

Tammy Kirkley reminded the public that the Christmas parade sponsored by the Hamlet Rotary Club will take place on Thursday, December 8, 2011, and will begin at 3:30 p.m. She also reported that anyone interested in picking up forms to be a part of the event may stop by Hamlet City Hall.

8. City Manager's Report.

Marchell David gave a report of the upcoming holiday closings:

- Friday, November 11 in observance of Veteran's Day. The manager encouraged all to pay patronage in some form on this day.
- Thursday & Friday, November 24 & 25 in observance of Thanksgiving.

The schedules for the garbage pickup during the closings were given.

On behalf of the City's Park & Recreational program, Mrs. David announced that flag football season begins this Saturday, November 5 at Jack Breeden Park and that the tackle football program will begin the following Saturday, November 12th.

Mrs. David invited the public to come out and attend the City's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Monday, November 28, at the Hamlet Depot Park on Main Street at 5:30 p.m.

9. Comments of Council.

Tony Clewis reminded the public that Hamlet's Old Fashioned Christmas events will be held on Friday and Saturday nights, December 9 & 10. He announced the various activities that will be going on at the Hamlet Avenue location on Friday night and the events to be held on Main Street on Saturday night. A new feature this year will be at the Hamlet Senior Center and the City Lake. He thanked the police and fire departments for their presence and help with the Seaboard Festival. Mr. Clewis reminded everyone to go out and vote next Tuesday.

Bill Bayless took a moment to give thanks to the citizens of Hamlet who have supported him over the past eight years and he thanked city council. Mr. Bayless stated that each person on council has their own ideas about things and no one has a personal agenda and the best thing that can happen is if everyone can come together and get things done. Mr. Bayless stated that he is happy to be leaving the city in excellent financial shape and noted not many cities are in that situation. He thanked council for working with him. Mr. Bayless stated that has enjoyed working with everyone and looks forward to working with them in the future.

Abbie Covington thanked everyone for their work in connection to the Seaboard Festival and shared positive comments. Mrs. Covington stressed the importance for everyone to get out and vote next Tuesday.

Pat Preslar took a moment to thank all of the coaches, players and parents of players in the soccer program and said it has been a good year. He too reminded the public to go vote on Election Day stated that early voting for the election is an option through the end of the week.

10. Mayor's Comments.

Mayor Jeff Smart reiterated the good time and good turn-out at the festival this year and he thanked everyone for their help. He also commended the Seaboard Festival Committee and noted their importance to the festival.

11. Adjournment of Meeting.

At 7:21 p.m., Council Members Bayless, Clewis and Covington made the motions to adjourn the meeting and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,


Tammy Kirkley, City Clerk