

October 9, 2012 Regular Monthly Meeting

**HAMLET CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET, NC 28345
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2012
7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Governing Body Present:

Mayor	Jeff Smart
Mayor Pro-Tem	Tony Clewis
Council Members:	Pat Preslar
	Abbie Covington
	Johnathan Buie
	Dewey Brower

Staff Present:

City Manager	Marchell Adams-David
City Attorney	Steve Futrell
City Clerk	Tammy Kirkley
Finance Officer	Jill Dickens
Fire Chief	David Knight
Interim Police Chief	Amery Griffin
Zoning Officer	Gail Strickland
WTP Superintendent	Robert Brown

Others Present: Mallory Brown – RCDJ, Amy and Chad Quinn, Carolyn Blue, Sarah Robinson and guest

Call to Order. Mayor Jeff Smart called the meeting to order.

Invocation. Mayor Pro-Tem Tony Clewis offered the invocation.

Adoption of Agenda. Addition to the agenda to go into a special closed session to discuss a personnel matter. Pat and Tony to add item 14. All were in favor.

Consideration of Minutes. Minutes to the regular monthly September 11, 2012 meeting along with three sets of August and September closed session meetings were unanimously approved by motions of Council Members Clewis and Buie.

Comments from Attendees. None were presented.

Adoption of Resolution to Investigate Annexation Petition. Council considered a resolution to direct the clerk to investigate a petition for a contiguous annexation per NCGS 160A-31. The petition was submitted by Bland Inc. for property located off of Hwy. 177 S. Council Members

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Preslar and Clewis motioned to adopt the resolution and direct the clerk to investigate the petition. All were in favor.

Amendment to the Hamlet Police Department's DCI Terminal and Equipment Policy. The changes to the DCI policy were effective in Hamlet as of October 1, 2012. These amendments are mandated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in order to continue to have the DCI operations. Chief Griffin explained that the policy will pertain to everyone who is not a police officer. He noted that additional clarification has been requested for a better understanding of how it affects other city employees.

Approval of Tax Releases. Council Members Brower and Clewis motioned to approve the submitted September 2012 Tax Releases. A portion of the tax releases were converted to a personal property return per Richmond County. The motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The mayor took a moment to read aloud the mayoral proclamation in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness. He urged the public to get involved with the varied awareness activities during the month of October.

Resolution Urging Residents to Observe a Safe and Courteous Halloween. The presented resolution recommended guidelines for the public to observe to allow for a safe Halloween within the City of Hamlet. Mayor Smart stated that this is to encourage a fun and safe time for the children. Council Members Buie and Covington motioned to adopt the presented resolution and all were in favor.

Veteran's Day Proclamation. The mayor read aloud a proclamation observing November 11 as Veteran's Day. He added that this is a set aside time to reflect on the great contributions made by the veterans and to recognize these individuals. City offices will be closed on Monday, November 12, in observance of Veteran's Day.

City Manager's Report. Marchell David reported that the auditor has completed this year's audit and said all-in-all, it was a good report. Marchell noted in observance of Veteran's Day, the city will fly their flags accordingly. She informed the public that Miranda Chavis, Hamlet Museum Manager, is planning a fund raiser event to help with the displays at the new visitor's center. The event will be held on Friday, October 26, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the Visitor's Center on Main Street. She announced the costs per person and added that the event will include a wine tasting.

Comments of Council.

Dewey Brower offered a few suggestions for staff to look into in order to help clean up some of the debris from various side streets within the city.

Johnathan Buie took a moment and gave a reminder of the upcoming Seaboard Festival on Saturday, October 27. He also echoed the manager's reminder about the fund raising event on

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Friday night prior to the festival. Mr. Buie complimented this year's soccer participants, coaches and parents and stated it was a good soccer season.

Pat Preslar also promoted this year's Annual Seaboard Festival. He informed Mrs. Strickland of a petition that is traveling along the Boyd Lake Road area with concerns of issues with the mobile home park along said road.

Abbie Covington reported that the Hamlet ABC Store is considering erecting some signage for marketing purposes. She stated that Hamlet sales are approximately 50% of the sales of that with the City of Rockingham.

Marchell David reported that staff is looking at the last week in October and First week in November for the special work session. Abbie confirmed that the LRCOG does in fact provide assistance with the Senior Center. She was further concerned about the high number of false alarms and she offered suggestions to get the alarms company to call the home owners first before calling the police department. David stated that if the HFD is called they are obligated to answer the call and he further explained the process of alarm calls.

Tony Clewis thanked Miranda Chavis and all who helped with the 1200 plus cyclists who came through Hamlet roughly recently. He said council has received a letter from the Friends of Hamlet with the Library and asked council to consider what may be done to assist with the request for repairs and such. It was reported that this item is on the agenda for the upcoming Work Session.

Mayor's Comments.

The mayor closed with noting that there is a lot of activities going on in Hamlet and in Richmond County and he asked everyone to be careful and to have fun during these busy times.

Motion to go into Closed Session. At approximately 7:27 p.m., motions were made by Council Members Preslar and Clewis to enter into closed session per NCGS Section 143.319.11 (a) (6) to discuss a personnel matter. The motions carried.

Open Session. At 8:15 p.m., Council Members Covington and Clewis motioned to return to open session and all were in favor.

The Mayor reported that no decisions were made and there is nothing to be announced as a result of closed session.

Adjournment. At 8:16 p.m., Council Members Preslar and Clewis motioned to adjourn and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Tammy Kirkley, City Clerk