

**HAMLET CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET, NC 28345
TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012
7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

Governing Body Present:

Mayor	Jeff Smart
Mayor Pro-Tem	Tony Clewis
Council Member	Pat Preslar
Council Member	Abbie Covington
Council Member	Johnathan Buie
<i>Absent:</i>	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
Zoning	Gail Strickland
WTP Superintendent	Robert Brown

Others Present: Barbara Cato, Cathy Kirkley, Rev. Al McCormick, Trey Goodwin

- 1. Call to Order.** Mayor Smart called the meeting to order.

A moment was taken for a special prayer on behalf of Hamlet City Council Member Diane Honeycutt.

- 2. Invocation.** Reverend Al McCormick offered the invocation.

- 3. Adoption of Agenda.** Council Members Preslar and Clewis made the motions to approve the agenda as presented. All were in favor.

- 4. Approval of Minutes.** Minutes from the March 9 & 10 Planning Session, and the April 10, 2012, regular monthly meeting were unanimously accepted as presented by motions of Council Members Preslar and Buie.

- 5. Comments from Attendees.** No comments were presented.

- 6. Public Hearing – Discussion to Amend the Business License Privilege Tax Ordinance for Gaming Machines.** Mayor Smart opened the floor to the public hearing and no one presented council and the hearing was then closed.

7. **Proposed Ordinance for a Privilege Tax for Gaming Machines.** Hamlet adopted the current ordinance addressing the gaming machines in 2009 and this is to amend the ordinance and to establish a fee schedule that will include a \$3,000 annual privilege license tax for each location and a \$2,000 privilege tax per electronic gaming machine within each location. Mr. Preslar asked to be excused from voting on the matter due to his employment and the potential conflicts of activities that may arise. Council Members Covington and Buie motioned to excuse Councilman Preslar from the vote. The vote was unanimous to excuse Council Member Preslar. Councilman Clewis asked the attorney about the 14 days notice required to provide serial numbers for new machines; Mr. Clewis asked what the penalty will be if the business owners do not abide by the guidelines and what action may be taken by the city. Steve Futrell referred to section five of the original ordinance and confirmed that it will result in the revocation of the privilege license. The attorney confirmed that the business owner will have to start the business process over again if the license is taken away. With no further questions, Mayor Smart called for a vote. Johnathan Buie motioned that council approve the proposed ordinance adopting a privilege tax for electronic gaming machines and Council Member Covington made the second to the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

8. **Older Americans Month Proclamation.** The mayor took a moment to read aloud a proclamation promoting Older Americans' Month in the City of Hamlet. He thanked the older Americans within our community for all of their efforts and for all that they mean to the city. The proclamation will be given to Susan Sellers.

9. **City Manager's Report.** Marchell announced that Saturday May 19 is the 6th Annual Meet Me at the Lake Clean-up Day and invited council and all of the community to join in with the clean-up. She also reported that city offices will be closed on Monday, May 28, in observance of Memorial Day. The manager asked everyone to keep Diane and her family in their thoughts and prayers.

10. Comments of Council.

Johnathan Buie reminded everyone to keep Diane Honeycutt in thoughts and prayers.

Pat Preslar noted that Diane Honeycutt means so much to Hamlet and to the college community and he offered recovery wishes. He then took a moment to boost the upcoming park and recreation baseball games in the City of Hamlet.

On behalf of Diane Honeycutt, Council Member Covington said that Diane loves this town and she would appreciate all of the kind words that have been said here tonight.

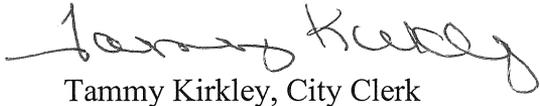
Tony Clewis thanked Mitch Bowman, the workers and the volunteers for their hard work during Opening Day for the baseball season.

11. Mayor's Comments.

The mayor reminded all to go out to Relay for Life this Friday and walk for the cause that means the most. The event will be held at Richmond Senior High football stadium and he announced the time. He also reminded everyone to remember their mom on Mother's Day this Sunday.

12. Recess of Meeting. Tonight's meeting was recessed until Monday, May 14, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. at Hamlet City Hall by motions of Council Members Clewis and Buie. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted, -



Tammy Kirkley, City Clerk